



Free will to do what's wrong

On the subject of abortion, when a baby is conceived it is alive. One of the Ten Commandments says you must not kill. And yes, my God says that.

God gave us a free will to do and believe whatever we want. No matter what you believe, in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord of Lords and King of Kings. He is the one and only God.

My God says if I am ashamed of him, he will be ashamed of me.

Virginia Markle, Columbia

Corporate Rep.

Thank you for reporting that "our" congressman, Joe Pitts, is awash in corporate cash that he can use to drown his opponents in the upcoming election.

I have a suggested tagline for Mr. Pitts' newsletter: "The best representation corporate money can buy."

Rick Sauder, Lancaster

Defense cuts a reality

After the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction flamed out and Bowles-Simpson sent partisan politicians scurrying for the exits, two senatorial stalwarts proposed scrapping

Department of Defense budget cuts mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011.

Sen. John McCain and assistant Senate Republican leader Jon Kyl (both of whom voted for the Budget Control Act of 2011) strode forth on Feb. 2, like a shell-shot fife-and-drum band, to rescue national security from the first installment of \$1.2 trillion in automatic-spending reductions.

Subsequent to briefings by defense industry executives, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and the military chiefs stated such cuts would be catastrophic and would "inflict severe damage to our national defense for generations."

Without more stealth bombers, littoral combat ships and other expensive goodies, America would soon be reduced to military helplessness and become prey to terrorist hordes around the world. Canceling military hardware programs might even force aerospace engineers and skilled manufacturing companies into less glamorous lines of work, such as renewable energy, public transportation or innovative research.

Buck up, senators! After all that congratulatory backslapping when the BCA of 2011 was passed, now you're feeling the heavy hand of reality.

Get off you dead rear ends, stop pandering to fear-mongers and deal with it.

Jim Weber, West Hempfield Township

