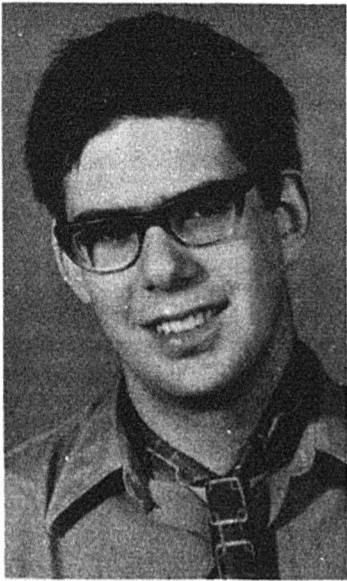


General Gripes



Wayne D. Madden

Dear Editor:

Let's just call this letter a general gripe letter. But on the same token, these are gripes which I feel are justified.

Barry McLaren

Upon first hearing about the resignation (or at least proposed resignation) of Barry McLaren

from Students' Council, my first feelings were quite simply ones of good riddance. Since then, I have reconsidered my feelings, and indeed many other feelings and issues have definitely been brought up by this incident.

Allow me to review Barry's letter of resignation.

Barry describes the point of view he has presented to Students' Council as being negative and ineffective and non-constructive. Barry has quite clearly been in opposition to the present executive, a position similar to that position I was in as Education Representative from Nov. 1970 to the end of my term, while Tim Christian was president.

While I know the frustration that Barry feels, I realize also that it takes willpower if one wishes to be effective, and such effectiveness can be accomplished only by being on council despite what may sometimes be undefeatable odds.

S.U. as a corporation

Barry is definitely correct with his reference to the Students' Union as a Corporate entity. The dangerous attitudes

taken by the General Manager, and the Unionization of the SUB staff is ample proof. Note that I have not mentioned the council references made by the last three Students' Union executives acknowledging the Students' Union as a corporate entity, without any respect to the human orientation that this union should be taking.

When Barry talks of the lack of interest of councillors on the issues brought down by the executive, and its general ineffectiveness he is indeed correct. While I feel that four of six executive members have been doing their jobs well, council has failed to effectively question decisions made by the executive.

Council's arrogance

So council chooses to be arrogant! Don is quite right when he refers to the council interfering with the right of Barry to resign. Upon reading the statement prepared by council I have little doubt about the resolution, and sincerity in his decision. Council's decision is an insult to his judgement based on their own wants, not Barry's.

The crowning insult however was expressed by Gerry Riskin when he even had the audacity to suggest that the seat which Barry held should remain vacant. I hope other councillors will not

take this nonsense seriously, and if they do, they too should resign.

Both acts by this council are a flagrant contravention of our greatest constitutional traditions--that of democracy!!!--That of freedom of choice!!! The latter is guaranteed in the Canadian Bill of Rights, but not by our Students' Council.

Barry McLaren has not faulted. Council has. While seldom have agreed with Barry his parting in my view will be unfortunate.

Attendance at G.F.C.

My next point has to deal with the attendance of student G.F.C. reps. As one of the student representatives on G.F.C., I must quite frankly admit, that because of the poor attendance of student reps, there does exist not one iota of parity at meetings, although it is provided for by the council membership. How possibly can one be effective if he is not present?

I have attended every meeting to date. But this is not true for the majority of representatives as the Arts student attendance record at G.F.C. meetings of 42 per cent indicates. One good representative, has not even attended a single meeting since being elected. When is the last

time your rep. has done something for you? What has he done for you? Is he attending meetings? Phone him up and find out!!!

Gazette by-law

My next point is the games that the executive has been playing on the Gazette issue. If the executive was so pleased to criticize the CUP commission even to the point of boycotting its hearings, then why have they suddenly crossed the floor rejecting all their previous principles on the results which were as expected of the CUP commission. I personally favored the Gazette, and defended my belief to that hearing. The executive did not.

Scare tactic

There appears to be some possibility that gazette was used just as a scare tactic to encourage THE GATEWAY to print more accurate news of Students' Council meetings. If so, both THE GATEWAY and the executive are partaking in guerrilla warfare tactics on our money.

Why not quit playing games, and do some work??!!?

Sincerely,
Wayne D. Madden,
Education 2

ABORTIONS

Dear Sir,

If our pregnant and barefoot housewife and mother, Theresa Bryson, would take time to leave the kitchen and tear John away from the T.V. set, she and her husband could direct their attention to the realities of existence and might well realize that which others have long since come to accept--society cannot and more importantly will not continue (not that it ever has) to guarantee every human being, regardless of stage of development, the absolute right to life: a right which is not fundamental to us all, but, as intimated by the noble but misconceived mother, is dependent upon society's economic and moral commitment to the costs involved. I, for one, do not relish the thought of supporting and adapting to society every unwanted child, cripple or deformity that the Bryson type of mentality would seek to foist upon me. Rather, I would see them killed--you guessed it, for my convenience.

