



## From our Website

amp.utdallas.edu

Suggested caption: "*A Modest Proposal's* pathetic attempt to be noteworthy by stirring controversy with a minority group on campus."

Perhaps you should consider renaming your publication. *A Modest Proposal* is a literary work which criticizes anti-Catholic sentiments. I apologize for assuming that the editors and staff were knowledgeable of such details as the source of the title of their publication. Silly me. After all, you are not *The Mercury*. Perhaps you should consider stealing your title from someone who shares your biases.

Elizabeth Buell, "Caption Contest" post No. 13

I'm real frustrated that all the Catholic brouhaha is stealing all the attention from what is otherwise a great issue.

This is one the best articles I think *AMP* has ever run, and I'm willing to let them print whatever offensive nonsense they want if it appears in the same issue as stuff like this. Even the artwork is magnificent.

I also thought Kenny's, Sara's, and Aaron's articles were thoughtful, and more importantly, thought-provoking. I would never have come up with some of those arguments, but they're really good.

Anyway, thanks Art, for a great story, and thanks *AMP* for a great issue. Maybe next time you let the contributors get the spotlight.

*AMP* Fan, "Three Horseman Herald the Decline of Discourse" post No. 2

In last month's issue we ran a story by Richard Badgett which contained an important factual inaccuracy.

The original article, *You Dirty Rat*, incorrectly claimed that a 9-year old girl in Brazil was excommunicated for having an abortion. That is not true. The girl in question was never excommunicated, only her mother and doctors.

*A Modest Proposal* apologizes for this mistake. We take genuine pride in the quality and accuracy of the articles we present.

Dear *AMP* readers,

Since this caption contest has caused such a stir, we feel we need to clarify a few points that have come up during the controversy.

We would like to reiterate that the editors of *AMP*, the people responsible for the layout, design, and leadership of the publication, do not as a group endorse particular viewpoints or opinions, nor does the institution of *AMP* endorse any particular perspective unless it is through an editorial. *AMP* acts only as a neutral medium through which UTD students can voice their opinions. *AMP* takes pride in refusing to censor its contributorship. *AMP* also takes pride in printing submissions based on quality, readability, and strength of argument and in never rejecting articles because of the contributor's viewpoint.

We want to emphasize that the caption contest is a chance for people to take something slightly odd, extremely weird, or just plain ridiculous image and make up something crazy or funny to go with it. We let readers take it anywhere they want to go. It is not meant to be a statement about any particular belief, any person, or any group. In fact it is not a statement at all but simply an opportunity for jokes. Since such controversial issues as race, gender, sexuality, and religion can often be fertile ground for comedy, we feel it is acceptable for a college publication to allow such images.

However, we failed to anticipate that it would be perceived as an endorsement of a contributor's article and that it would be taken as a serious indictment of any church or church official. Again, *AMP* does not endorse the opinions presented in contributions to the publication, even those submitted by editors. When an editor writes for *AMP* he or she does so as just another student.

We believed (and still believe) that a wide range of jokes and opinions could be expressed in captions for this image. We felt our lack of malice would be evident from the fact that the contest and the image are placed under the "Shameless Frivolity" section of the paper. Moreover, the very name of our paper, *A Modest Proposal* comes from a famous piece of satire in which the eating of babies is sarcastically endorsed.

Since this caption contest hasn't had the comedic effect we intended, we will see what changes to the process will yield images which encourage the broadest possible participation. We understand that many of our readers were shocked and even disturbed by the image, and we are truly sorry that members of our readership were offended so deeply. We thank all who contacted us with their concerns. While we reserve the right to put shocking things in the paper, we will in the future keep such strong reactions in mind. Ultimately, we are most concerned with making sure the intent of the contest is upheld — shameless fun.

We appreciate your readership and the hard work of all of those who contribute to *AMP*.

The *AMP* editors

## Achieve Nirvana!

## Write for *A Modest Proposal*!

Send in your original stories, opinions, artwork, and mystical treatises on achieving enlightenment to [amodestproposal@gmail.com](mailto:amodestproposal@gmail.com), and you can be as fat and happy as this guy!

Send your submissions [amodestproposal@gmail.com](mailto:amodestproposal@gmail.com)

