Time to free the nipple

Continued from Page 6

same pleasures as a man she is shunned. If a woman has a lot of sex, she is a slut; if a man has a lot of sex, he’s just a guy. In order for men to fulfill their gender expectations, women must give up their expected values.

Today, women are fighting back against these conventions. Free the Nipple is about women owning their identity. By walking around topless, women are challenging societal expectations that have been forced upon them. Collectively, these women are redefining what it means to exist as a woman in society. Women who currently walk topless are not a huge deal. Topless beaches are a norm in many places, and without a second thought, women frequent these beaches.

“Hey, but Sam, children should not be exposed to such obscenity!” Most children start their lives by sucking on nipples. They have already been exposed to them in the most personal way possible. “If you can show your nipples, men should be able to show their penis!”

If women can win this fight, it will have major impacts. Sexualization of the female body will decrease, which will remove the possibility of being arrested for indecent exposure. If female nipples are normalized, the act of walking topless would no longer be indecent.

In many other countries and cultures, topless women are not a huge deal. Topless beaches are a norm in many places, and without a second thought, women frequent these beaches.

“Why is my nipple more obscene than a murderer?”

Serra started genocide

Continued from Page 6

and people wear headdresses for fun, and we use people as mascots tagged with racial slurs for football teams. We must not blindy accept one more atrocity brought against the indigenous. You may not be able to fight the Church, but you can fight popular belief. The indigenous are not drunks, who sell cigars at their casinos. We are people who have been subjugated and pushed to the side. If you have the need for moccasins or dreamcatchers, buy them from Native Americans. Do not support the commercialization of a culture. And if you wish to wear a headdress, don’t.

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On the Back Bench

with Briane O’ Sullivan

The splintered GOP

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, who has held the position since 2011, announced his resignation on Friday. Boehner is expected to step down at the end of October. Since the news of his resignation, there has been a scramble amongst the Republican Party to try to fill the changing position of power.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., the majority leader, has announced that he plans to run for the speakership. As of now, he appears to be the favorite for the position.

Boehner’s abrupt resignation is in part due to pressure from the more conservative members of his party, who do not think the speaker did enough to derail President Barack Obama’s agenda or falter in pushing policies important to the GOP.

Boehner’s struggle as speaker is evidence of the growing differences within the GOP. You have the more traditional Republicans, such as Boehner, who believe in small, accountable government and whose main concern is fiscal responsibility. Then you have a newer breed of Republican, many of whom are affiliated with the Tea Party movement. They are more radically opposed to government spending and focus primarily on social issues such as abortion and gay marriage.

To put these two ideologies into more concrete terms, we can simply look at the latest government shutdown threat.

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, an anti-choice presidential candidate, has recently threatened a government shutdown over Planned Parenthood’s federal funding. While Boehner has a perfect record of being anti-abortion, he was unwilling to shut down the entire federal government over the issue of continuing Planned Parenthood funding.

Clearly, Cruz is further right on the spectrum. Boehner, as speaker, had difficulty working and compromising with the more radical sect of his party. It will be interesting to see if the new GOP leadership will allow this small but influential group to dictate the direction of the entire party — and how that will affect the 2016 elections.

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