Religion Helps Some Survive Nuclear Age

The world religion is derived from the Latin root "religio," which means to fasten or bind together. It is born separate. All creatures are your own self pro-nently. You can no longer see individuals as things apart. They are part of you. That experience transforms you perma-nently. Not only do we disagree about each other's beliefs, but we become disagreeable as well, leading at times even to bloodshed. Although all religions may have problems with us for centuries, it cannot be allowed to continue. We are living in a new age where men and women of all nations have literally become neighbors because of the wonderful advances in space and technology. The role of religion must be to develop a universal brotherhood and sisterhood in which we treat the whole world as one harmonious unlit and learn to live in peace.

It is not a question of mere tolerance for other religions. It is not a question of accepting, respect, and learning from all religious traditions, ideas and ideals, but sharing the same parentage.

The statement that all religions are true is inherently positive connotation, while "null" creates a negative impression. Intentionally or not, your selection of words casts one side in a distinctly better light than the other. I have two alternatives to suggest. You could call both sides by the titles they prefer: pro-life and pro-choice. Another option followed by many newspapers refers to one side as "pro-life" and "anti-abortion." However, if you decide to do this, I would strongly urge that your refer to the other side as "fetal-rights" or "right-to-life advocates." It is based on the word "right" to describe only those who support legal abortion, it implicate the existence of an intrinsic right to abortion, something many people consider, makes the other side sound like evil boogeymen trying to take away this "right."

Margaret F. Keady '93
Editor's Note: the articles being discussed were taken directly from the Associated Press wire, and the word choices within them thus follow the style of the AP. As of this issue, national news will be provided by the Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service. Stories in the national section will follow the style of this news service.

Letters To The Editor

Bay Articles Blased in Use of Abortion Labels

Guest Column by Swami Sarvagatanada

The Tech articles biased in use of abortion labels is an essay regarding your choice of lan-guage in two recent news summaries about abortion-related issues ("Over 270 arrested in Roe v. Wade anniversary demonstrations," "Supreme Court will review Pennsylvania abortion law," Jan. 22). In both articles, the opposite positions are described as "pro-choice" and "anti-abortion." The effect of this is to produce a definite bias in the mind of the reader. "Pro-choice" is often used to describe the position that all women should have the right to choose to have an abortion. "Anti-abortion" is often used to describe the position that, except in certain cases, such as when the life of the mother is in danger, abortion should not be performed. The words "pro-choice" and "anti-abortion" are used to describe both sides, but the implications of the words are different. "Pro-choice" implies that all women should have the right to choose, while "anti-abortion" implies that abortion should not be performed except in certain cases. This is a significant difference, and it is important to be aware of it when reading articles about abortion.

The Tech articles bias in using the words "pro-choice" and "anti-abortion" is a problem because it can influence the reader's perception of the issues. The words "pro-choice" and "anti-abortion" are often used to describe both sides of the abortion debate, but the implications of the words are different. "Pro-choice" implies that all women should have the right to choose, while "anti-abortion" implies that abortion should not be performed except in certain cases. This is a significant difference, and it is important to be aware of it when reading articles about abortion.

Letters Policy

Letters, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors and opinion editors. Dissents, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial. Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcomed. They may be typed, double-spaced and addressed to The Tech, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139, or be typewritten or hand-written. The word choice in plain text must be mailed to the national new service. All submissions are due by 5 p.m. two weeks before the issue date.

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signature, address, and phone num-ber. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anony-mously without the express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to add or condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.