

E-MAIL

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Tomorrow in:

The Atlanta Constitution

The Georgia State group that questions whether the Holocaust happened wants to undermine confidence in the established record of the atrocities committed by the Nazis during World War II.

(The Atlanta Journal and The Atlanta Constitution have separate editorial boards and separate editorial voices.)

In My Opinion

Submissions to this readers' column should run 250-350 words and include a recent photo of yourself, brief biography and a daytime phone number.

Don't bash working mothers

The Editors: Dr. Laura Schlessinger and her ilk all but equate working mothers with Satan. She and her Bible-toting followers clutch feebly to the TV fantasy lives of June Cleaver and Donna Reed, whose on-screen families were never touched by the complexities facing women and children in today's world.

I work hard to send my 5- and 7-year-old kids to an all-day summer camp. Neither they nor I would trade the excitement, variety and social interaction they enjoy there for all of the boredom of stay-at-home-momhood. That my kids are independent, self-determined and very well raised is at least partly because they spent their first three years in a nurturing, family-based day care situation.

In a world obsessed with quantity over quality, professors and doctors tell us that the more time we spend with our children, the better off they'll be. But they can't define where the breaking point is. To suggest that my kids or anyone else's kids will run off the rails simply because their mom is physically removed from them for X hours is absurd. The same people who blame the world's problems on working moms routinely give up their 5-year-olds to complete strangers in kindergartens.

I'll pit my kids against any stay-at-home bunch and bet my happiness as a working person — yes, I like my career — that they'll come out with straight A's where it counts: socially, emotionally and mentally. No, my house is not a model of cleanliness, but our family works.



Ellen Fix works as a copywriter for a home-study career school. A native Atlantan, she attended Dykes High School and now lives in the Dunwoody area.

ELLEN FIX, *Atlanta*