

COLUMN



**Burton Peebles**  
Reflections of an alumnus  
Graduate journalism major from  
Graham.  
Email: bpeebles@unc.edu

# The real meaning of God’s love

North Carolina is much like any state in our union, made up of all kinds of folks and faiths. And a large part of our state's history is marked by a bloody struggle for racial justice and cross-cultural understanding. Throughout this steady ebb and flow towards justice, religion has been appropriated strategically to organize people, raise funds and nudge our social consciousness in distinct directions.

My personal journey with organized religion, nominally Christianity, began at birth. Raised in a small church where my father has served as pastor for over 30 years, I listened and learned much about respect, responsibility and — most importantly — love. But never have I heard my father use his pulpit to espouse such explicit hatred as Charles Worley of Maiden exhibited last week.

I am typically overjoyed when I see my state appear on national news, and more often than not, such coverage is linked to this great institution. But watching national news this week, I was left dismayed.

From Anderson Cooper to my local news, Worley's words were aired for all to hear, leaving me questioning his understanding of the core message of love I learned so many years ago.

As Worley outlined his plan to confine all gays and lesbians behind a massive electrified fence, I could not hold back the thoughts of 1939 Germany and the mass extermination of an estimated 17 million innocent civilians.

Regardless of what your personal beliefs on homosexuality are, all citizens of our democracy must question speech that serves no legitimate purpose other than to exalt the perceived moral purity of some while placing unwarranted shame on the backs of others.

I have had enough of the nonsense. I have had enough of the ignorance. People of faith everywhere should join me in asking religious leaders across our state to examine the exclusive environments their words can — and have — created in our communities.

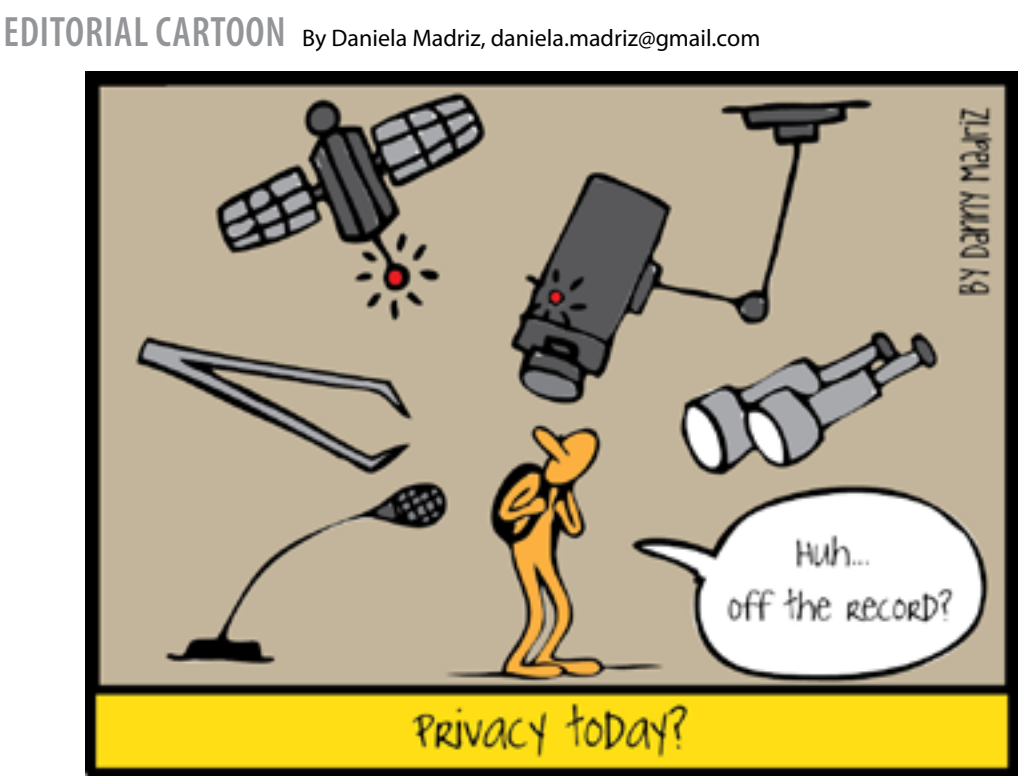
If any region in our nation should be equipped to identify the striking rhetorical parallels between the use of religious texts to justify the denial of suffrage for women or the enslavement of Africans with its modern-day use to deny equal rights and protection for gays and lesbians, we are the region.

