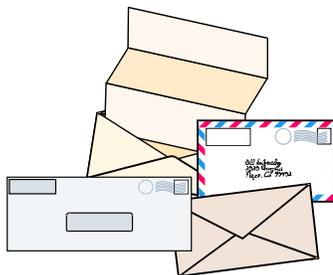


LETTERS TO THE CSA

April 29, 2005

Letter to the Editor:

I just received my Jan-Mar 2005 *CSA Bulletin*. I am concerned over what appears to be a continuing trend in the *Bulletin*—the inclusion of an increasing number of politically correct, agenda-driven articles peripherally related to the practice of anesthesiology or, for that matter, even the practice of medicine. Most recently, the *CSA Bulletin* contained three articles (“The Elephant in the Closet,” “American Pie,” and “Degrees of Danger”) running over 16 pages, nearly 20 percent of the issue, completely unrelated to the practice of anesthesiology.



I don't want to sound insensitive to the “farm workers in the Central Valley, people of border communities, and the young, the old, and the poor,” but if I want to read “articles” where opinion is presented as fact and there is no attempt at objectivity, I can pick up a newspaper. Please do me a favor and do not include such blatantly biased, socially crusading propaganda in the CSA's *Bulletin*.

Thank you for your time, efforts and continued hard work on my behalf, but please stick to anesthesiology or at least make a more honest effort to provide alternative views such as Dr. Pauker's commentary on “American Pie” (which was at least a start). Hopefully, this time next year, I will not be telling my professional colleagues, “I didn't leave the CSA, the CSA left me.”

Kind regards,

J. Rogers, M.D.
CSA member and GASAC contributor

Editor's Note: It should be noted that the letters published in this section represent the opinions of the individual authors, and no inference should be made as to the opinion of the California Society of Anesthesiologists or the editor. The views expressed here are not official policy of the CSA, and a letter's publication does not imply agreement or disagreement with the author.

We are attempting to provide the membership with a forum to express their thoughts to other California anesthesiologists. We also make every attempt to publish the letters in their entirety and just as we receive them. Insofar as possible, related or opposing views will be published. If a letter deserves a reply, its publication may be delayed until the companion letter is available. Please remember, we do have deadlines and space limitations—thus, the publication of your letter may be delayed to the next issue for these reasons.

Letters to the CSA–Cont'd

May 14, 2005

Letter to the Editor:

I must thank you for sending me your *Bulletin*. While I often skip the California-specific items, I read from cover to cover the other articles.

In the latest issue I was greatly relieved to see that you followed Steffie Woolhandler's article with the counter article by Dr. Pauker. I now work at one of Louisiana's charity hospitals in Baton Rouge and see the folks Dr. Woolhandler has left for the big eastern city.

I could go on and on, but when I meet someone like Dr. Woolhandler, I ask if they have read *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand. First, the story of Ayn Rand herself is incredible. But then reading her insight into economics and human behavior should be read by all those who think the government can do a better job than capitalism. The problem with medicine is the government. In *Atlas Shrugged*, you can at least see what happens when Big Brother takes and takes and takes from those who produce. In real life the story is only a little longer but can be seen if one watches.

Sincerely,

Gehl Davis, M.D., Secretary, Louisiana Society of Anesthesiologists