

EDITORIAL

Halton Hills This Week, Weekend Edition, is published every Saturday at 232 Guelph St., Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B1, and is printed in Oakville by Q.E. Web Printing.
In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time.
PUBLISHER: Ken Bellamy
EDITOR: Scott Kline
PRODUCTION MANAGER: Kathleen Topolsek
REAL ESTATE MANAGER: Kathy Toth
CIRCULATION MANAGER: Marie Shadbolt
HALTON HILLS THIS WEEK IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED.
PHONE: 873-2254 FAX: 873-3918

More questions than answers

By Dianne Cornish

The date, upon writing, is October 8. The date for the vote is October 26. The vote, of course, is the referendum vote, the one that will shape the future of this country.

How do I personally feel about having 18 days to make up my mind about how to vote on this issue? Well, so far, the best way to answer that question is, "confused."

At this point in time, I count myself among the undecided on this all-important issue. I still have lots of unanswered questions about what a vote, for or against, will mean. I don't believe the fear-mongers—those who say the whole country will fall apart if most of us vote, No.

It has crossed my mind, more than once, that maybe I shouldn't vote when Oct. 26 rolls around because I might vote the wrong way. Instead, I'm going to continue to ask questions and I'm going to make up my mind and vote.

Over the last few weeks, we've been bombarded with arguments, for and against the Accord. Some Canadians feel Quebec will get too much out of the deal, some say women's rights aren't protected; others say that a "No" vote will signal the break-up of this country.

What concerns me most about the Charlottetown Accord? I don't like the idea of increasing the House of Commons by 42 members, I don't think any province should have a guaranteed representation in the House other than representation by population and I don't want an elected Senate—I want it abolished (in fact, I remember reading that a Gallup poll revealed that most Canadians wouldn't be overly upset if the Senate was disbanded).

However, no one expects a perfect deal. All most of us want is something to build on. So, the wording of the referendum question might well make it acceptable. It does say, "Do you agree that the constitution of Canada should be renewed ON THE BASIS (my capitalization) of the agreement reached on Aug. 28, 1992?"

In my mind, that means we start with something; it doesn't mean that everything is written in stone and will never be changed.

Response to the response

The following is from Giuseppe Gori in response to a letter from Cameron MacLean that ran in Halton Hills This Week September 30. MacLean's was an open letter to Gori regarding the latter's stance on the recent ruling by the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal ordering the provincial government to provide benefits for homosexual and lesbian employees.

Dear Mr/Mrs/Ms Cameron MacLean,

Your letter on the Sept. 30 issue of This Week is so slanderous that, if I were on the politically correct side of the issue, I could probably get government funding to sue you! You first create a stereotype intolerant position, reading in my letter what was not even mentioned, then you attack your own creation by defining it as a "homophobic hatred."

In my letter I did not propose to deny homosexual those basic rights that heterosexuals have. I think that a homosexual has and should have the same rights as anyone else, as a member of his family. What I wrote is that they should not be granted more rights than others. For example, why two homosexual males living together should be granted more benefits (according to the latest ruling of the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal) than two brothers living together? Of course by pursuing this line you would have to re-write, as Attorney General Howard Hampton admitted, some 80 Acts of Provincial legislation. That is an attack to our Laws and traditions that our government is not willing to defend.

A group of homosexuals went to see the Attorney General last week. He then declared that the ruling is not going to be appealed, without hearing from the majority of us who are not homosexuals. That was a confirmation of what I wrote, describing a government responding to pressure groups, more than to common sense.

Homosexuals and lesbians are not my target, nor I am intolerant of their tendencies. It is we, the rest of society, that are forced on a defensive position in which the family is under attack.

I respect homosexuals as human beings, just as any person of any sex, religion or race, foremost the weak, the poor, the handicapped and the sick. It is instead the homosexual life-style that I consider not worthy of recognition and not deserving help from the taxpayer. I do not think that our children in school should be directed towards that life-style.

