

Beliefs

Above All

Recently massive peace marches were held in New York and Los Angeles. Following close on the heels of the marchers were the critics. These self appointed guardians of the public good endangered the right of free choice and free speech.

We have been told by our high officials that these marches are harming the efforts in Viet Nam. How ironic this statement is when these same officials claim that we are at war in Viet Nam to free a nation from the ills of Communism. This same freedom that our government says it is fighting for in Viet Nam is being curtailed at home.

When our sacred documents were written they contained the words "free speech" and "free choice." Have our leaders lost sight of our heritage? Do they now deny that they never err? And if we do succumb to their cries what freedom will be stymied next?

Many marchers participate in the demonstrations for reasons which are too simple for the anti-march people to understand. There are two basic elements we must contend with in our lives, ourselves and the world. The most important of these is the ability to live with ourselves. Although many peace marchers demonstrate with the knowledge that their efforts will be futile they do satisfy their own beliefs. They do not sit back and espouse their views to a minute few but rather demonstrate openly their deeply felt concepts. What is important are our basic freedoms and our obligation to be true to our own beliefs.