Theresa and John's primitive mind is overcome by a deluge of statistics which prove nothing more than that abortion, like any other measure, is no ideal solution, but which are totally irrelevant to the political considerations necessary to determine the justification for the continued use of the legal system and its present laws; which ineffectively control abortion and only serve to drive women to abortionists resulting in a "permanent psychiatric aftermath" and in all too many cases a painful death or maiming from nauseating and barbaric backroom procedures. (Ramparts Aug. 1970). The same outdated and inconsistent mores that the present abortion legislation seeks to enforce results in women seeking the (presently illegal) abortions the authors so abhor.

Rather than clutching at every

available "scientific" (in the words of a noted medical authority "Well that's Bullshit") and statistical straw to support their autonomic tunnel vision the authors would do well to consult material like the above mentioned Ramparts-classified HUMANITIES-in order to clear up their misrepresentation of the facts and correct the irrational conclusions of their ramblings.

The rather poetic authors have done far more damage to society than, as a yet unborn, innocent child whose only crime was to be conceived in a body that rejects him.

It must be admitted that in special circumstances abortion is a desired or even necessary action. However a pregnant woman is not always capable of making a rational decision; she may at the time be mentally unbalanced, seeking the easy way out, or wish to abort just because all her friends did it. These are some of the reasons why a panel is necessary to review each individual case and take into consideration all the relevant facts which may not have occurred to the future mother or her physician. These people are not heartless, damning, individuals with fixed ideas but rather conscientious doctors whose purpose is to help and preserve human life in the best way possible, taking into consideration the lives of both the woman and the unborn child. Finally I would like to ask, where would you or I be if, when conceived our mothers had just simply decided to abort? For that matter where would the world be if the mothers of such great men as: Mozart, Bach, Picasso, or Mendel had made that same decision?

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If these people were more concerned with repealing the temporary law on the abolition of capital punishment rather than the abortion law I am sure they could make the world a better place in which to live.

ABORTIONS

Architecture diversified

Dear Sir,

Although I seem to be getting a reputation on this campus for calling its institutions down, I would like to commend it on its very fine architectural layout. Very few of the other campuses which I have frequented of late have shown such diversity in

ABORTIONS

style and design. There must be few places in this province, or even indeed in Western Canada, where the old stands side by side with the new and no one is rushing to tear it down. Every morning as I pass the Biological Sciences building on my way to work, I am reminded of the long heritage of academic learning which originated in the medieval abbeys of Europe. This point is obviously one which has been missed by the many philistines who criticise this building.

I do not share the opinion voiced by some that we need an architectural school on this campus, for, dear sir, it is clear that while the present

administration is in control a wind of change will blow through every new building erected.

I remain,
Yours sincerely,
Dr. Thomas F. Dibdin,
Professor Emeritus.

ABORTIONS

To the Editor:

In reference to the letter by the Brysons (Nov. 25): The world population is increasing at the rate of 2% per year, or a doubling time of every 35 years. Canada's population is increasing at the same rate. To support each Canadian in his accustomed life-style requires many times the resources and creates many times the pollution of the average world individual. Abortion is a method of population control. Albeit contraception is more morally chewable, until every individual is educated about contraception and contraceptive methods are improved, abortion is a means to the end of a very real crisis. If a woman desires an abortion, she should have one. Can we guarantee every unwanted child with the quality of life he or she will desire? It seems we will have enough problems satisfying the wanted children.

Sincerely,
Don Meredith
Grad. Studies
Science 3

Sincerely,
Don Meredith
Grad. Studies
Te. 4161

Garneau houses slums

Dear Sir:

If your photographer really had wanted to show South Garneau Instantly Instantly Instantly becoming a Slum Slum Slum, all he needed to do was turn his camera to the opposite side of 83 Avenue and focus on the many houses now rented to students. There one risks his neck every time he picks his way along the unshoveled sidewalks. There supermarket carts sit in all their beauty in front yards for days. There beer and soft drink bottles lie everywhere until a worrier about dogs and kids cutting their feet picks them up. There landlords aren't pestered to obey the law and provide adequate garbage cans, so garbage is dumped in bags at the lane. There dogs are let run free, get into the garbage and spread it in between the bottles and the shopping carts. There the people who go in and out of those houses countless times a day never bother to pick up the accumulating debris.

When those people living across the street from the Batoni construction site show some indication of communal concern for their neighbourhood, then is the time to condemn Mr. Batoni for intruding. But not now.

Georgia Baird
11112 83 Ave.