



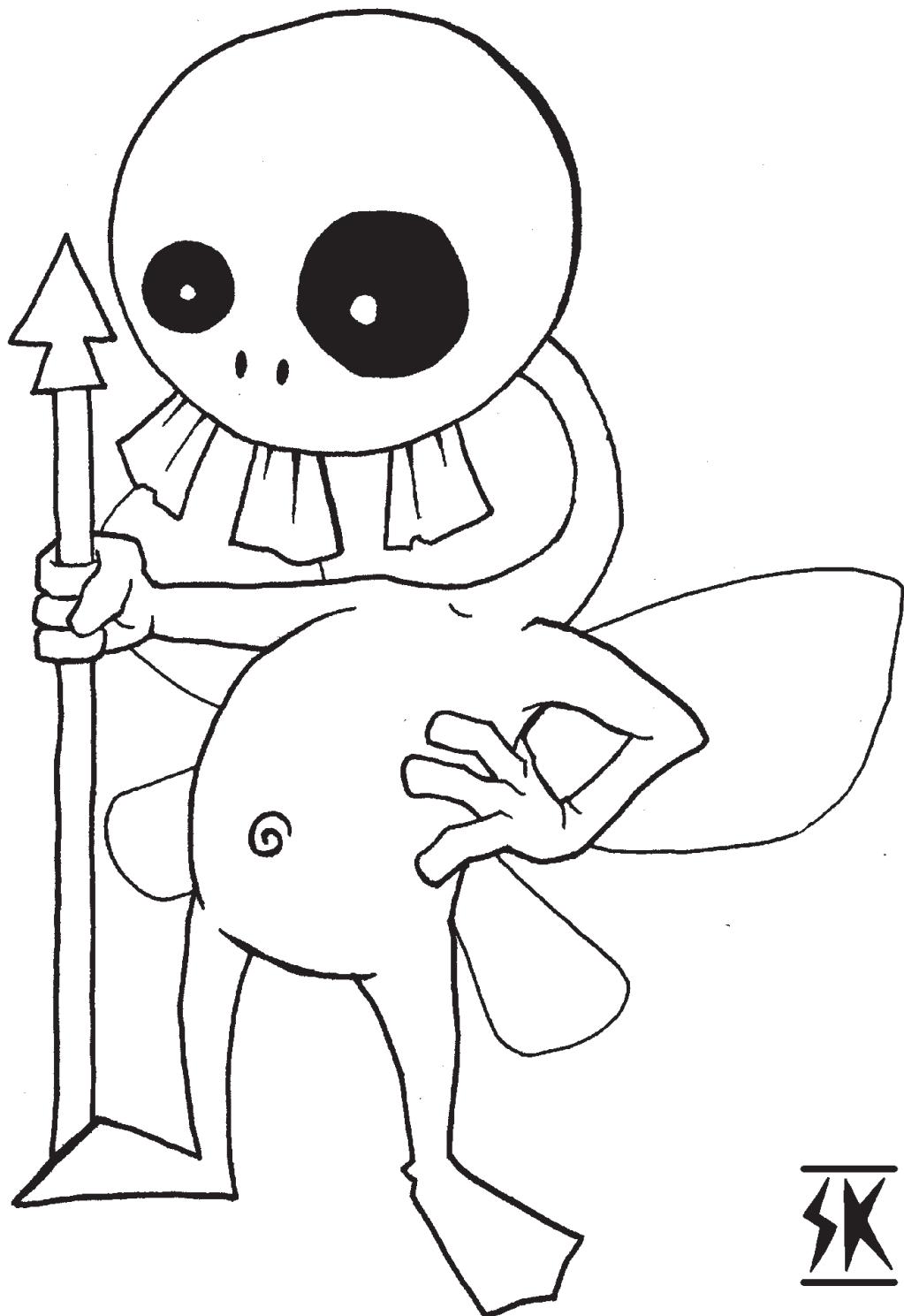
Gracie's Dinnertime Theatre

Volume 28, Issue 1, Abortions
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Out of Context Quote of the Week**By the GDT Staff**

