



# THE DIRECTOR'S CUT

BY BETH RIETVELD

Once upon a time...women did not have *choice*. A wife needed her husband's signature in order to apply for credit. A woman could not walk safely without a male escort. A woman might be sold into sexual slavery. A woman was forced to have her clitoris cut to keep her pure for her future husband (and keep her from ever experiencing sexual pleasure). A woman of color might experience forced sterilization. A woman would be raped over and over again by several men at a party. A woman would be denied access to an educational program purely because of her gender. A woman was beaten by her partner for forgetting something at the grocery store. A woman was told she could not have any access to birth control unless she was married. A woman was forced to bear a child that was not wanted and was not able to be nurtured and financially supported.

In the year 2007, it might seem incredible that any of these situations might be true. I assure you that every one of these things has happened to a woman today...some place in our country or in our world.

The phrase "we've come a long way, baby," was a slogan in the 70's for Virginia Slims cigarettes and eventually for the Women's Movement...

Well, have we come a long way?

We earn 77 cents for every dollar a man makes.

We are 48% more likely to live in poverty than men.

17 million adult women lack health insurance.

Millions of us struggle to balance jobs and the needs of our families.

A long way? Not nearly long enough.

At any point in the next few years, the Supreme Court could take women back to a place prior to the very early 70's when the only choice available to a woman wanting to end a pregnancy was to seek a back-alley abortion or use a coat hanger when an unexpected and unwanted pregnancy occurred. (Prior to 1973, 5,000 women in the US died each year and currently 80,000 women in the world die each year from botched abortions where they are illegal).

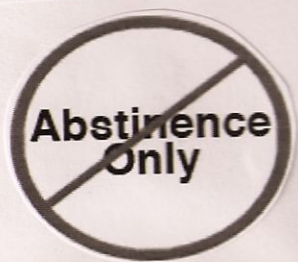
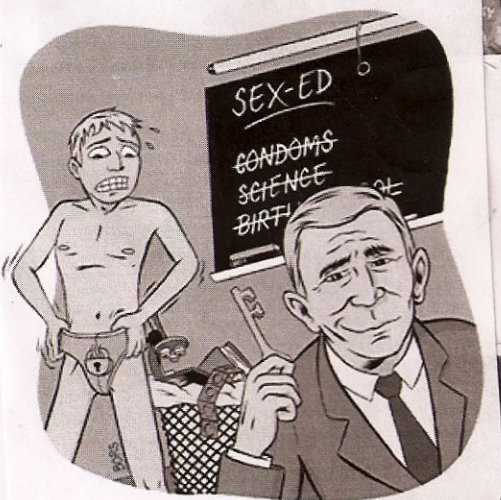
I've experienced a time when my high school friend, Sue, suddenly disappeared for 5 months. We never talked about where Sue went, we just knew she went to visit out-of-town relatives for an extended time. And when she returned to high school, Sue never talked about her baby being whisked away and adopted by an unknown family.

I've experienced a time when I went to a doctor who refused my request for birth control because I wasn't married. And I've experienced an unplanned pregnancy.

No woman anywhere in the world, but especially in the United States, should ever have her choices taken away. Reproductive freedom has as much to do with access to birth control and sex education as it does access to abortion. And if the choice to bear a child or not to bear a child is taken away from women...what might happen next? ...Husbands having to sign for their wives to obtain credit?

"THE EMPHASIS MUST BE NOT ON THE  
RIGHT TO ABORTION BUT ON THE RIGHT  
TO PRIVACY AND REPRODUCTIVE CONTROL."

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



**77%**  
of anti-abortion  
leaders are men.

**100%**  
of them will never  
be pregnant.

It's your body. It's your decision. The Pro-Choice Public Education Project. It's pro-choice or no choice.





"When women thrive, all of society  
benefits, and succeeding generations  
are given a better start in life."  
~ Kofi Annan

## BUSH'S TOP 7 ASSAULTS ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS 2

- 1) On Bush's first business day in office, he imposed the global gag rule - cutting off birth-control services to poor women overseas.
- 2) Bush appointed John Roberts and Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court, both of whom voted to uphold the first-ever Federal Abortion Ban, which eliminated protections for women's health.
- 3) Bush more than doubled the funding for unproven "abstinence-only" programs that deny young people accurate information on how to protect themselves.
- 4) For three years, Bush political appointees interfered with the FDA's plans to make emergency contraception available for over-the-counter sales.
- 5) Bush canceled family-planning funds from the United Nations population program - for six years running.
- 6) Bush appointed anti-birth-control activist Eric Keroack to lead family-planning programs at the Department of Health and Human Services.
- 7) Bush pushed through a controversial "unborn child" regulation, making an embryo or a fetus - but not a pregnant woman - eligible for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).



