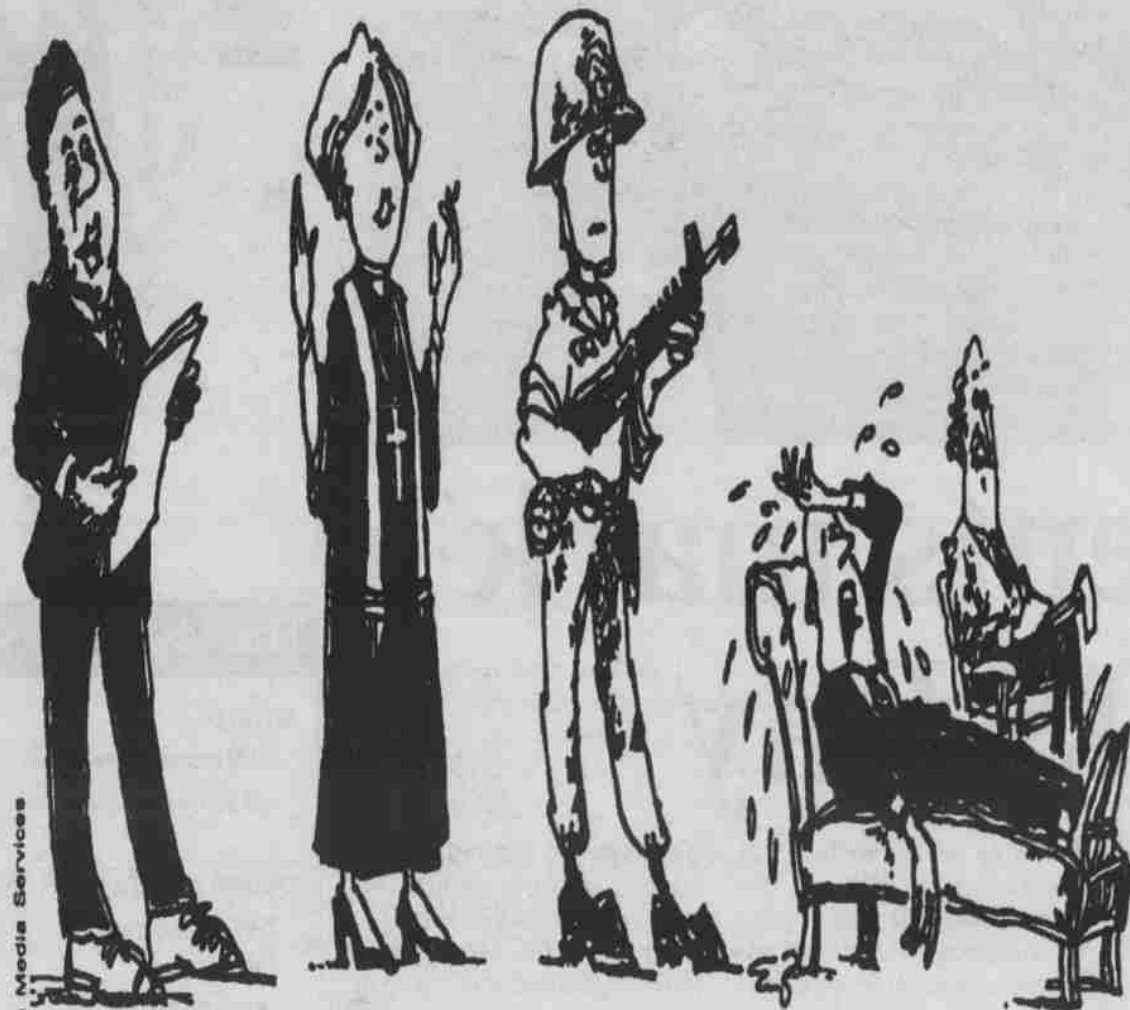


Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate

Simon



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BLACKS
IN HIGH
ELECTED OFFICE

WOMEN
IN THE
CLERGY

GAYS
IN THE
MILITARY

CONSERVATIVES
IN
DENIAL

Unequal education could destroy American society

by Robert

All of us are basically the same. Most of us want to get a good education which will, hopefully, lead to a good job so that we can support ourselves and our subsequent families. Yet, throughout our nation, millions of minority people are dying mentally, spiritually, emotionally, and academically because they are being denied their opportunity to achieve these desires.

