Is it a paradigm shift?

For death penalty, 3-drug cocktail is a poison pill

Re "Death penalty on hold again" (June 1):

The death penalty in California is on hold because of an appeals court ruling that prison officials failed to comply with administrative rules when crafting new regulations more than two years ago. The appeals court ruling upheld a Marin County judges ruling. Why didn't the state correct the "mistake" instead of dragging it out by taking it to an appeals court?

Gov. Jerry Brown can appeal to the state Supreme Court, but that will drag this out even more. I get the impression that state officials really don't want the death penalty and are deliberately insisting on the three-drug lethal "cocktail" which other states with the death penalty don't use.

The death penalty in this state is a joke. Since voters gave this state a Democratic supermajority, don't count on this logjam ending anytime soon.

-- Thomas Cresswell, Lakewood

Galaxy thinks it's normal, but much of U.S. doesn't

"Gay player's debut appears routine" (Editorial, May 29):

Your editorial about the debut of Los Angeles Galaxy soccer player Robbie Rogers does not account for the 40 percent of Americans who think being gay is not normal. Sure, the liberal media and the younger generation want all gays to be accepted as normal, but America's tolerance of the gay lifestyle is a far cry from acceptance of it.

Why must gays and the liberal media demand acceptance? The Washington state florist who refused to sell flowers to a gay couple for their wedding is now being sued by the American Civil Liberties Union -- just one example of such demands by liberal state officials and the gay community. This example clearly shows that "coming out" is far from "routine."

-- Edward Beauchamp, Lakewood

Licenses will attract more undocumented immigrants

Re "On driver's licenses for the undocumented, Assembly keeps eye on road" (Opinion, May 30):

I have some issues with Assembly Bill 60. The bill would remove the requirement that a driver's license applicant submit proof of legal presence in the United States. If the driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants would the same as for legal residents, my driver's license could not be used to board an aircraft or used as a legal document outside the state. Would I need my passport to prove that I'm legal?

State taxpayers spend $22 billion a year, according to one estimate, on benefits and services for the undocumented. This bill will encourage more undocumented to move to California, costing us more
money. Southern California has an unemployment rate of 9 percent; our cities are broke; the state school system is ranked 49th in the nation in education spending; we give college aid to undocumented that should go to legal residents. How are the undocumented benefiting the state?

The undocumented send billions of dollars home each year. That does not help our economy.

Why not tax that money? I guess I need to be undocumented for my elected officials to hear me.

-- Jerry Griffin, Long Beach

Administration a reminder of an old comedy routine

The IRS has targeted several conservative organizations for extra scrutiny; the Justice Department has been secretly obtaining phone records of the Associated Press and several journalists; the Benghazi investigation is being dismissed as "politics," and President Obama appears to not know what's going on in his administration.

This reminds me of that classic Abbott and Costello comedy routine about baseball: "Who's on first, What's on second, and I Don't Know is on third."

-- Oren Woods, Long Beach