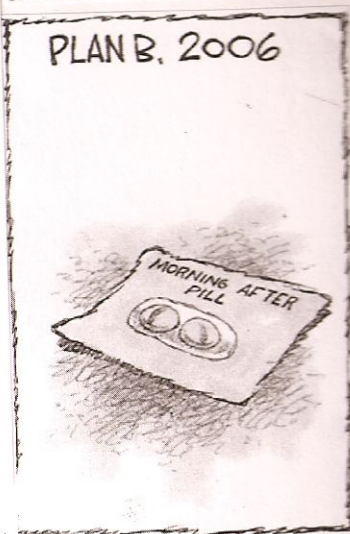
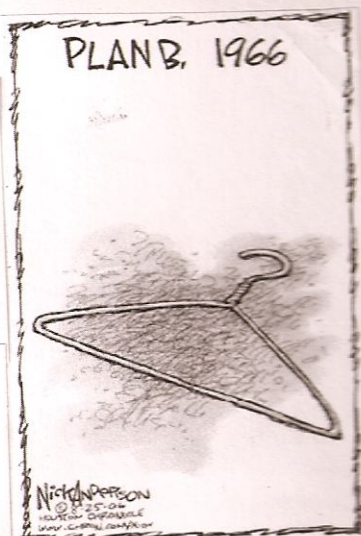
"My idea of feminism is self-determination, and it's very open-ended: every woman has the right to become herself, and do whatever she needs to do."

~ Ani DiFranco



"I BECAME A FEMINIST AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO BECOMING A MASOCHIST."

~SALLY KEMPTON





# THE RISING COST OF BIRTH CONTROL

On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed the Deficit Reduction Act. The law affects many aspects of Medicare and Medicaid; it specifically alters how drug companies calculate Medicaid-related rebates paid to states. Consequently, the act removes incentives that were in place for drug companies to provide discounted prices to college health clinics.

In the past, drug companies have offered college health clinics prescription birth control at very little cost. As a result, those that have access to such clinics were able to purchase brand name birth control pills at less than \$10 a pack. The provisions found in the Deficit Reduction Act have caused the price of birth control to go up two to three times on college campuses.

In an article for *Time*, Katie Rooney writes about the bleak status that college health clinics find themselves in. Women who are dependent on these low cost prescriptions are out of luck says Rooney. According to the American College Health Association, 39 percent of college women take prescription contraceptives.

Jason Walker-Crawford, the pharmacy manager for the University of Wisconsin at Madison, fears that students will just stop taking contraceptives all together. The clinic at the University of Wisconsin is facing the same dilemma that many clinics are: their stockpiles of prescription birth control are running out and thus costs are going from \$5 - \$8 a pack to \$40-\$50 overnight.

In an article found in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Paula Tran, a senior at the University of Wisconsin Madison, says, "It is tough." As a college student, she has to worry about paying for books, rent and groceries. Tran, like many other college women had to choose groceries over birth control.

Not all insurance policies cover prescription contraceptives, and many students are uninsured. Others don't want to use their parents' insurance to purchase birth control. As a result, statistics show that women find themselves relying on Plan B now more than ever. Pharmaceutical companies, such as Barr Pharmaceuticals, have seen their Plan B sales double in the past year.

The rising cost of birth control has had many adverse consequences. Not only are college women having to rely on other methods for contraceptives or using no methods what so ever but college health clinics must raise the price of other services offered to compensate for the lack of contraceptive sales.

Here at OSU, students do have options. Those that qualify for the Family Planning Project can receive generic contraceptive pills at no cost at Student Health Services. Also, those who qualify for the Family Planning Expansion Project can receive contraceptive pills at no cost or at a discount at the Benton County Health Clinic. As the price of prescription birth control increases here on campus it is my hope that options continue to become available and that no student at OSU will be forced to make the choice between birth control and groceries.

Work Cited:

Rooney, Katie. "The High Price of Campus Birth Control." *Time* 07 Aug 2007

Wasley, Paula. "Bitter Pill." *Chronicle of Higher Education* 53(2007): 37.



