

A Few Minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

Et tu, tampon?

Forgive my paraphrasing of the last words of Julius Caesar's "et tu, Brute," as he was murdered by his Senate in Rome long ago.

Our Senate here in Illinois was involved in a killing of their own recently. They are meeting with the General Assembly in order to remove a 6.5 percent sales tax on women's feminine products, such as tampons and sanitary napkins, which have been taxed as "luxury items." You know, like cars and boats. As a favor to us old folks, they also want to amend the sales tax on adult diapers. I for one will be extremely grateful when it's my turn to don the Depends.

How utterly thoughtful of our legislators! In a similar vein, Cook County commissioners have also recently killed the county sales tax of 10.25 percent on the same feminine items. How good can they be to all our womenfolk and diaper wearers?

You're talking about women alone spending about \$14.7 million per year on their hygiene. If there was a war on women and seniors who pee in their pants, it is now officially over in Cook County and maybe throughout Illinois. They are willing to give up some taxes.

But in my cynicism I ask why they put a tax on this stuff in the first place? Luxury items?

And when the special interest groups complain, they amend their policies because maybe they want to be elected and freeing up some loot on Kotex would do it? Legislators at their best, working hard to keep men and women fresh.

My, my, my, they are so involved in our care. Maybe next they can work on the budget, preserve our right to bargain, and allow us all to keep our pensions to boot.

But I'm sure for that, their reply would be "Id est quod: I est" or "it is what it is!"

Vita é bella