

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No weapons, please

Regarding David Golden's May 7 commentary on legalizing concealed weapons, I believe it should not be part of learning, Jewish or secular, that teachers, principals and school administrators carry weapons, concealed or otherwise.

A quick response should not be the only consideration. Israel has been at war, or at least in a state of constant alert, for the past 51 years. Hopefully we have not come to considering American society as being in the same condition.

KEVIN LEVINE
San Francisco

LETTERS POLICY

The Bulletin welcomes letters to the editor, preferably typewritten. Letters must not exceed 200 words and must be dated and signed with current address and daytime telephone number. The Bulletin also reserves the right to edit letters. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's paper.

'The time is ripe'

Tracy Salkowitz's April 30 guest column "Preventing violence must become a Jewish priority" is a moving commentary regarding why there must be a Jewish response.

However, one important issue is missing from her discussion — domestic violence. It is present in Jewish homes in the same percentages as the general population yet the Jewish response has been largely denial and neglect.

For many Jewish women and their children, there is no *shalom bayit*, peace in the home. More women are killed every year by their partners than by all the schoolyard killings in the 1990s combined.

The concept of *tikkun olam*, improvement of the world, demands we do more to help victims of violence, as well as to perform acts of prevention.

The time is ripe for a Jewish life skills or values course to be offered in every synagogue and to every Hebrew school student.

Either the Jewish community teaches our children about all forms of violence, hatred, drugs and alcohol, AIDS-HIV and Jewish

values and ethics, or these important issues may not be taught to them at all.

Unspeakable national events can be a catalyst for action that will increase public awareness, discussion and prevention.

JUDGE EUGENE M. HYMAN
Santa Clara County Superior Court
San Jose

No Jewish monopoly

Your April 30 article about Dylan Klebold's mixed upbringing presents a fascinating angle in a truly a tragic story. There is much we need to learn from this whole catastrophe. I, however, write to you for another reason.

You mention how his mother's family belonged to a Reform congregation in which she was an active member, then note that by Orthodox Jewish standards, she is not considered Jewish.

It is irrelevant to evaluate one faction of Judaism by another faction's standards—and, frankly, it is a way to invalidate the

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