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ize that there may be a conflict between the need for a safe space for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth and the needs of bisexuals who are in relationships with heterosexual people. We can only hope that through our varied activities and ongoing discussions we can meet the needs of our diverse membership.

In the future, should bisexual youth wish to start their own group to address their concerns, the youth project would be in support of such a group. The youth project recognizes the importance of providing spaces for specific groups in our communities to get together (e.g. youth who are aboriginal, black, disabled, francophone, transgender, live in rural areas, etc.).

We welcome the participation and input of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth. For information, support, or resources, please call the Youth Project at Planned Parenthood Nova Scotia at 492-0444.

The Lesbian, Gay, and
Bisexual Youth Project

Homophobia-free zone

To the editor,

This is a response to an article in last week's Gazette about straight people not being allowed to attend BGLAD meetings. I have attended a few of these meetings and wondered to myself why straight people were not welcome. I was going to bring this up but didn't get a chance so here's my educated guess:

There are a lot of homosexuals who are still very uncomfortable about talking about their sexuality. Talking to a group of homosexuals is one thing but opening up to heterosexuals is another. Many are homophobic (a fear of homosexuals).

I fear homophobia a great deal, not knowing if a day will come when someone bashes me over the head while walking down a street. I can also understand that BGLAD meetings are a safe place where you will not be misjudged or discriminated against because everyone there is in the same boat.

I do however feel that BGLAD meetings probably do not satisfy the needs of bisexuals, which is a sad thing. A gay couple can go to a BGLAD meeting for support but a couple in which one spouse is bisexual cannot, and I think that should be changed. At least their should be some meetings that anyone can attend, and then others where it is just for homosexuals/bisexuals.

As for me, I would like to see heterosexuals attend BGLAD meetings. It would give me peace of mind to know that there are people who want to learn and understand homosexuals, bisexuals and our problems.

Austin McCosh

Promoting thoughts

To the editor,

Well, well.

It seems that the article Mr. Wylie wrote for the opinions column the other week [Dec. 1/94] has occasioned a certain amount of reflection. As this was his stated purpose for writing the article, I have no doubt that he is gratified by the robust response.

Interestingly, for a piece in the opinions column, his article forwarded only

two primary opinions beyond the idea, stated twice and in the strongest terms, that violence towards women should not be tolerated. He opines that using bloated statistics is an effective, but unsound way to further one's objectives, and he proposes that we focus our efforts upon ending all violence — without reference to the gender of its victims. The first of these points is suggested solely by reason, and the second is suggested by classical feminism. Given this, I find it strange that there was no letter that agreed with — or for that matter, even mentioned — either idea. The observation that statistics were slippery things was as near as any letter came: I'm sure that Mr. Wylie would agree.

One statistic that all three letters made much of was that, by and large, it is men who perpetrate violence. It is men who visit violence upon men, women, and children. Though this is interesting, it does not strike me as particularly relevant. There was some attempt made to make it relevant, but this seemed to consist in a vague implication that if men commit violence upon other men, they've got it coming to them. They're men after all. This analysis is somewhat simplistic: to say that it is only men who commit violence upon other people is to ignore that such men are criminals. Perhaps it is of interest to inquire why these criminals tend to be male, but it nevertheless remains the case that we — as a society — deplore this activity, that's why we call them "criminals." There is nothing here that refuses anything that Mr. Wylie proposed.

All three letters disputed Mr. Wylie's statistics. In fact, they weren't Mr. Wylie's to be disputed. I expect that the items he presented were meant merely to indicate that there might be some grounds for doubting claims made by radical feminists. Whether they succeeded in this I leave for others to decide. Similarly, though I have addressed the implications of one of the more prevalent statistics forwarded by Mr. Wylie's critics, I shall leave it to others to decide whether the balance of the statistics that were trotted out in response to his article (some of which were not entirely compatible with one another) are convincing. In so doing, I hope again further — surely laudable — cause of reflection.

