

Don't write about big homes — focus your stories on big hearts

DEAR EDITOR,

I feel so compelled to write this letter, and I want you to know I have talked to people in my walk of life and they agree with me. I am so disappointed in your magazine. It was put to me that your publication is supposed to represent Utah Valley. If this is the best you can come up with, I don't ever want it in my house again.

The article that was most disgusting to me was in your September/October 2007 issue. It had a story about a family with an 11,000-square-foot home. Who in the real world needs a house that size? They want it — they don't need it. This family "needed" a five-car garage for their toys and cars. Oh yeah? Everyone "needs" that! They also "needed" an interior decorator to converse with their children to decorate their rooms as desired.

I would love to read an article about a man I know personally who left his family and four children to go to Afghanistan. The mother doesn't work to be at home where she is needed. They struggle with income and are sacrificing to defend our country so that these so-called people with their five-car garage and 11,000-square-foot home can enjoy their stuff.

The family that gives me inspiration and a warm fuzzy feeling inside is the one willing to go without to try and raise better children for our future. The family with all their toys reeks of materialism and definitely doesn't make me think, "Wow! I want to be just like that." In fact, it makes me think, "Don't be anything like that."

LINDA STEINFELDT
Payson

Utah Valley Magazine is way too LDS

DEAR EDITOR,

Your magazine is all about Mormons and BYU. You have nothing about Utah Valley University, and believe it or not, some of us prefer sports

and events happening there rather than BYU anything. We maybe attend, have attended or have children who have attended UVU. Why would BYU be our focus?

I am not LDS and do not want articles only about beauty and other fluff. Articles about "cute" families are inane and useless. I know they might be "uplifting" and "faith-promoting," but I cannot stand to even open the magazine anymore. I don't want to read someone's LDS testimony.

The article in November/December 2007 about Liz Lemon Swindle was all about her version of Christ — white. Which means it's the typical Mormon viewpoint. There is a real difference between the LDS version of Christ and the Christian version of Christ. No wonder she feels like there is bias toward LDS artists.

Your magazine is not inclusive. It leaves out that significant portion of people who are wacky and fun. Not robots.

Good luck with all your Mormon readers. I'm sure you'll make lots of money.

JAYNEE LONG
Orem

Magazine content goes against LDS teachings

DEAR EDITOR,

Nice slick covers and interviews with local celebrities.

However, everything else in your Utah Valley Magazine represents all that is wrong with our society, and unfortunately it has found its way into our own valley.

In your November/December issue I see advertisements for overpriced artwork, jewelry and home furnishings. Way too many ads for spas, salons, LASIK eye surgery, liposuction, cosmetic surgery, women with fake glow-



in-the-dark white smiles and weight loss centers.

There is even an ad for a house that has been "reduced" to \$1.3 million. I am not sure who your target audience is, but it definitely isn't me. Perhaps you are targeting the top 1 percent of the local population that can actually afford the items you offer or have anything in common with the people you profile.

On the exterior you seem to promote LDS values, but on the inside you do anything but that.

You promote the fake lifestyles and expenses that our prophet speaks against.

CORY JENSEN
Payson

Be Heard!

Please take a minute to e-mail us your thoughts and suggestions about Utah Valley Magazine. We love to hear from our readers — and that's you! Send your comments to editor@uvmag.com. Include name, address, phone. If you have questions, please call (801) 802-0200.