Sadly, many are failing the task at hand.

Amendment One has passed. With it, many communities have become divided — yard sign against yard sign. What, in truth, is improved when we deny rights to gays and lesbians? What heterosexual union is made stronger, less likely to end in divorce or abuse, when same-sex couples are denied the opportunity to wed? What gay North Carolinian now feels more at ease, free to flourish in his or her own hometown?

I am certainly no expert on religion. And I do not claim to be an expert on our constitution. But my time as a student in Chapel Hill has taught me that we are, indeed, a world of many kinds of people, of all walks of life and many faiths. It has instilled in me a hope that we can all coexist peacefully, free to believe what and behave how we will. Church should be no exception.

Yet when bodies of faith veer from personal guidance into the realm of encouraging the enslavement and stigmatization of others outside their own community, I take issue. Nothing good comes from hatred, however much you “love the sinner.” As a community of people, we have a vested interest in ensuring all of us have a fair chance, an equal stake in the conversation and a safe environment to call home.



EDITORIAL

# A difficult solution

**A magnet school may be the best solution to a complex problem.**

On June 7, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will vote whether or not to turn Frank Porter Graham Elementary School into a magnet school. While this proposition has come under fire by parents of children who attend the school, the measure will ultimately offer the greatest benefit to the school system.

A recent study put out by the school system suggested the dual-language programs at Frank Porter Graham and Mary Scroggs Elementary Schools were not doing enough to close achievement gap between the highest achieving “white” demographic and the lowest achieving “economically-disadvantaged” demographic, according to standards set by the No Child Left Behind Act.

The transition to a magnet school will remedy this problem by expanding the Spanish dual-language program and bus in low-achieving children to help them do better in school.

Whether or not the resolution passes, either decision will leave some students without access to the proper education-

al benefits of the school system.

The school board has to make a decision based on what will be best for the long term. And if the goals of the school system are to increase performance standards of its students, then a magnet school may be the best solution.

Unfortunately, it will mean the end of the Chinese dual-language program at the Frank Porter Graham. This has been a large concern for parents who are in favor of the Chinese dual-language program.

The elementary school also hosts a large population of Burmese immigrants who would have to transfer to Glenwood Elementary School to receive similar language instruction.

Clearly, the diversity of Frank Porter Graham is at stake. But Frank Porter Graham has been targeted as a prime candidate for designation as a magnet school in the school system because it is the most cost-efficient area to place a magnet school. Board of Education officials also argue that the designation of Frank Porter Graham as a magnet school would help the overcrowding at other elementary schools.

The proposals of the study currently suggest the phasing out of the Chinese dual-language program as the fairest educational transition.

It is true that in recent years, Frank Porter Graham has been quite successful in closing its own achievement gap. The school has applied for a flexibility waiver from the Department of Education, which, as a stipulation of the NCLB Act, would hold different objectives as an accountability measure.

If the waiver is approved, data for the 2010-11 school year demonstrates a 28.5 percent reduction in the achievement gap between the highest performing and lowest performing students.

But the success of one school cannot come at the expense of another. In the end, the resolution to turn Frank Porter Graham into a magnet school may be the best solution for the entire school system.

While the success of Frank Porter Graham's locally-based education has served its community well, the educational constraints of the school system demand that it become a magnet school so it may be used for greater purposes. While the change will disrupt the current students who attend Frank Porter Graham, the solution seems to be best for making greater strides in bridging the achievement gap.

