

**PIERCE:** Piercing helps me satisfy a deep carnal, spiritual need

for our children growing up as tattoos were for us. Many of us knew someone with body paintings, if not our dads, uncles, or grandparents.

Here in Las Vegas, there are many places to get piercings: Tribal Body Piercing, Tattoos R Us and Desert Ink Tattoo.

Tim Campbell, a certified body piercer at Tribal Body Piercing, suggests when choosing a place, "Don't be afraid to ask questions. Find out their training, sterilization methods and experience."

Piercing is a commitment. Healing time for a nipple or navel is two to six months. Ear cartilage and nose takes two months to a year to heal, requiring cleaning everyday.

"It didn't hurt, it was just a pinching sensation," Kurt Bierfreund said after getting his eyebrow pierced.

I say getting piercings is a spiritual experience. It's a great rush. The entire body becomes charged, the sensations are intense. The pain is quick. It is enthralling, but not overbearing.

It's like being tickled: it hurts a little, but you can still laugh.

Piercing helps me satisfy a deep carnal and spiritual need, of dreams and my connection to the past. Your body can truly become a vehicle of fine art. I truly believe body piercing is a fine art, because who we are transcends our existence. We are the embodiment of evolution. We are a symbol of the past, the reality of the present, and a sign of the future. Body piercing is a metaphor of life, religion and discipline. Since metaphor is the distinguishing characteristic between pop art and fine art, piercing is definitely fine art.

As I write this, I'm sucking on ice to keep the swelling of my new tongue piercing down. It was a great experience. The staff at Tribal Body Piercing is friendly, knowledgeable, experienced and right across the street from UNLV. They make you feel right at home and comfortable knowing their technicians have attained degrees and certification. They specialize in piercings and have the most

modern methods of piercing, which makes it more efficient, clean and less painful.

When the needle went through my tongue, I saw a dark blue sky for seconds. I had the feeling I was in another time and place, and the sun would soon be rising. Perhaps for a moment I achieved an altered state.

Body piercing offers a very human experience, rich with history, beautification and adrenaline. It has found a craze of popularity and has entered a new era of technology, creativity, expression and experimentation. It has crossed the lines from bizarre to mainstream.

So to pierce or not to pierce? The only answer can come from within, without anyone else's input.



by Stephen Schroeder / The Rebel Yell

Kurt Bierfreund gets his eyebrow pierced at Tribal Body Piercing.

**Disease discussed at seminar**

By Sarah E. Harris  
Features Staff Writer

Eating disorders are a highly misunderstood disease that affects numerous college students, especially females. Eating disorders can have many serious results including physical, emotional and psychological problems. In extreme cases, eating disorders can even lead to death.

Most people think that only females are affected by eating disorders, but studies show that as many as 10-20 percent of adolescent survivors are male, according to a web page on eating disorders by Ben Harris, junior, at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn.

There are treatments available which will be discussed at "Eating Disorders Epidemic: Something Everybody Should Know About."

Like alcoholism or drug abuse, eating disorders have signs and symptoms friends and family should look out for if they suspect someone they love is suffering from a disorder.

Everyone is encouraged to attend in order to learn how to help themselves or a friend who is suffering from an eating disorder.

UNLV psychological services is currently offering support group programs for students with eating disorders. Students often find this sort of group therapy to be highly beneficial.

The seminar will be taught by Steve Oster, David Silverman and Lori Winchell on Sept. 24, from 7-9 p.m. at the Student Services Complex.

Fifty-five people have already signed up for the eating disorder seminar, but Student Services is still accepting reservations. To make a reservation, call 895-3394.

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