**If You Cut Off My  
Reproductive Choice...**

**I'll Cut Yours Off!**



BY  
NEHA  
GEORGIE

4

# BIRTH CONTROL ~~≠~~ SHAME

by christina Blanchard

I walked into the clinic feeling alienated. Oregon WIC posters and female reproduction organ diagrams were hanging on the walls. Sex, and everything to do with it, was never an uncomfortable subject for me, but of course, that was only when it pertained to me and my partner. This was a whole new territory that involved my private life with nurses, doctors and everyone in the waiting room. As I stood at the front desk, I could feel every stranger's eyes peering at me. I straightened my posture, hoping that it would make me less awkward.

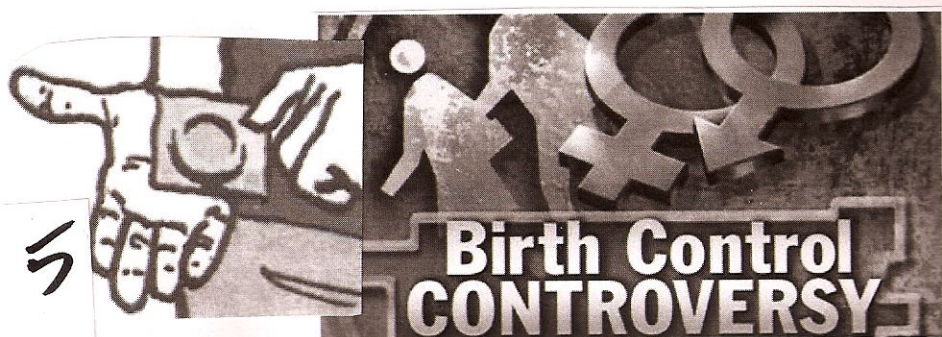
The receptionist greeted me with a friendly, "Hi, how can I help you?" I stared off into space thinking, 'Am I really doing this?'

"Hi, I'm here to speak with somebody," was all I could choke out. The woman responded by shoving towards me a plastic clipboard, holding a few papers. "Fill this out to the best of your knowledge, front and back," she said. I was surprised by her nonchalant response.

I moved to the most isolated corner of the tiny waiting room. My eyes darted around the room, avoiding anything that could return the stare. I filled out the paperwork confidently, making sure that I was fulfilling every statement to the best of my knowledge.

I don't know why I had associated such shame with birth control. I felt embarrassed but responsible at the same time. I knew that this was an important milestone in my sexual health but why was I so secretive about my own personal choice? Somewhere during my life I had adopted the idea that women who used birth control were sleeping with multiple partners and carried all sorts of dirty STDs. This idea was not just about some of the women on birth control, but ALL women on birth control. Now that I was in a situation where birth control was a smart decision, was I somehow lumped into this category? Who planted this seed of judgment on my personal values?

My first time receiving birth control was one of the most enlightening experiences. I developed a new respect for all women and especially for myself. I was taught to feel such negative emotions towards women who received birth control. Women are taught to feel shameful and embarrassed when they make smart sexual health and reproductive choices. A women's choice is owned by her and should not be influenced by an outsider who is not living her life.





# G.A.P.: Anti-Choice Zealots



By  
Alisha  
Devoe

Every year the weather in Corvallis turns quickly from a sunny but brisk autumn to a wet, mean, dismal winter. Needless to say, I, like most students, look forward to the first days of spring and summer. It means that I can walk outside and feel the warmth of the sun on my t-shirt clad skin rather than the bitter bite of cold under my parka. However, for the last three years, my time here at OSU, this momentous and happy occasion has been tainted with messages of hate and cruelty. While the changing tilt of the Earth marks the change of weather, it also marks the arrival of GAP.

For anyone who is unaware, the GAP that I am referring to is not the popular clothing store, or something to mind while traveling on the London Underground. The GAP that I am referring to is the Genocide Awareness Project – a group of individuals who travel from campus to campus with giant pictures of bloodied aborted fetuses next to horrific photos of REAL genocide from our sorrowful past as human beings. With their huge signs and contorted memorized Bible scripture, the people from the GAP yell at passers-by and protestors, proclaiming that abortion is genocide and anyone who supports a woman's right to choose, is put on the same murderous plane as Hitler, Saddam Hussein, Stalin, Moa Ze-Dong, Pol Pot, Jean Kambanda and others who have committed mass systematic murder in 20<sup>th</sup> century.