To conclude, let me state that statistics are often far better at inspiring doubt than they are at proving anything. I expect it was the intent of Mr. Wylie's statistics to promote critical thought. Perhaps this was the intent of

the statistics provided by Mr. Wylie's critics as well. If so, we must laud them for their effort. However, if they were attempting to establish some mistake on his part, it would have been wise for them to have either addressed his points directly or to have, at least, made their discussions relevant to his points.

Glenn Wylie

Kristallnacht correction

To the editor,

I write in response to Samuel Wolf's attempt to lambaste me in last week's issue of the Gazette, January 12, 1995.

While Mr. Wolf did present a legitimate criticism of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation, he did have several factual errors which discredit his otherwise sound argument. Indeed, I do not now, nor did I at the time when the article was written (as Mr. Wolf would have us wrongly believe), hold the position of Vice-Chair of the APJSF. Further, his accusation that I and the APJSF failed to do anything by way of remembrance is not only factually wrong, but explicitly insulting.

Upon discovering that the APJSF did not have submissions to the Gazette in the issues preceding Kristallnacht, I realized the requirement for action. Hence, my article on November 10, 1994.

On the 9th of November, the Kristallnacht Ceremony (more recently coined Dignity Day) was held at the Grand Parade Square. Present at the Ceremony were local politicians, the media, war veterans, Jews and non-Jews. Not only did the APJSF have a strong showing, but also directly participated in the Ceremony, effectively continuing the cycle of remembrance.

Therefore, one can see the errors, perhaps of omission, on the part of Mr. Wolf, which compromise his journalistic integrity.

But Kristallnacht and Dignity Day must not be remembered by someone's lambasting and another's defense. For doing so dilutes the importance of Kristallnacht and Dignity Day.

Most importantly, and I am certain that Mr. Wolf would join me in saying, Kristallnacht and Dignity Day is solely about the remembrance of those brave soldiers who fought for the freedom of the Jews.

Adam Block

Ask Joe & Jo

Here we are — ever ready to come to the aid of students in need. You ask and we shall find out. Well, a few of you asked us what happened to that shining light of the Union Market, "Natalie the great." And we're gonna try to find out. So here it is, an open letter to Beaver Foods.

Attention Beaver Foods Management:

Where is Natalie? Don't you people realize that quite often, she's the reason why we go in there in the morning? She's one of your nicest employees, always ready with a smile and a kind word. That woman brings you business and now she's gone. Why?

Did you not pay her enough? Perhaps you should have offered her more money. We think she's worth it. Could conditions be so bad for Beaver employees that all of your best people are now going to quit? Please stop the madness, after all, we're your real bosses. If you kill off all your best employees, we won't patronize your shop. And remember, your contract doesn't last forever.

So, please do your best to keep the good employees happy, and do try your very best to get Natalie back. We like her, and we want her back. She made us happy. Maybe you should give her a call and offer her a big raise if she'll come back.

Well, thanks in advance for all your co-operation, and take care of your employees, maybe even give them all a big raise. God knows they deserve it having to deal with crabby students all the time.

Sincerely,
Joe Tratnik & Jo Mirsky

Remember, nothing is too crude, rude or dumb to ask about. You can reach us at: tratnik@is.dal.ca

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Dalhousie Women's Centre

6143 South St. (between Seymour & LeMarchant)
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(902) 494-2432

Planning has begun for International Women's Week!

This year events will include the Annual IWD Variety Show, a speaker's series including Priscilla de Vilkers and a Gazette supplement.

Planning meeting: Thursday, Jan. 19, 4:30 p.m. at Dal Women's Centre, or call Lisa with your ideas.

Self Help Support Group
for Adult Survivors of Sexual Violence
Meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 24, noon at the Dal Women's Centre.

Informal, women only, women positive self help support group.

Please call the centre for more info.

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425-1010 your B-Day !!