

## Should the U.S. have stricter gun control laws?

I believe that owning a gun is a privilege that needs to be earned. I think that someone should have a license in order to own and buy a gun with a waiting period.

-Senior  
Clayton Stevens

"I think we need more regulations on guns. You shouldn't be able to leave within 30 minutes with a gun. Stricter gun laws can help prevent mass Shootings."

-Senior  
Tessa Campbell

Why don't we take the 5 Million we give to Planned Parenthood and spend it on protecting schools, arming staff, and teach them to use guns safely. We used to have loaded guns in gun racks in cars. But never once did we think of shooting someone with it. We have a people problem.

-Freshman  
Adam Bogaards

I believe the U.S. needs more gun control laws. I feel like there should be more requirements to obtain a gun.

-Sophmore,  
Abbie Hill

No, because bad people will always find ways to get weapons and then good people can't protect themselves.

-Senior  
Joel Byram

It's not a gun problem. It's a people problem. People have just stopped caring so much and lost heart. People used to carry loaded guns around and never shot someone. People just are losing heart. It's not an object that's causing the problem; it's the people with the object.

Freshman,  
Hailey Sundby

## Dime for Your Time

A column by Harley Atchison

It all started with a wedding cake. What happened after the infamous Supreme Court case between a Christian cake shop owner and a gay couple has caused a flurry of debate. The Supreme Court found the baker guilty of discrimination. The argument was made that the first amendment does not protect discriminatory behavior, thus defending the couple. It remains to be seen if the defendant's appeal is successful. This question still causes controversy: should businesses have the right to deny LGBTQ+ individuals service under guise of religious integrity?

The short answer is no; they should not have that right. As a business, your job is to serve customers, whomever they may be. The fundamental idea that the church should be separated from the state should not be dropped when considering local business. Businesses are for the public, not for whoever meets their criteria for service. While freedom of religion is a right

guaranteed by the constitution, it does not guarantee your right to be hateful towards others.

Freedom For All Americans, a bipartisan organization dedicated to instilling non-discrimination laws federally, reported that 63% of LGBTQ+ people have faced discrimination in their life. Compared with that, 64% of LGBTQ+ people cite discrimination as a large issue in our country. The fact that the majority of the LGBTQ+ community live in fear of being turned away or discriminated against is disheartening and wrong. People should not have to walk into a business and feel unwelcome or fear being denied service. The good news is 80% of small business owners are in favor of non-discrimination laws being put in place. That also means that 20% of businesses do not support non-discrimination laws, thus putting the LGBTQ+ community at risk.

The argument that people have the

right to discriminate because of their religion is loosely held together. There is no Biblical basis for their argument. First John 3:17 states, "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?" How can you have goods and services, yet turn others away? Would Jesus turn away a sick man if they asked for help? Would He turn away a hungry person just for being different than Him? Using the Bible to rationalize religious discrimination is hypocritical considering Jesus never did and never would turn anyone away if they asked for help.

The bottom line: businesses are open to serve the *public*. All kinds of people, including those you don't like, make up the public. If you cannot respect them as a whole, don't open a business, plain and simple.

## Letter to the Editor

From the PHS Survey of Animal Industry Class

meat out of your diet can be healthy, but can also be harmful if not done wisely.

Additionally, taking away modern agriculture would make for a substantial increase in food prices. Looking back to 1901 the average family would pay 40% of their annual income on food. Skipping ahead 108 years to 2009 the average family was paying 9.47% of their annual income towards food consumption. Within that 108 years agriculture has improved with leaps and bounds. In the 1800's the average yield for an acreage was 25 bushels/acre. Today, according to Purdue, the number of bushels/acres are close to 180. The increase in population means we need an increase in food production. Meaning a demand for better agriculture advancements to provide for the population.

Finally, multiple facts and statistics in the "Where's the Beef?" article are incorrect, and through consistent research the correct information has been found. The article states that an average human consumes 164 pounds of beef each year, when in reality, the numbers are closer to 55 pounds per year. Another false statistic the article claims is that a quantity of

insects equivalent to a quantity of beef contains more protein. Research shows that 3.5 ounces of insects contains only 13 grams of protein while 3.5 ounces of beef contains almost 26 grams. These are just a few examples of the false statistics found in "Where's the Beef?"

If anyone is interested in learning more about animal farming, you can contact Justin Van Steenwyk, a Pella resident, at this number 641-204-1611, or Luke Borgman, a resident of Pella, at 319-361-8154. They are ready and willing to teach and show you how it's beneficial that a animal farmer doesn't treat his animals cruelly, as it is unprofitable and not morally acceptable. It just doesn't make sense for an animal farmer to mistreat his livestock, since it leads to a stressed animal that simply won't produce at top value for you. For more information regarding a real animal farmer and Pella resident's response to "Where's the Beef?" and "Not Just a Fad Diet" you can refer to Luke Borgman's article at (<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/160c7b4dcdc0ab91?projector=1>).

## Pelladium Staff Editorial: Feminism

It is not uncommon for the term feminism to be misinterpreted as being a movement only for women. Feminism means rights for all which includes: women, men, people of color, and the LGBTQ+ community. Being a feminist doesn't mean you have to be a woman. Equal rights includes everyone's rights. Everyone can be a feminist, but sometimes, they're seen as being radical. Again, this is not the case. Yes, people can take feminism to an extreme. They can espouse the idea that "men are bad" and try to get away with it, but it isn't what true feminism is.

Equal rights issues can come up anywhere, like a school or the workplace. In the workplace, equal pay is a major issue. Women make 79

cents of the dollar a man makes doing the same job. If equal pay is going to happen, it won't be until 2059 according to time.com. This is insane because in 1963 there was an Equal Pay Act passed, but women still make only 77-79% of what a man makes and the gap is even worse if you factor in race and age.

Sexual harassment is also a problem in the workplace. The #MeToo movement is encouraging women to report sexual harassment and unite to fight the problem. We as the Pelladium Editors chose to write about feminism for our center spread because we want to see change in our world today, much like our last edition about changing our Earth. Our generation is ready to

change the world, and it starts with all of us. Feminism starts with you.

12 Pelladium staff members voted in favor of this editorial and 4 were not in agreement.