

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It all depends on whose yard, doesn't it

Dear Editor:

My husband and I, like the vast majority of our neighbors, are very much against this Ashby High-rise, but ever since the controversy arose, we have both been struck by the NIMBY (not in our back yard) attitude on the part of those of us who live here.

Jim and I have watched as one after another of our older homes have been demolished to make room for these huge McMansion boxes that fill up the tiny lots leaving virtually no greenspace and now are beginning to change the character of our neighborhood. It seemed that no one really cared until the latest project — this huge high-rise — got really out of hand.

Now our laissez-faire attitude towards develop-

ment in the neighborhood is coming home to hit us. First it was the Lamesa project and the medical center and now this massive new high-rise development project. If Houston had zoning restrictions to begin with, this would not be happening.

It took something like this in an affluent neighborhood to get our attention. In the past the lower income areas have largely been ignored and the poorer residents have had no power to do anything about projects they don't approve of in their neighborhoods. For our part, we've paid no attention to their frustrations or to the long-term development of our city — until now. NIMBY.

Houston desperately needs zoning. That is the only thing that will avoid this kind of mess in the future and preserve our city.

**June Garrison
Southampton**