

Delaney

This is in response to Roy Hiller's article which seeks to describe Patrick Delaney's brilliant efforts to relieve the situation of the "mature student" and to overthrow the bureaucratic maze.

Well done Delaney. However, I would like to outline my impression of the case Delaney describes and how it would differ from the one in print.

1. First, Delaney did more than not fill out a withdrawal form. After doing the first assignment he quit attending class and failed (if you'll pardon the expression) to write the final. His explanation of how this does not constitute an academic failure is quite remarkable. He did submit some work and then ceased working.

2. The debate of his position was more than cursory. The Executive Committee of the Faculty of Arts discussed his case for several hours before arriving at the conclusion that his performance could not be considered other than a failure in the academic sense and under the existing rules he must withdraw. It was decided then not at Delaney's prompting in GFC Committee) that a reconsideration of the rule would be necessary.

Abortion Law Repeal: why?

Every person who believes in individual rights should agree that each woman should have the right to choose whether or not to bear a child. This is an essential first step to remove women from the bondage which men have imposed upon them throughout history.

The resurgence of the feminist movement in the late sixties and seventies has opened many peoples eyes to the fact that woman is not inherently inferior to man, that, in fact, she is as intellectually, morally, and emotionally capable of taking responsibility for the course of world events as man. Historically, women were burdened not only by innumerable pressures to conform to the feminine role, but also by the fact that her biological makeup determined her inferior status as soon as civilization began to develop. Man, freed from hunting to provide survival for the family or tribe, took over responsibilities which women in prehistory had taken: agriculture, animal domestication, pottery and textiles. Unfortunately, by the invention of agriculture, women gave men the leisure time to create religions, governments and wars, initiating the bondage she has been under through history, right up to the present day.

Early civilisations regarded women primarily as child-bearers and raisers. This attitude has not changed very much up to the present day, if the laws regarding abortion are considered. Women the 'weaker vessels' must be protected from themselves by male-imposed and enforced laws. Women are assumed to be incapable of making their own decision about an event which affects their lives.

It is ultimately impossible to determine at which point after conception a human life begins to exist. Some people believe that it exists right from the moment of conception; some believe at about three months after conception, some believe at the moment of birth. Since each person has their own idea, each person should question their own conscience, and make their own decision

3. Delaney is a member of the GFC Executive Committee which made an extraordinary exception to its terms of reference in hearing his appeal.

4. The Committee did not decide, as is implied, that Delaney did not fail the course nor that the rule was discriminatory to mature students. It ruled that Delaney as V.P. is a unique individual whose withdrawal would not be in the best interest of our academic community.

Any student similarly caught by this rule would have to try to classify themselves as "unique" before they could follow the brilliant example of our V.P. Academic.

5. Throughout this "crisis" Delaney constantly argued his position from the office of V.P. Academic and not as the representative of the general student.

In conclusion let me state that I can document the above statements. I found the article to be erroneous and self congratulatory on behalf of our mover V.P. Academic.

Barry McLaren
Arts 4

about this vital question.

Men are not personally affected by the abortion issue to the extent that women are. Whatever men may think about the question is essentially abstract when compared to the woman who is carrying the fertilized egg within her body. So why do male-dominated governments impose their morality upon women, by instituting laws which do not give the woman, the woman alone, the right to make her own decision? It is obviously yet another reflection of the sexism which underlies the social structures of all countries.

In Canada, women must plead with a board of doctors, which most hospitals have not even instituted, and with their husbands, if married, to make a decision which recognition of individual rights would dictate to be their own.

People must realize that this is not an abstract issue. Women are still unable to obtain desperately needed abortions through legal channels. Women are still endangering their lives with 'home remedies' because they are unwilling to face the 'disgrace' of abortion. The laws show that the government believes abortion to be a disgraceful thing, for women must beg higher authority for abortions which should be their right similar to a child begging his parents for privileges he is denied because of his child status. Women are not children. Women are no mentally or morally inferior. Women are intelligent human beings, capable of making any decision which affects their lives.

Women must fight to overthrow these unjust laws. Canadian women have joined together in the Abortion Repeal Coalition and have made many advances. All over the country, debates, forums, and petitions have shown that the majority of people recognize that women should have this right. Why hasn't the government acted to repeal the laws?

Petitions with over 100,000 signatures have been presented to the government. The government has promised a debate on the question of abortion for four years. Why hasn't this debate taken place?

Frankly this has been my FINEST year as a president!



I've got the BOARD OF GOVERNORS and the Charimans eating out of my HAND!



I've got the teachers DIVIDED and STALEMATED on the question of SALARY DEMANDS!



My speeches are quoted VERBATIM in the local PRESS! COMMUNITY LEADERS back me RIGHT down the LINE!



I've got the LABS, TEACHING MACHINES, GYMS, POOLS and TV HOOK UPS clicking over like one perfectly tuned machine!



If I could just figure a way to get these damn KIDS the hell out of here, the place would run like a DREAM!



counter point

staff comment

If a piece of property belongs to the public, should it be illegal to distribute leaflets on that property? The management of the Jubilee Auditorium thinks so.

On Friday afternoon, before the Liberal campaign rally, several leafletting groups were told to leave or the cops would be called. The groups included the U of A Vietnam Action Committee, the U of A Committee for Abortion Law Repeal, some postal workers and some apparently unauthorized Howard Leeson campaigners. Larry Trahan, the assistant manager of the auditorium, told them that they were harassing the people entering the building.

This was rather strange, to say the least. Nobody was being forced to take anything, and most people simply took the leaflets they were offered and read them.

Nobody complained. And what was going on inside: The Liberals were staging a full scale orgy of adulation of their candidates—people running around with signs, tables to recruit you and provide you with their literature, bands playing, girls dancing and singing the praises of their heroes—a scene about as blatantly political as it is possible to get. And a few people outside were told they couldn't hand out leaflets!

Larry Trahan personified the incredible arrogance the management of the building has. I asked him if the Jubilee Auditorium was not in fact public property. His reply was "How long have you been paying taxes?" I had not been informed that a person's rights depend on the amount of taxes he pays, but this is Trahan's view. Later on, I found him talking to a Journal reporter about the incident. He was asking the reporter, "Did you ask these people who ordered them to be there?" When the reporter replied that they were there because they wanted to be, Trahan muttered darkly about "these seventeen and eighteen year olds."

The situation is obviously intolerable. When it is decided that people cannot leaflet in front of the Jubilee Auditorium, you have to wonder what is going on in the heads of the administrators.

Kimball Cariou

The U of A Committee for Abortion Law Repeal