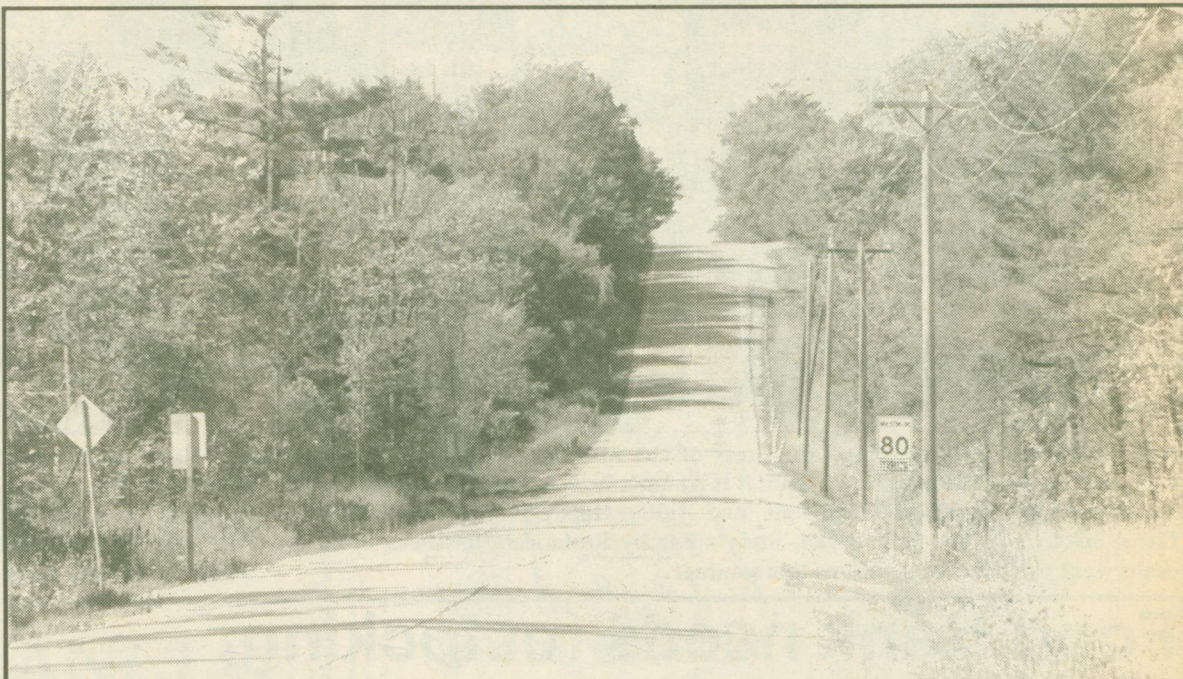
I find your arguments self-defeating. You want to argue "biology aside?" The sex and sex relationship between individuals are the kernel of the argument. It is what procreation is all about. It is what supports the definition of a family with the three primary roles I mentioned.

If God had created Adam and Steve in an imaginary garden of Eden, could you tell me how "biology aside" they would be 1) forming a community of persons, 2) serving life and 3) participating in the development of society? Which community? Which life? Which society?

Homosexual activists today want to have access and use the children, the families and the community that someone else helped to create. A cancerous cell in the brain is produced by the same body, lives and nourishes itself in the same way as the other cells, but its function is different. It does not contribute in the same way as the others. It is indeed natural, but we recognize its function as undesirable. In this same sense, families are the basic cells of society, while homosexual unions have a function that does not deserve society's support.

"Logic aside", your arguments make sense.

Sincerely,
Giuseppe Gori



Garden Graces



by Grace C. Lockwood

Both daffodils and tulips originated in the Mediterranean and Middle East areas. The modern day hybrids are very different from the original tiny species but many of the species tulips and narcissi are still available. They are hardy and spread readily unlike some of the larger hybrids and look lovely in roc gardens and naturalized settings. Both the tulips and narcissi bloom before the larger ones, late April to early May, and appreciate a sunny site in well drained soil, similar to their homeland. Most are quite hardy in our area. The tulips should be planted about 3" deep and the narcissi 4"-6" depending on bulb size. They grow from 3" (*Narcissi minimus*) to 12" in height.

