

Racism is only a symptom of disease

by Ron Sears

Why is it that when Americans try to deal with problems such as racial discrimination they always stick their foot into their mouth? America has to learn people are people and race is inconsequential.

America is trying to eliminate the racial problems that are prevalent, but they always alienate the blacks by pointing a finger at them when it is unnecessary to do so.

There was a news item on one of the American television channels that looked at the rate of pregnancies among unmarried females in the army. The program presented us with statistics. Fine. But it went further by breaking down numbers into black army personnel and white personnel. Why? What's the point? Sure the black personnel were a few percentage points higher.

Undoubtedly, statistics prove that a lack of education accounts for higher pregnancy rates for both black and whites. It's common knowledge that black Americans have a lower education rate than white Americans, so it's no surprise that the blacks' personnel percentages are a little higher.

If explored to a greater extent, the statistics would show the army that its personnel with less education were the ones more likely to become pregnant. Race would be inconsequential.

America has to treat all people the same. There is no connection between race and any problem; the U.S. has to start dealing with the factors that yield the problems. The problem is never a black or a white one, but one that can effect any person. It's 'kinda' grey.



LETTERS

All letters must include name, faculty, year, I.D. number and phone number (I.D. and phone will not be printed).

Smokers Beware

We've noticed an alarming increase in the number of people smoking in HUB Mall this year. According to HUB Mall administration it is a completely smoke-free building unless:

i. you are permitted to smoke by a tenant within the confines of his or her leased space (ie - behind the doors which constitute the business).

ii. you are in one of the two designated smoking lounges of the building.

To non-smokers: If you see someone smoking in HUB Mall tell them to stop. Preserve your right to clean, breathable air in this building, especially now that cold weather forces everyone indoors.

To smokers in HUB Mall: Don't be surprised if you are told to not smoke; we intend on doing this when we can. If you are smoking in the mall, in spite of the signs that are posted, you should expect rudeness. We

resent inhaling other peoples' nicotine and tar.

To HUB Mall administration: We know that the non-smoking policy is self-regulating. How about posting some tasteful "No Smoking" signs where people tend to congregate, like outside Java Jive and La Pasta. This will help reinforce the message and will give those of us who like their lungs something to point at for support.

Larry Retzlaff, Arts IV
Theresa Gaetz, Arts IV
Patricia Morris, Education IV

A modest proposal

Re: Environment Hypocrisy

As I look around this campus I see the little effort that students put forward to help the environment. We have just completed an environment awareness week last month and many people signed the get well card. But unfortunately the week is over and things are back to the way they were. I was influenced by a recent television program that centred on the hypocrisy of people in regards to the environment. They preach one thing and do the opposite.

As I walk down Hub Mall I see all the bottles and pop cans that are thrown away instead of being returned for recycling. I would like to see the Students' Union take the initiative to place recycling bins (large garbage cans) in the main corridors of our buildings. I am sure that there are groups on this campus who would volunteer to administer this program. Any money raised by this recycling program could be funnelled towards the United Way campaign. Maybe this will show that we are indeed serious about the environment.

Phil Craddock
Arts III

Referendum threatens foundations

Why should one feel apprehensive about the quality of his/her business degree? After endeavoring to achieve choice grades, pursue one's interests and give what is required of themselves, what more could be asked? Now, the issue is raised voicing the inadequacy of business education.

Technology and competition are the issues. We can no longer rely on educational

foundations, namely the attainment of knowledge, individual enlightenment and the processes of learning. To deny the benefits of technology would be unrealistic, but we must disagree with them if they oppose the basis of advanced education.

Our system of education has transformed into an arrangement whereby students, faculties and universities are pitted against one another in order to compete, survive and dominate. The virtues of individual illumination are superceded by the mechanized processing of career would-be's, which further perpetuates the coldness of the system. Furthermore, one does not form generalizations and biases while becoming educated; instead one breaks free of preconceptions and limitations while becoming educated.

The consequences which will result from increases in business tuition fees are extended debilitations of educational foundations and increased demarcations among people. Students, especially business students, must now ask themselves if this is the direction they want their education to proceed in.

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