The following is an excerpted passage from the paper titled “Becoming a Category-of-One University” by President Albert J. Simone. In it, President Simone states that we as a university must not strive to become the top of a class, but instead strive to become a university in a class of one. He outlines steps and methods to become a Category-of-One University, and discusses what this would mean in the shaping of RIT’s future.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS OF RIT

Today, our 60% retention rate tells us that if we do not give our students what they want, the way they want it, and when they want it, they will leave. The seller generally is not in control today. It is a buyer's market. I am not talking here about denigrating quality, giving up control, lowering standards, coddling students, or ignoring the critical contributions of faculty and staff. I am talking about the primacy of students. I am speaking to compelling data and analysis, which will be presented and discussed as part of the Strategic Planning process, which indicate that our current student attrition rate is unnecessary and unjustified.

By being a C1U (Category-of-One University), we can offset the student's natural power and actually exercise some power on the supply side...

Students and parents are “tougher” and more demanding than they were five or ten years ago. They are more informed and educated. They are more likely to complain on the spot if they experience a problem. They demand better service than they used to. If they do not get the service that they want, they are likely to take their “business” elsewhere. They are more likely to take action by writing or calling my office with a complaint. They are more likely to tell other people about problems they have experienced with our organization. They do not take “no” for an answer and are more likely to go up

the chain of command until they get satisfaction. They demand more value today than ever before for every dollar spent. They feel they have choices in what universities they attend and they will exercise those choices in a second if they do not get the service they want in a particular instance...

We do not have to have the lowest price or best quality... We may not be able to offer the same kind of product or even the same quality of product as, let us say, MIT in some areas. We may not be able to set tuition as low as some competitors. However, we do have control and influence over... our constituents...

The expectations of our students are higher than they have ever been. The number one competitive issue is how to meet these expectations. This is... a problem. For as long as the students keep raising the bar and raising expectations, we have the opportunity to beat our... students who constantly demand more and more...

Like what you read? Did it make you want to finish your transfer papers? Well, read the entire paper for yourself online at http://www.rit.edu/~020www/docs/Category_of_One.pdf.

If drugs were cute,
they would be called anime.





Tom Oldani

<http://www.psychodogstudios.net/newguys/>

GDT Survey

Okay, here's how this works: you read the survey questions below and then send your responses to GDT at gdt@hellskitchen.org. When we receive enough replies, we'll print the numbers and give you yet another fun and exciting survey. Any particularly interesting e-mails may be printed, and the authors of any printed replies will win the entire GDT archive[£], from Issue 1, Volume 1 to the current issue. So what are you waiting for?! Send your replies now!

- Would you rather eliminate the requirement of co-ops at RIT or have a more active co-op placement program?

- Would you rather be decapitated with a plastic butter knife or receive paper cuts on both eyeballs?

[£] In PDF form.[¤]

[¤] Much like those on our website.[¥]

[¥] At <http://www.hellskitchen.org/gdt>

LETTERS

Letters are not edited for length, content, grammar, or spelling. Normally, one of the editors answers the letters, but this week, Andrew Morgan, the writer of the offending article, has penned a response. His opinions may not represent those of GDT, its staff, their friends, or even Mr. Morgan himself.

Subject: Volume 27, Issue 10, "Save Marriage From Conservatives"

From: Stephen Byrne <stephen@byrne-o-matic.net>

Date: Sun, 22 Feb 2004 16:07:43 -0500

To: gdt@hellskitchen.org

Dear GDT,

I have several notes on your article "Save Marriage From Conservatives" in Volume 27, Issue 10. First, the use of one example of a homosexual relationship for the basis of homosexual relationships and marriage is bad statistics and bad writing. Second, the use of the word 'amoral' in paragraph 6: . . . well, actually I fail to understand the meaning of the whole sentence with respect to its containing paragraph. Would the author kindly either rephrase his point or explain it to me? Third, it is not homosexuals who are destroying marriage, but they are helping. Marriage is being destroyed by a society that does not view it as a lifetime devotion to another person, requiring sacrifice, forgiveness, mercy, unconditional love, and a lot of work. As a society, we don't want anything that involves sacrifice, forgiveness, mercy, unconditional love, or work. To accept these things is to humble ourselves before God and man. And we can't have that.