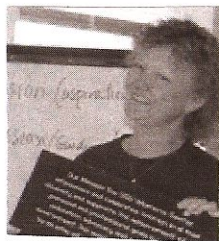
I want to be explicitly clear...abortion is NOT genocide. No one is trying to systematically wipeout the race of fetus. That is simply ludicrous and quite frankly would be rather self destructive as it would lead to the extinction of our own race.

Abortion is the choice to terminate a pregnancy. It is a choice that should be left to the woman who is facing an unplanned, unhealthy, or unwanted pregnancy. No one can walk in the shoes of the brave woman who has to face this choice. It is a predicament not chosen by her, but rather a fate determined for her simply because she is a woman. It is her body, so ultimately it is her choice.

Whether or not a person agrees with the right to choose or not, I pass no judgment. I find value in both sides of the argument for there is worth and importance in a fetus. But when a religious right organization shoves violent images, lies, hateful speech, and cruel accusation in everyone's face, especially targeting vulnerable young women, I get pissed off. I also decide to do something about it. I choose to protest their message and their image. No one wants more abortion, but instead of being offensive and hateful, let's join forces to promote peace, education, safe sex, and empowerment. Let's create a real change for women whether they chose to be mothers or not.



# MEET THE STAFF OF 2007-2008



BETH  
RIETVELD:  
DIRECTOR

Beth says  
she ended

up working at the WC  
because, as she puts  
it, "I was drafted."  
Beth's current music:  
Diana Krall &  
The Dixie Chicks



MYRA LONG:  
PUBLICATIONS  
COORDINATOR  
SENIOR IN  
PRE-MED &  
PSYCHOLOGY

Myra chooses to work @ the  
WC because it is a warm,  
welcoming place filled  
with great people.  
CURRENT MUSIC: M.I.A., The  
Bassnectar, Sia, Juliette & Licks



ALISSA  
DEVOELE:  
PROGRAMS  
COORDINATOR  
SENIOR IN  
HEALTH POLICY  
& MGMT

she works at the WC because  
she wants to spread feminism  
& make it cool again, plus our  
couches rock her socks.  
CURRENT: girly, angry  
MUSIC & British

TIFFANY FRITZ:  
2nd YR GRAD STUDENT  
IN THE COLLEGE STUDENT  
SERVICES ADMIN  
PROGRAM & THE  
WC'S GTA



why did you choose to work @ the WC?  
"Because the staff is amazing, our  
visitors are wonderful, & it is such a  
warm & welcoming environment. Plus,  
it's a blast!"  
CURRENT MUSIC: Lily Allen,  
Blue October, Ani DiFranco

MEAGAN WILLIAMS:  
ACTIVISM/OUTREACH  
COORDINATOR  
SENIOR IN  
SOCIOLOGY & WOMEN'S  
STUDY MINOR



Meagan chooses to work at the  
Women's Center because of the  
staff members & the amazing  
programs! CURRENT MUSIC:  
Iron & Wine, Justin Timberlake,  
& The Last Kiss soundtrack

MEGHAN NIELSON:  
VOLUNTEER COORD.  
SENIOR IN  
SOCIOLOGY



Meghan chose to  
work at the WC  
because she loved  
the other coordinators & wanted  
to work some place where she  
could make & see a change.  
CURRENT MUSIC: Ben Folds, Matt  
Nathanson, Paul Simon, Pink Martini



PATRICIA BOWMAN:

OFFICE COORDINATOR

SENIOR IN HUMAN  
DEVELOPMENT &  
FAMILY SCIENCES,  
HUMAN SERVICES OPTION

she works at the women's center  
because it's a great way to get  
involved & meet new people.

CURRENT MUSIC: Gwen Stefani, Fall  
Music Martin Sex ton & Out Boy

NEHA GEORGE:

OUTREACH & ACTIVISM  
COORDINATOR

SENIOR IN  
POLITICAL  
SCIENCE

Neha chose the position to educate  
herself & others on women's  
issues. she also hope to be more  
of an advocate for women.

CURRENT MUSIC:

"Apologize" by OneRepublic  
"Kiss Kiss" by Chris Green

STEPHANIE  
ZHAO:

MARKETING  
COORDINATOR

SENIOR IN  
BUSINESS -  
MARKETING

Stephanie works at the WC  
because she wanted to be  
more involved with issues  
that pertain to women.

