



Avoiding Abortion

HB1077 has been put on hold by the state House. If you think that forcing women to have ultrasounds before abortions is an assault on women, please contact your representative soon. I am not pro-abortion, and I know of no one who is, but I am definitely pro-choice.

What I have done to prevent abortion, among other things, is to educate my children and donate to Planned Parenthood. It also helps to give love and support to our children so they don't have to look for it elsewhere. We can all work to prevent unwanted pregnancies -- the best way to reduce abortions.

I also believe in the U.S. Constitution, in which the very first line of the First Amendment is, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

People seem to forget that Americans are as free from religion as we are free to practice it. Many of our founders came here to escape religious tyranny.

Let's not return to it.

Carol Shane, Manor Township

Elect Farmers

Where is our great nation headed? Neither major political party is doing anything for the working-class Christian family.

Democrats are busy pushing socialism and social engineering upon us, as Republicans try to convince us they're for the middle class while

refusing to close tax loopholes on the extremely wealthy.

Our president has been working diligently to rob us of our freedom of religion through his so-called health care plan.

Republicans claim to be pro-life but are so anti-labor that they make it nearly impossible for working-class men to support the lives they are supposedly protecting.

Maybe it is time to throw the bums out and elect a bunch of farmers who have a little common sense and know what work is -- two things desperately lacking in our present elitist government.

William H. Zell, Columbia

Flawed theology

President Obama claims to be a Christian, implying that he is a follower of Jesus. No one can see what is truly in another's heart, but from Barack Obama's own actions and words over the last few years, some things can be inferred about his belief in Jesus:

Barack Obama's version of Jesus would:

--Support abortion on demand and allow an unwanted child who survived an abortion to die unattended.

--Not defend traditional marriage.

--Favor people based on race.

--Use rhetoric to encourage envy and resentment for political gain.

--Support mob behavior, violence and property damage to protest against "oppressors."

And more.

I have read through the Bible several times, and I can say that Barack Obama's Jesus is far from the true Jesus. Though he may mean well, President Obama's theology is deeply flawed.

John Peiffer, Columbia

Making an impact

Robert E. Field recently retired as chairman of the Manor Group, a company he founded more than 40 years ago in Lancaster Township with his first development, The Manor Houses. The 300-unit apartment complex was among the first here to lease to African-Americans.

Field has been a successful developer and investor in Lancaster and elsewhere for decades. But it is in the area of public service and philanthropy where Field has really made his impact.

Field co-founded Project Forward Leap, a multiyear program aiding promising at-risk inner-city youth. For that work, Field received the Crystal Stair Award from the University of Pennsylvania. Crystal Stair recipients include social justice giants Marion Wright Edelman and Jonathan Kozol. Robert Field is their peer.

Field's work in drug policy reform has been largely anonymous, but his impact has been substantial on the national level.

Field has built libraries and schools in Afghanistan and South America, fed thousands of people, and kept families intact with his work and his money.

Yes, Field criticized the Lancaster County Convention Center project. He raised uncomfortable questions about its financing and use of public funds.

Robert Field's cantankerousness is legend. He doesn't gently suffer fools. I can vouch for that after my employ with him. But this is an extraordinary man, one who merits a bow from his community.

Christiaan A. Hart Nibbrig, West Hempfield Township