

## Desert Sun

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### Your voice: Letters to the editor for Friday, August 12, 2005

*Readers*

*The Desert Sun*

Jerry Hanson: Kick council to the curb

I praise and congratulate The Desert Sun for bringing to light the secret financial dealings that the "out of control" Desert Hot Springs City Council has approved for Jerry Hanson ("Manager wrote his own deal," Aug. 6). Their decision was in private, without the citizens' knowledge.

That reminds me of the Palm Springs City Council approvals for any deal a certain well-known developer puts forth to build any size or shape of a building on as much vacant land, as quickly as possible. Its politics are forcing businesses down-valley and wrapping Palm Springs around the rainbow flag.

The good taxpaying people of Desert Hot Springs should be outraged by this current City Council. These so-called politicians work for us. We vote them in and pay their salaries. Closed door meetings, secret deals, not informing the public of what the council plans to vote on, or what new development they approve, are a slap in the face to us taxpaying, law-abiding citizens.

The good folks in Desert Hot Springs should do what I plan to do in November concerning my out of control City Council in Palm Springs, "Throw them out."

Howard Grant

Palm Springs

Local link to convicted sex offender: What's wrong with our police?

I really would like to know what is wrong with our police system. Seven years ago the police had Joseph Edward in for questioning concerning the Anthony Martinez kidnapping ("Idaho, Indio killings linked," Aug. 4). They already had a partial print and a composite drawing (which was an amazing recall of a young child).

I wonder why they allowed her to do a composite drawing but didn't allow her to do a lineup? When it concerns a child, anyone arrested or brought in for questioning should be thoroughly checked out, printed, everything.

Thank God the Medina family can have closure. But there is no reasonable answer why a convicted child molester having been brought in for questioning should have been let go without a complete and thorough check. Had they done that, sweet little Shasta and her family never would have been known to the world. I am angry and I am sad that once again our system and those who run it have failed.

Julie A. Young

Palm Springs

Hate crimes: Parents also to blame

The sad, sad article about the two 13-year old girls committing hate crimes in one of our valley neighborhoods struck home with me ("Two teen girls arrested for hate crimes, graffiti," Aug. 4). It is suitable that they are tried and receive appropriate punishment, but a note to the judge and the juvenile authorities: Residents of the valley hope that while these "children" are punished, their parents, too, should be brought into court and made to pay in some powerful and meaningful ways for the acts