CURRENT MUSIC:

"No One" Alicia Keys  
"Bubbly" Colbie Corliss  
"When I See You" Fantasia

JANVARY BOURASSA:

GRADUATED IN JUNE 2007 IN BIOLOGY & PRE-MED,  
MINORS IN CHEMISTRY & ETHNIC STUDIES  
VOLUNTEER & OUTREACH COORDINATOR FOR ALL  
6 CULTURAL & RESOURCE CENTERS ON CAMPUS  
she chose her position because she wanted to  
see the centers connect more. CURRENT MUSIC:  
SeekaSkootch, Tom Petty & Pink Floyd

CHRISTINA BLANCHARD:

PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
SOPHOMORE IN ENGLISH

Christina chose to work  
at the WC to  
make a difference  
& work with  
amazing women!  
CURRENT MUSIC:  
Feist, Rilo Kiley,  
David Bazan &  
Ratatat

RANDA SMITH: Outreach &  
Activism Coordinator  
JUNIOR IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

Randa chose the position  
because she wanted to  
become more  
active within her  
community in  
women's issues.

CURRENT MUSIC:  
Indie/Folk &  
Soul/Neosoul

ELLE BURBUTZ:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
GRADUATE STUDENT IN  
WOMEN'S STUDIES & RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES

Elle works at the WC  
because she  
says, "It's  
what I do!"

CURRENT MUSIC:  
Jacqueline du Pre  
Nina Simone  
Kekuhi Kanahele



# Without Our Consent



By  
Angi  
Baxter

Maria Sanchez, former chief tribal judge of the Northern Cheyenne, reported that two 15-year-old girls were sterilized during what they were told were tonsillectomy operations. In another story, Norma Jean Serena (Creek/Shawnee) was pressured by welfare caseworkers to undergo a tubal ligation after the birth of her third child.

~Andrea Smith in *Conquest*

Reproductive freedom is an important aspect of feminism; women deserve the right to make decisions free from coercion or force, to be provided adequate reproductive education and resources, and to have personal agency. This includes having full understanding and knowledge surrounding sterilization. Unfortunately, many women have been the victims of forced sterilization throughout history, both within the US and beyond, yet few people actually understand the extent to which forced sterilizations were performed.

Andrea Smith, in her book *Conquest*, devotes an entire chapter to what she calls "state-sponsored forms" of sterilization. Smith cited a report done by the General Accounting Office (GAO) which found that "3,001 Native women of childbearing age, or approximately 5 percent of all Native women" were sterilized by Indian Health Services, "36 were performed on women under the age of 21, despite a court-ordered moratorium on such procedures" between 1973-1976 (82). That is a period of only 3 years, the question remains, how many have been done throughout history? Not only did these women face sterilization, many were also given false information about the procedures being reversible. Forced or coerced sterilization continued on into the 90's. Smith also talked about a woman she knows who went into surgery for her back but woke up to having had a hysterectomy in the 1990's (85). How many women went into the hospital expecting a typical surgery but came out unable to reproduce?

Native American women are not the only victims of coerced or forced sterilization, most women of color have been targets. Tom Sanders, in "The Double Oppression of Black Women in America" discussed the book "Killing the Black Body" by Dorothy Roberts. She states that, "during the 1970's, sterilization became the most rapidly growing form of birth control in the United States, rising from 200,000 cases in 1970 to over 700,000 in 1980," in black women of the south.



Forced sterilization is also encountered around the world in Latino and Asian communities. Brita Schmidt, in her article, "Forced Sterilization in Peru," discusses the legalization of sterilization in Peru in 1995 with 100,000 women registered to be sterilized in 1997. Women in China still face one-child policies which support women being sterilized after having one child according to the report by Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, "China: Whether forced abortions or sterilizations are still occurring; prevalence and location of forced abortions or sterilizations; reports of forced sterilization of men (2005 - 2007)." Many of the current policies support population controls even though they take reproductive freedoms away from the women who are most effected by them.

Forced and coerced sterilization has been used as a way to disenfranchise women when it comes to their reproductive freedoms. For more information on this issue, please

come to "Without Our Consent". This program will have a panel of speakers talking about forced sterilization in communities of color in the US and around the world on Friday, Nov 16<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm in the Women's Center.

Angi Baxter is a senior in Women's Studies.



#### References:

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, "China: Whether forced abortions or sterilizations are still occurring; prevalence and location of forced abortions or sterilizations; reports of forced sterilization of men (2005 - 2007)", 10 May 2007. CHN102495.E. Online. UNHCR Refworld, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?docid=46fa5379c>

Lombardo, P.A. "Eugenic Sterilization Laws." University of Virginia. <http://www.eugenicsarchive.org/html/eugenics/essay7text.html>

Sanders, Tom. "The Double Oppression of Black Women in America". Socialist Action March 2001. <http://www.socialistaction.org/news/200103/double.html>

Sanders, Brita. "Forced Sterilization in Peru". Political Environments Fall 1998. <http://www.cwpe.org/node/49>

Smith, Andrea. *Conquest*. Cambridge: South End Press, 2005.