When buying them, one should check that they are from cultivated stock and not collected from the wild as they are endangered in their native habitats. Some of the tulips species include the yellow and white *T. tarda*, white star-like *T. turkenstana*, pink *T. saxatilis* and other mostly copper to gold varieties. One of the most unusual narcissi species in *N. bulbocodium* or hoop petticoat daffodil with its yellow bell-shaped cup. Hawera (*triandrus* hybrid) forms fragrant clusters of pale yellow, nodding flowers.

Tulips were already bred and hybridized back in the late 1500s and 1600s. At the height of the tulip craze in Europe, bulbs were literally worth their weight in gold. Holland is still a world leader in the production of tulips and other bulbs. Tulips now come in almost every color from pure white to vel-

vety "black", cool shades of pink and lavender to hot scarlets and oranges, and soft peaches and apricots that blend with both. There are early, mid-season and late tulips to cover the month of May; singles, doubles, feathered parrot tulips, fringed tulips and striped rembrant tulips; everything from the elegant to the gaudy.

Some of my favorite are the early blooming Kaufmannia tulips whose waisted blooms in shades of crimson to rosy pink and cream open flat to give them their name, "water-lily tulips". Another is the late blooming lily flowered tulips, elegant vase shaped flowers with recurving petals like lilies and of course the mid-season Darwin hybrids which are the most perennial of the large tulips. Most are at their best for four to five years and then need to be replaced.

Daffodils or *Narcissus* have two main parts, the perianth which are the six outer petals and the corona, trumpet or cup whose shape is used to divide them into various divisions. There are small and large cupped varieties, sweet scented jonquils, tazettas, triandrus and poet's daffodils to name a few. Thalia is a lovely white triandrus whose clusters of blooms resemble doves in flight. Jack Snipe is a spry yellow and white cyclamineus hybrid the perianth is reflexed or curves back like a cyclamen and looks great planted in groups with grape hyacinths. Others include February Gold and Silver. Jonquils are highly scented clusters of small flat blooms that perfume the entire garden. A familiar one is the scented yellow and red Suzy. Many white and pink daffodils have become available recently and one large cupped one is Louise de Coligny with a soft pink cup and lovely rose-like fragrance. Both tulips and daffodils should be planted about 6" deep in a sunny site; daffodils can handle light shade as well, in well drained soil augmented with a handful of fertilizer. Daffodil bulbs are poisonous so make sure small children do not snack on them.

Fritillaria is a striking group of bulbs that can form a focal point in the mid-spring garden. The Crown Imperial fritillaria has 3' spikes of yellow, orange or red pendulous bell shaped flowers with drops of

fluid-like substance inside each bloom. Legend has it that when Christ passed by on the way to Calvary, the flowers bent their heads and wept. *Fritillaria meleagris* is a 12" British native with nodding bells of white or decked out in a sombre checkered pattern of purple, browns and greys. Other varieties come in deep maroons and plums that contrast well with white tulips. They like a moist location in sun or light shade and should be planted 4"-6" deep.

Fragrant hyacinths look a bit stiff and formal their first year but form charming loose bells in successive years and should be planted in sunny sites where their sweet scent can be appreciated. Other spring bulbs include the white Star-of-Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum umbellatum*) and the snowflake flower (*Leucojum*) which resembles a large snowdrop but blooms in May and needs a damp site.

The gap between the tulips and summer blooming perennials can be filled by the somewhat ignored ornamental flowering onions (*Allium spp.*). Pest and disease free, they require very little care after planting in a sunny, well-drained position. There are small ones like the bright yellow *A. Moly* and clear white *A. cowanii* to the large 3' to 4' *A. afghanense* and *giganteum*, whose grapefruit sized lilac balls never fail to cause a sensation. There is also a lovely cornflower blue *A. caeruleum* which blooms in June and is 18" high. These are only a sample of the bulbs available so take a bit of time to choose a few favorites and new ones for your spring garden.

P.S. A reminder that you can plant lily bulbs in the fall as well as the spring. They should be planted at least 5" deep in well drained soil, being another native of the Middle East, in sun or part shade.

Grace Lockwood is a Georgetown resident who has been an avid gardener for as long as she can remember. She has both vegetable and flower gardens but has a soft spot for roses — especially modern hybrid tea roses and antique roses. Grace is a hydrogeologist by training and is currently taking correspondence courses for landscape design from the University of Guelph.