Regards,
Stephen Byrne

Dear Mr. Byrne,

As the author of the original article, let me thank you on behalf of myself and GDT for your letter. Your interest in the subject is much appreciated. I would like to respond to your points individually, and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to clarify and expand my article.

I would like to start by pointing out that I did not include the story of the homosexual couple to make a statistical point, or to paint every homosexual relationship as being identical to theirs. It would be impossible to do that even for a heterosexual relationship; it is plainly obvious to anyone that no two relationships mirror each other exactly. I did include the story for a number of other reasons, which I would like to touch upon. First, and perhaps most important, it gave the article appropriate context (and provided background information to those who were unaware of the events in California), and it therefore gave the reason why I wrote the article and how it was relevant. Contrary to your view, this is actually very good editorial writing.

Secondly, the story DID (hopefully) help to change at least a few views to what is a truer perspective of a homosexual relationship: a loving, caring, long-term relationship. Not that I am against the show, but in today's climate of Queer Eye for the Straight Guy, it is easy to lose sight of that homosexuality consists of more than good fashion sense or culinary skills. I included the bit about the couple, therefore, to highlight the fact that long term homosexual relationships exist, that they are healthy, loving, long-term relationships, and that they do and will continue to exist regardless of whether or not a conservative populace feels the need to marginalize them.

My inclusion helped to demonstrate a counter-example to the notion that gay relationships are unstable and not truly loving. As far as I can tell, straight relationships have not exactly cornered the stability market either; and it is certainly a possibility that the stability of homosexual relationships would improve if extrinsic social stresses were reduced.

I apologize for the use of the word “amoral,” when in fact a more correct term would have been “immoral.” However, that does not resolve the issue of the meaning of the sentence or the paragraph. I would like to clarify the meaning I had in mind. Love, and subsequently marriage, is either a good thing or it is not. Because we are in unanimous agreement that they are both “good things,” there is no reason why we should exclude a group of people from these things simply on the basis of their sexual orientation. There is nothing inherently “wrong” or “bad” about loving another person; and when this love is added to commitment, you have marriage. Since it is an obvious fallacy to state that those who are gay are incapable of either love or commitment, there is no reason to deny them the right to marry one another. Further, how does marriage--which is but a kind of contract--affect anyone but those parties engaged in the contract? Clearly this contract is being abused, but that does not diminish the love of another couple or effect their marriage in any way. To state the abuse of a right by one person--whether it be in regards to firearms, marriage, or any other right--and then apply that to an entire group of people as the basis of denying them that right is nothing short of ignorant oppression.