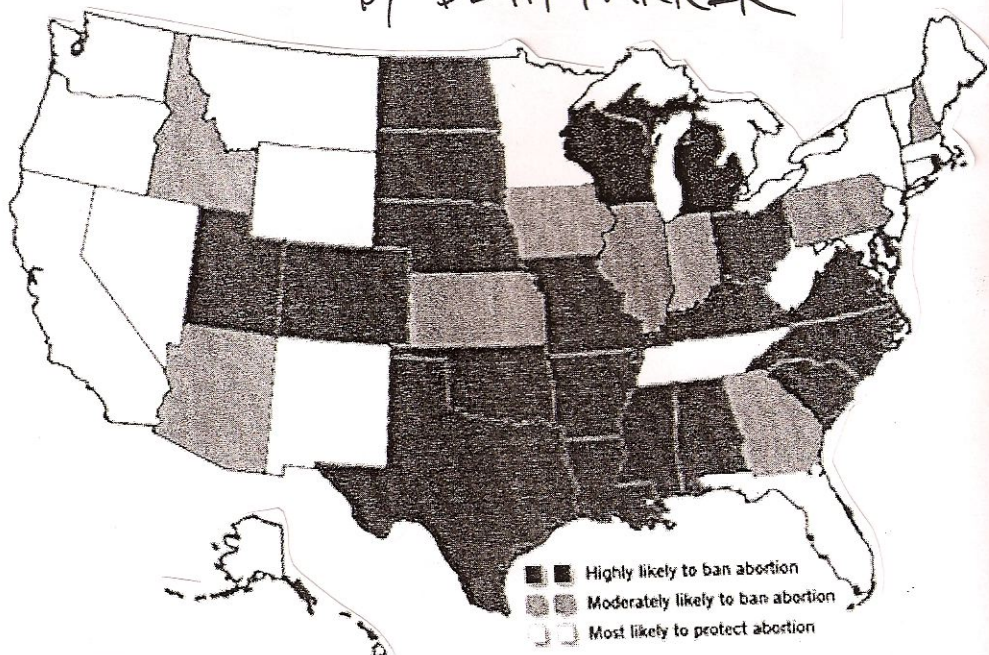
# A Christian Perspective

So often we link Christianity with the anti-choice movement. The Lord's name is invoked to shame and distort the issue of women's reproductive choice. I am an active, practicing Christian, as well as an active practicing pro-choice activist. There is no conflict. Reproductive choice is one of the most private aspects of a woman's life, yet it is the most publicly fought for, the most openly contested. Such deeply personal decisions are to be decided by women with, if she needs, prayerful consideration between her and her God. Anything less is to pass judgment on the lives and decisions of others; judgment which belongs to God and God alone.

It is the lack of Christian love in America that makes all manner of reproductive choices so necessary. If we were to love, affirm, and support young, unwed mothers, then perhaps no one would even dream of choosing an abortion. The love Christians are asked to have for their fellow human is not present. Why does their Christian concern end at birth? Jesus gave many sermons on caring for the poor and lost. Where is their adherence to that gospel? It is, after all, far more clearly stated than any stance on the unborn.

God created life, and is surely in favor of it. Yet pro-life has become pro-quantity rather than pro-quality. To be anti-choice is to cast aside the respect that God requires us to have for others. It is to have no faith, in God or in each other. I would like to challenge more Christians to use their faith to enhance the fight for reproductive freedom. After all, He is the God of choice.

By BETH PARKER





# My Personal Story About Reproductive Choice

We've all heard about contraceptives. Sex Ed class in High School, while full of giggles, are a good place to learn about them. They are a good thing and keep people safe, and so we've been told. However, if you have no plans on having sex in the distant future, class tends to be a place you spend doodling, day dreaming. For most of us, eventually we will need it, and this is why they teach these classes. As a teen though, planning ahead was not my strong suit.