COLUMN SERIES: HEAVY ISSUES

# Perceiving what’s real

## How to live in a nation of extremes

*This column is part of a summer series that will focus on college-aged men and women's perceptions of beauty and body image issues.*

Eating disorder? Not me. I loved food. I loved my body. No way.

My senior year of high school, I stood staring at my reflection in a dressing room mirror, a size 2 prom dress dangling off my thin frame. The year before, I'd worn a size 6. I looked at my mother, who'd been hounding me for six months and said, "You're right. I have a problem."

I've battled compulsive exercise disorder — also known as exercise bulimia or overexercise disorder — for the last four years. I used to run ten miles a day, restrict my daily diet to 900 calories, and shed 2 or 3 pounds every week. Why? I still can't answer that question.

It took its toll. I was too exhausted to go out with my friends. My hair fell out. And my doctor told me there was a chance I might never have kids.

I'm not alone. Many male and female students at UNC overexercise to control their weight. Colleen Daly, a fitness instructor at UNC, said she fell into overexercising and — like me — still struggles against



**Taylor Hartley**  
Summer Opinion Editor  
Taylor is a senior English major from Waxhaw.  
Email: tmhartle@live.unc.edu

it. She didn't want to promote that image.

"I have at least one person with an eating disorder in every class I teach," Daly said. "Fitness is so much more than body image — it's about finding an equilibrium, about having a healthy mind and body."

We live in a country of extremes. Some people eat themselves to death while others starve for beauty. For most of us, one or the other starts in college.

Commercials depict thin, glamorous women talking to men with biceps the size of cantaloupes and ab muscles that mimic the artistry of Michelangelo. TV shows have 20 year olds playing the part of 17 year olds with curves and muscles that couldn't possibly exist in high school.

Meanwhile, the national news incessantly talks about the “fat-tening of America.” Stir that all together, and you get a youth population obsessed with body image.


People have talked about the negative effects the media has on conceptions of body image for decades, and nothing's changed. So we must fix how we perceive what's presented to us.

It's taken me years to realize that what's in front of me isn't real. Not that my own problems were sparked by a need to look like the girls on TV — they came from older insecurities. But the media helped to enhance them.


I had to learn that movie stars and the people in ads were paid to look like that. Eat celery, exercise until you crash and make a ton of money.

Then, I asked myself: is this really healthy? Running 10 miles every day after eating half a cup of cereal was starvation, not health. This wasn't the life I wanted. While I still struggle against the disorder, I don't let it control my life.

Some people have a hard time believing that men and women feel this way about their bodies. But these stories exist, right here at this University. We can change that. This summer, I challenge you; wake up to what's real.




Weekly QuickHits




Rev. Charles Worley

Spewing words of hate that mimic ideas from Nazi Germany qualifies as bigotry, not Christianity. What would Jesus do with you, Mr. Worley? Guess you'll have to wait and find out.




Call Me Maybe Parodies

The song is super obnoxious. But who wouldn't love watching a bunch of Harvard baseball players — and the presidential candidates — lip sync and dance to it. Call me, maybe?



Veterans and Soldiers

We'd like to wish all the servicemen and women a very happy and belated Memorial Day. Thanks so much for protecting our rights and liberties. We couldn't do what we do without you.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

*“Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery has a long history of helping out local charitable organizations. The distillery wants to continue that tradition.”*

Scott Maitland, on the distillery's fundraising effort for the rape crisis center

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The University remains focused on transparency

TO THE EDITOR:

Regarding last week's editorial about the College of Arts and Sciences' review of courses in the Department of African and Afro-American Studies, the University agrees that transparency is important.

That's why the University voluntarily informed the campus community and the media about the course review and the college's independent study task force report.

We encourage anyone interested to carefully read both reports, along with an email to faculty from Dean Karen Gil, posted May 4 on the University's website at go.unc.edu/Zb39D.