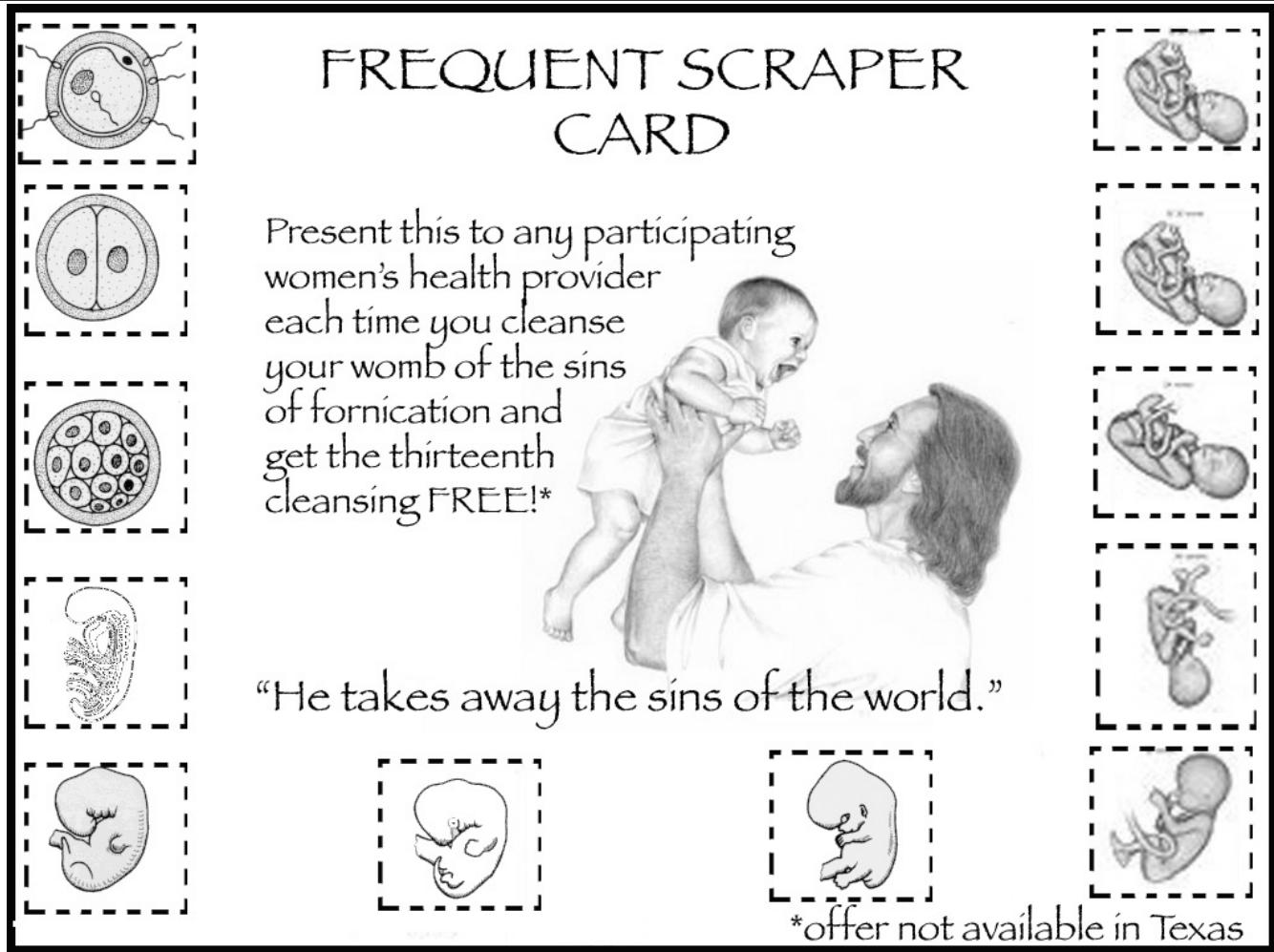
Finally, I fail to see the point of your last paragraph as it pertains to my article. You do not give any arguments in support of your offhand statement that homosexuals are “helping” to destroy marriage, so I do not feel it is worth arguing against. You then proceed to state that marriage is being destroyed by the absence of a litany of required virtues that must be possessed by society. I sincerely doubt that anyone would argue against what is on your list, and I myself agree that society has begun to disdain having to live up to those virtues. However, you and I part company when I realize that giving gays the right to marry would help bring those virtues back into marriage, and you do not. Further--if I may be so bold--your final statement that to accept these things is to “humble ourselves before God and man” helps to undermine your argument. Despite the evenhandedness of the rest of your letter, your reference to God helps to betray yourself as religiously conservative, and religion cannot enter this discussion of secular law. That the arbitrary exclusions of your religion should apply to non-adherents is democratic blasphemy, and is part of the reason the Founders were wise enough to separate church from state. I also personally object to the notion that there is any humbling I have to do to man or any “god.” Such subordination of individuality to either some “collective” or to some mythical god is the philosophical antithesis of what helps to make America the free country that it is.

-Andrew Morgan
amm6744@rit.edu

For it shall be your unmaking

SUBMIT

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C'mon, Everyone is doing it
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art forms accepted.



Written pieces should be in Word, plain text or RTF format. Visual art should be submitted at the highest resolution and dpi possible.

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Joe Cornea!

PUBLIC EYE!
by PETER J. LAZARSKI '04



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