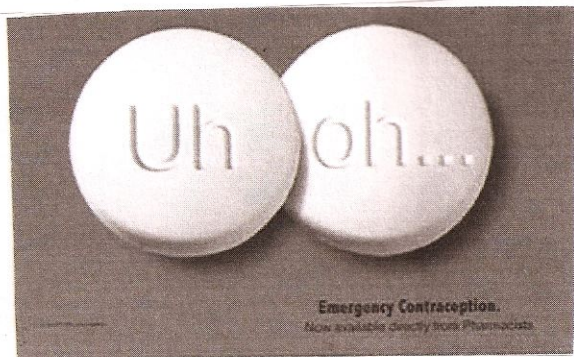
When I came to college, they gave me a brief run down of the resources that are available to me on campus. Again, not assuming that I will ever need it, I "whatever-ed" it out of my mind, and carried on with my day. I knew about them, knew they were there, and could help my friends and peers when they needed to know where to go to get contraceptives.

The problem was that while I knew what my options were, I knew where to go, and I felt well informed and knowledgeable on the subject, I didn't really know how to go about the process of getting contraception for myself, what the process would entail, and how it would affect my life.

When they day came that I realized, I needed birth control, I freaked. How do I get this, where can I get it, and will everybody know? After a deep breath and a small seizure, I gathered myself together and made the phone call to student health services. The process was long and tedious. I had no idea that it would take so long, and that I would have to cut through so much red tape. I don't understand, how a program that can claim to want to help students, can put so many barriers in their way. I found it upsetting; I can't simply call student health services and have them connect me.

Eventually, I made it through the whole ordeal, with my desired prize. The system is still hard, though, and going back is not something I want to do. I feel that the Family Planning Project on campus, while it has a noble goal, is not always student friendly. They forget that to serve students means being accessible during times that they can visit. It means that they need to make everything private. While I acknowledge that we should not stigmatize those who are being mature and taking care of their bodies, and that of their partners, some students will not utilize a program, because it makes their private life too visible. The other issue is reducing the barriers for students to receive contraceptives. Shuffling them from one desk to another, and people not explaining everything clearly, makes an already scared student turn confused and feel unwelcome.

On the other hand, it seems to be worth it. And I would never discourage a student from visiting to get the much needed help they need. The best way to go is to bring a buddy and not get discouraged. The people who work there are caring, and will assist you in getting the help you need. It just takes time and some work.



Name  
Withheld

FALL INTO A GOOD  
BOOK THIS TERM  
AT THE



## WOMEN'S CENTER LIBRARY

# Check Out the WC Staff Recommendations

Meagan W. says to check out "The A Word"

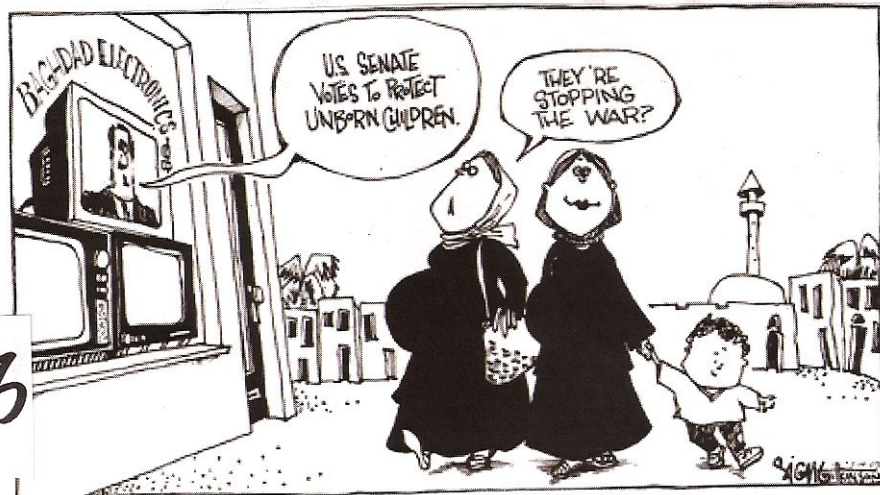
Stephanie Z. recommends "Fat Girl"

Meghan N. suggests reading "Middle Sex"