Chancellor Thorp invoked his statutory right to release the departmental review, which included confidential personnel information, to maintain the integrity of the University.

That's a rare move, but the chancellor felt strongly that openness and accountability were essential.

The findings pointed to problems that appeared to be linked to two individuals in the department, so he believed it was only fair to the other faculty and employees to take that step.

Last week, the review and task force report also were topics of discussion with administrators in a public meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Much of the focus was on the steps the college has taken to improve policies and procedures to protect the quality of the education students will receive in the future.

Regarding the DTH's questions about the involvement of the State Bureau of Investigation, the chancellor has pledged the University's full cooperation with that investigation of possible criminal activity.

For the record, it's not appropriate for University officials to comment further about that pending investigation or to speculate about its possible impact.

*Kvetching board™*

kvetch:

v.1 (Yiddish) to complain

If anyone was wondering whether it is possible to get sun burnt through your jeans: it is. #gingerproblems

To the girl blasting the “Pirates of the Caribbean” soundtrack from her car window: I want to go wherever you're going.

Hey Trader Joe's, if you could sell me romaine lettuce without the fruit flies in it, that would be nice.

Yogurt Pump > Sweet Frog. The end.

According to the WebAssign web page, it “is a registered service mark of North Carolina State University.” Well that explains it.

To the panhandler whose sign asked for beer money: I appreciate your honesty.

To the Campus Health doctor who said I should stop drinking to excess: I'll actually drink to anything.

To everyone who has ever said “I don't know how to be single”: You know when you go to the bathroom by yourself and close the door? It's like that, only it's everywhere and most of the time, your pants are pulled up.

Mike McFarland  
Director of University communications

## Constitution demands civil liberties for all

TO THE EDITOR:

I hate blatant inconsistency. If you support the literal inter-

SPEAK OUT

WRITING GUIDELINES

- Please type: Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- Sign and date: No more than two people should sign letters.
- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

SUBMISSION

- Drop-off: at our office at 151 E. Rosemary Street.
- Email: opinion@dailytarheel.com

The Daily Tar Heel

PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS STAFF

**Business and Advertising:**  
Kevin Schwartz, director/general manager; Megan McGinlity, advertising director; Lisa Reichle, business manager. Customer Service: Danielle

Stephenson and Aneshia Timmin, representatives  
**Display Advertising:** Molly Ball and Ashton Ratcliffe, account executives; Devin Cooney, digital account executive

**EDITORIAL STAFF**  
Arts: Alex Dixon  
City: Kaitlyn Knepp, Lauren Kostenberger, Jasmin Singh  
Copy: Georgia Cavanaugh, Laurie Beth Harris  
Design: Susie Mann  
Photos: Melissa Key, Chloe Stephenson, Hannah Samuelson  
Sports: Henry Gargan, Michael

Lananna, Chris Moore, Marilyn Payne, Brooke Pryor  
**State & National:** Vinayak Balasubramanian, Memet Walker, Claire Williams  
**University:** Matthew Cox, Jessica New, Becky Bush, Amelia Nitz  
**Opinion:** Caitlin Cantrell, Colleen Daly, Jake Filip, Nate

Harrison, Tim Longest, Clarke Tugwell, Rachel Shope  
**Newroom Adviser:** Erica Perel  
**Editorial Production:** Stacy Wynn, manager.  
**Printing:** Triangle Web Printing Co.  
**Distribution:** Stacy Wynn, Nick and Sarah Hammonds

The Daily Tar Heel is published by the DTH Media Corp., a nonprofit North Carolina corporation, Monday through Friday, according to the University calendar. Callers with questions about billing or display advertising should call 962-1163 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Classified ads can be reached at 962-0252. Editorial questions should be directed to 962-0245.

OFFICE AND MAIL ADDRESS:  
151 E. Rosemary St.  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-3539

  
Member

ISSN #010709436

EDITOR'S NOTE: Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel or its staff. Editorials reflect the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel editorial board, which is made up of board members, the opinion editor and the summer editor.