Because several societal constraints are weighted against them, minorities are typically a part of the low-income economic group. By remaining in this group, minorities are being excluded from higher income occupations. Both our educational and occupational paths favor the upper classes.

Today's society depends on skills that go far beyond mere reading and writing. Students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds are entering the work force with high school diplomas

only to find the entry-level positions which used to require a high school diploma, now require a college degree.

These rising educational requirements give the upper classes an advantage. It enables them to hold on to better jobs as well as enabling them to afford the rising cost of education for their children, the next generation of American workers. Thus the cycle of the rich getting richer, and the poor getting poorer continues.

It starts with the elementary schools which do not produce equal results. Some children receive a higher quality education because the homes in their neighborhood have a higher price range than the homes in another child's neighborhood. This is one of the reasons behind the unequal results that economically deprived children are subjected to.

Children from lower income families generally do not get the opportunity to grow and develop and neither will their chil-

dren if they are trapped in the same detrimental situation. This starts the deadly cycle that will make it harder and harder for American minority workers to compete with workers from other nations and that will lead to the destruction of America's social and economic foundation.

This poses a problem, because in the next six to eight years, over 50 percent of the work force here in America will be minorities. America can not afford to continue on this destructive path. Clearly, a modern, advanced society needs a better-educated population.

The key to this problem is power. The power for minorities to control their own economic and educational development. If minority people are unsuccessful at regaining control of their own destiny and regain the ability to effectively compete in the work place, then America's foundation will be destroyed and the promise of the American democracy will be lost in the rubble.

Studies show you might be HIV positive

by Debra Bass

This may come as a surprise, but there are 40 cases of students on the campus of UNLV infected with the HIV virus. This is report in an informational pamphlet distributed in observation of World AIDS Day, which estimates the number in relation to national statistics. Estimates also show the United States has over a million cases of people with the virus—10 percent of which have resulted in death.

Dec. 1 has been set aside as a day to observe how this national tragedy has wreaked havoc over a society which is either uninformed or unresponsive to the tactics which can resolve the problem. Use this day and take the time to address AIDS from a personal point of view. It sounds cliché, but it truly does effect all of us.

By now we don't need another lesson on prevention. We need a motivation to enact those precautions. You don't get the HIV virus from public swimming pools, casual contact or sharing a soda. You get the virus from intimate sexual contact.

Eight deaths have been reported at UNLV by students who have contracted AIDS as a result of being infected with the HIV virus. That's 20 percent of the suspected cases at our university, most of which are unreported.

The Student Health Center is offering testing for the HIV antibody. If you're carrying the virus, you have a responsibility to yourself and your intimate friends to take the proper precautions.

Debra Bass is
opinion page editor
of The Rebel Yell

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor,

I found your Nov. 19 article involving the Gay Rights issue quite interesting. You questioned five young adults, who obviously have no prior military experience, whether or not they think gays should be accepted into the armed forces. While every American has the right to express their opinion, does anyone have the right to voice their opinion on a matter about which they know nothing or something they have never experienced?

To go a step further, how correct is it for our new fearless draft-dodging leader to initiate a move to allow homosexuals into the military? Will gay men be admitted into the military

with the same rights as women, or will they be allowed to occupy combat positions? If gay men aren't allowed to occupy the same positions as heterosexual men, is this a step forward or backward?

Combat training can involve as long as two or three months in the field at a time where two men share a tiny tent. Is a heterosexual soldier going to want to share his tent with a homosexual soldier? The people that are directly affected by this change are the men and women of our armed forces, so they're the ones that should vote to tell us how they feel about letting gays into the military.

Jon E.

Letters to the Editor



Letters to the editor submitted to *The Rebel Yell* should be 250 words or less in length.

The Rebel Yell strives to publish all student submissions. However, we reserve the right to edit letters as necessary.

Please remember to include your full name, class and major.

Please send letters to:

The Rebel Yell-STS
4505 S. Maryland
Pkwy.
Las Vegas NV
89154

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