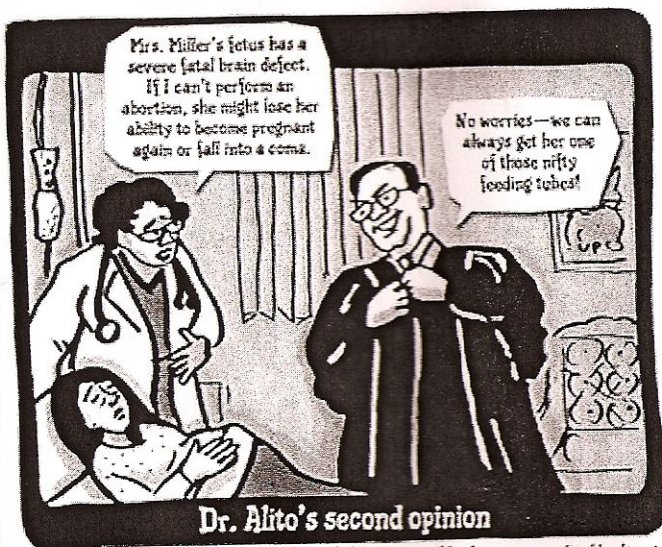
Myra L recommends the book  
"The Alphabet Versus the Goddess"

"THE Gnostic Gospel" IS SUGGESTED BY RANDA S.

Check out "Nickel and Dimed" suggested by Beth R.







michaels '06 \* www.michaels.net \* toons@michaels.net

# Resources 4 U:

## Planned Parenthood Federation of America

434 West 33rd Street  
New York, NY 10001  
212-541-7800  
FAX 212-245-1845

## Planned Parenthood Federation of America

1780 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-785-3351  
FAX 202-293-4349

## State Public Affairs Office: Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon

1574 Coburg Road, #869  
Eugene, OR 97401  
P: 503-775-4931  
F: 503-788-7285

## PP of Southwestern Oregon

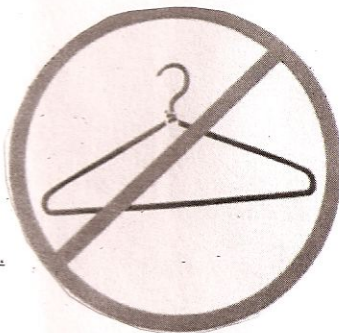
1670 High Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97401  
P: 541-344-2632  
F: 541-344-6519

## Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/Willamette, Inc.

3231 SE 50th  
Portland, Oregon 97206  
P: 503-775-4931  
F: 503-788-7285

## Student Health Services 541-737-WELL

	SHS Hours	Pharmacy Hours
Monday - Friday	9:00am - 6:00pm	9:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am - 3:00pm	Closed
Sunday	closed	Closed



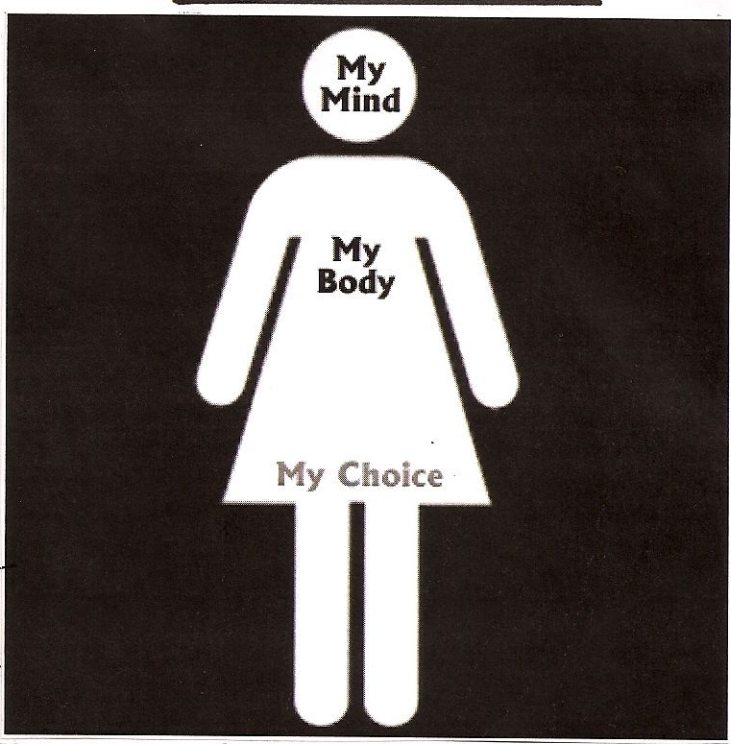
# OSU Women's Center W.I.R.E. ZINE

♀ Intracampus  
Resource Exchange

(Kinda like a newsletter)

REPRODUCTIVE

FREEDOM ♀



Myra Long

|| [www.oregonstate.edu/womenscenter](http://www.oregonstate.edu/womenscenter)  
|| WOMENSCENTER@OREGONSTATE.EDU ||  
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← CREATOR & EDITOR  
OF THIS SWEETNESS

