

## There's more than just stink involved in ocean dumping

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Toni Marie Davis' defense (Viewpoint, Feb. 27) of the tour boat operators who are dumping feces, urine and disinfectants into our waters ignored several things, and I ask that she take her own advice to get real and check her facts.

I have not heard of anyone monitoring water for the pollutant pharmaceuticals (which are certainly in human urine) and the disinfectants, both of which the tour boats dump with the toilet contents. Has she read how the certain drugs that are urinated out of our bodies bend the gender of fishes? Has she checked with the Coast Guard how some days the currents along the south side circulate the "dumping" area waters to our beaches?

Has she researched how easy it is to have a pumping truck come to the dock and pump away the waste? Has she considered that protecting our waters with this immediate pumping solution helps protect our tour boat industry? Has she considered that visitors, when learning of the dumping, are mortified and want the waste pumped? Who wouldn't pay an extra dollar or so to know they won't be swimming in their own "No. 1" or "No. 2"?

While I agree that the tour boats serve us well by providing wonderful experience to patrons, the individual pumping solution is immediate, simple and relatively inexpensive. It's the right thing for the tour boat operators to do while we are all pressuring for governmental assistance. We've been waiting for too many decades.

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