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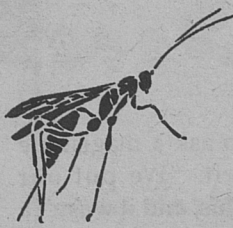
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'SKEETER BITES

By Skeeter Sanders

■ Our Polyamorous President

To borrow an oft-repeated quotation from the late former President Richard Nixon, let me make one thing perfectly clear: I voted for Bill Clinton for president in 1992 and again in 1996 and if the Constitution allowed him to seek a third term in 2000, I'd vote for Clinton again.

Having said that, I am nonetheless furious with the president for having lied to all of us for seven long months about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky. And not just because he apparently perjured himself.

Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's brutally graphic — some say pornographic — report detailing the president's liaisons with the former White House intern and Clinton's own nationally-televised confession make it pretty obvious that he committed perjury last January when he denied the relationship under oath in Paula Jones' sexual-harassment lawsuit against him.

Perjury, the act of giving false testimony in a legal proceeding, is a criminal offense. People have gone to prison for that. And for a sitting President of the United States to commit a criminal offense while in office practically forces Congress to impeach and remove him from office.

I seriously doubt, however, that the GOP-controlled Congress has the political stomach to impeach Clinton, in part because the peccadilloes of members of Congress already are being exposed and in part because of fear of having to challenge an incumbent President Al Gore in 2000.

But perjury is not the only reason I'm angry at the president. By now, it should be obvious to everyone that monogamy simply does not work

for Bill Clinton. He is polyamorous.

Hillary Rodham Clinton has known this for the entire 20 years of their marriage. But the president apparently lacks the intestinal fortitude to acknowledge it to himself, much less to his wife and to the public.

The 20-something Generation Xers and the now-teen-aged Baby Boomlets — literally the children of the Boomers — have even more libertarian sexual attitudes than the Boomers themselves. So there's no way that America can return to the neo-Puritan mores of the 1950s, no matter

The fact that America has a polyamorous Baby Boomer president is proof positive that the "sexual revolution" is not only still alive and well, but is now absolutely irreversible.

I don't buy for a second the president's acts of contrition since admitting his affair with Lewinsky. And he's wasting his time and money on counseling to arrest his polyamorous nature. It won't work. He needs to be totally honest with himself and the world and come out of the closet.

I'm not kidding. I'm speaking from personal experience. I've been polyamorous my entire adult life, long before I came out bisexual in 1993 and before I first came out gay in 1978. The very word, "polyamory" — the ability to form deeply emotionally fulfilling intimate relationships with more than one person — wasn't even invented until the early 1980s.

But I knew as far back as age 18 that I could not restrict my feelings of deep love and affection to only one person. I'm 45 now and unattached, but I will remain polyamorous for the rest of my life — although now that I'm on the cusp of middle age, I can't handle having more than two partners.

Society's insistence that one can love only one person for the rest of one's life is not only totally alien to me, it's downright unnatural. Love doesn't last forever. Eventually, the glue that kept you and your partner together will dissolve — and when it happens, all hell can break loose. This is why I'm so contemptuous of the institution of marriage. But that's a subject for another column.

If there is a silver lining to the Clinton-Lewinsky mess, it's this: The fact that America has a polyamorous Baby Boomer president is proof positive that the "sexual revolution" that the Boomers launched 30 years ago is not only still alive and well, but is now absolutely irreversible.

how hard the Religious Right ties to turn back the clock.

The sexual revolution is over, and the revolutionaries have won.

Skeeter Sanders is host of "The Quiet Storm," a weekly radio program of smooth jazz and soft R&B, which airs Sundays at 10:00 p.m. on WGDR-FM (91.1) in Plainfield and on the Internet at www.goddard.edu/wgdr.

More Letters

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back roads and how quickly they were able to hide themselves and their vehicle when they realized we had called the police from a cellular phone.

At the falls there are several warnings to stay off the rocks since several lives have been lost there. Now I wonder how many of these "accidental" deaths were really murders of women like us who had the misfortune to run into these local bigots who perceived us as different and therefore not worthy to live. HOW MANY MORE WOMEN'S LIVES WILL BE LOST BEFORE THESE DESPICABLE HATE CRIMES ARE STOPPED? Don't expect the authorities to stop it. There may be laws on the books to protect all of us, but as my partner and I have discovered, the authorities are not interested in enforcing them when it comes to lesbians.

I am a career firefighter and daily put my life on the line for people from all walks of life. I do not have the luxury to pick and choose who I will save in an emergency. Such blatant disrespect for human life appalls me. Apparently some lives are worth more than others when you are a Deputy States Attorney or a Vermont State Trooper.

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