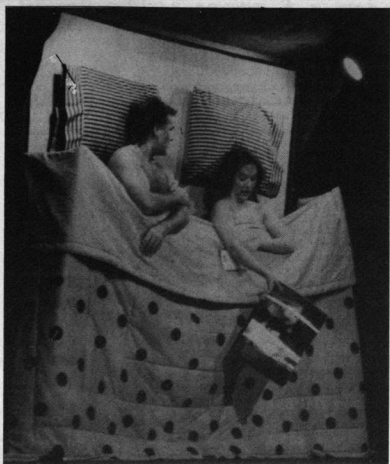


Pornography under fire



Pornography may incite discussion

Photo Dragos Ralu

continued from p.1
misinformation regarding violence in sex. He stated that his research has found that there is less violence in sexually explicit material than exists in the media in general.

Christensen finished his argument by saying "Bill C-54 is not the answer, it's the problem."

Myrna Kostash felt that a "clear and present danger" is present in Bill C-54. She questioned why people are more offended at depictions of sex move from the written word to pictures to moving images.

Kostash pointed out under the Child Porn section that material considered erotic at 18 is pornographic at 17. She asked how the government determined 18 as the age when one becomes sexually curious and sexually aware.

Kostash also pointed out that the crime punishable under this bill would be the "communication of sex". This would affect sex education programs as well as sex information centres such as the Sexual Assault Centre and Planned Parenthood; both of which deal with minors. The public education campaign against AIDS would also be seriously disrupted. She ended her argument saying Bill C-54 was an easy way for the government to give some fem-

inists a victory, while at the same time, dividing the movement. The porn issue, she said, has taken the attention away from such issues as pay equity, daycare, pay distribution, equal rights, abortion, and lesbian rights.

Christensen and Kostash both believed that, if legislated, Bill C-54 would hinder sexual attitudes. As well, they felt the distinction between pornography and art cannot be made objectively. As Kostash said, "Bad art will be defined as pornography, but good art is erotica... It has been said that erotica is the sexual entertainment of the rich, but pornography is the sexual entertainment of the lumpen, loutish masses."

Christensen and Kostash agreed that there is a greater problem with violence than sexually explicit ma-

terial. "Murder is a crime, but television can depict murder. Sex between two consenting adults is not a crime... yet; but (under Bill C-54) its depiction is," said Kostash.

One of the confusions with the bill is that the onus of proof is switched to the defendant. An artist charged under the Bill would have to prove the merit of his or her work, although, as Ritter explained, under the balance of probabilities, they would only have to show that they "might possibly have been innocent."

Bill C-54 is presently being debated on its second reading in the House of Commons. This is when any amendments to the bill can be made, although, the general consensus is that this is very unlikely.

X-rated ads hit Toronto campus

TORONTO (CUP) — Coupon envelopes containing an ad for triple-X rated slides and videos will no longer be distributed through the University of Toronto bookstore, the store's general manager says.

John Watson ordered the "Grab-It" envelopes, which contain ads, coupons and products samples, pulled from the shelves when he learned from a student reporter they contained advertising for pornographic material.

He said they will remain unavailable until he determines how and why the ad found its way into the envelopes.

"I am not aware of any policy (regulating the envelopes)," Watson said, "but the ad has been brought to my attention by a student. We have removed the Grab-It envelopes from the floor until I speak to the people who distribute them to us."

The company responsible for the Grab-It envelopes, along with the popular Campus Kits that many students receive at orientation, is Toronto-based R.J. Clegg Limited.

Herb Hoff, an account executive at Clegg, said the ad came from the company's American counterpart and was not properly screened.

"It was a sight unseen," he said.

"When I finally saw the nature and presentation of the ad, the production run was almost finished. There was a chance that the students would not get the envelopes at all, if we took the time to remove the ads. Then again, I knew the ads may raise some concern. Simply, you're damned if you do and damned if you don't."

Hoff admitted Clegg's internal screening policy needs to be better enforced.

"As a company, we don't want to jeopardize our student relations," he said. "There are many things that we offer that are a benefit to students."

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and

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— Norwood, STRAIGHT TO HELL

"BEST LITTLE WEINER IN TOWN OR MY NAME AIN'T KARL."

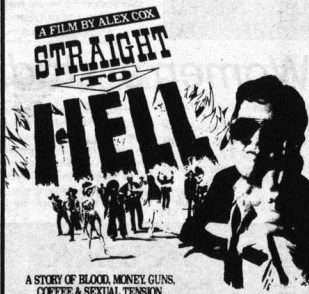
— Karl, STRAIGHT TO HELL

"A TIME TO EMBRACE AND A TIME TO REFRAIN FROM EMBRACING."

— Preacher, STRAIGHT TO HELL

"SHIKSO-PHRENIC."

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