

OPINION

they are stirring up Acadia's security (though security director Bob Groves made a telling remark that he felt sexual assault is not a big problem).

However, I question the direction Acadia's efforts to solve the problem are taking. The principal solutions mentioned in the article were establishing a walk-home service, and pressuring for improved lighting.

The most obvious question of course is who screens the sixty men who've signed up for escorts?

On the surface the solution seems valid. But in fact it is perpetuating an age-old dilemma: women turning to men for protection from men. It reinforces the female dependency on males that is part of what underlies the phenomenon of rape. It invests all existing power in the hands of males. That's how we got in this situation in the first place.

Possible alternative measures I offer to Acadia: How about a women's walk-home service, walking in groups at night? How about pressure to increase availability and promotion of self-defence courses for women? Neither is a perfect solution, of course, but I think they fall short of success in the right direction at least, while Acadia's attempt falls short in the wrong direction.

Concerning lighting improvements on campus, I hope Chaisson (chair of WANTS) applies a lot of pressure in this area. And I strongly resent Groves' comment that women should walk where it is well lit. As if we didn't know that! I suppose his ultimate "solution" would be for women to stay home.

Chiasson is on the right track when she says an attitude change is needed. But it's not limited to men. Women need to change their own attitudes toward themselves and their abilities. The time-worn notion of depending on a big, strong man for protection hasn't worked. Give it up, women. Take back the night yourselves.

Brenda Beagan



Plea in motion

To the editor,
I feel compelled to respond to the letter that Andrew Simms wrote last week called "A plea for student housing." The Students' Union of Nova Scotia will soon be incorporating the SUNS Non-Profit Housing Society that will be trying to get funding for co-operative student housing from CMHC. Wish us luck.

We are also trying to get the Human Rights Act changed to make discrimination on the basis of occupation illegal. That way, students cannot be refused apart-

ments because of their status. If anyone out there in Gazette-land has been positively discriminated against because (s)he is a student, then they should contact the SUNS office on the third floor of the SUB.

Barney Savage
V.P. External, D.S.U.

Stronger action

To the editors,

Regarding the article of Oct. 31, 1985, "Flashing leads to detention," I would like to strongly urge Jane to press charges against the man who exposed himself to her at the Killam Library. I think it is great that Dal Security apprehended the flasher so efficiently; however, detaining him is not nearly enough. If this kind of person is not punished to the full extent of the law, there is no deterrent to the next guy that comes along.

As a woman, Jane has the responsibility and duty to ensure to the best of her ability that this man does not degrade another woman again. I realize that to press charges will take a lot of time and courage; however, the results will be worth the effort.

Patti Munroe

Missing out

To the Editors,

In your November 21, 1985, issue, Paul Chiarot wonders why Remembrance Day receives so little attention. He obviously appreciates the quality of life he enjoys here in Canada today and he feels grateful to the Canadians who served in both world wars for his freedom.

But does he ever think about the innumerable civilians slaughtered who did not choose to make the sacrifice? Does he remember the women and children left behind to fight the war of providing for themselves and their soldiers? Does he feel any sadness for the unnamed women beaten, raped and murdered by our own soldiers in foreign lands? He doesn't mention any of these people in his letter.

Mr. Chiarot, on Remembrance Day, do you suppose anyone remembers them?

Sincerely,
Janus Naugler
3rd Year Law

Public support

Dear Editor:

I and my wife listened to the report on CBC radio's 'Sunday Morning' today, and we were nothing short of appalled at the state of funding for the Maritimes' major regional university.

Offices in elevator shafts, gas leaks in the geology labs, computer terminals that can be counted on one hand, and departments whose equipment budgets are so nonexistent as to merit asking the student union to replace microscopes are all nothing short of unbelievable at what is supposed to be one of Canada's premier bases of higher learning.

When my wife and I attended Dal in the late '70's we knew there were problems with funding; the

finest academic staff in Canada was getting paid half to two-thirds what those in lesser schools were. Kitchen staff and garbage men were rivalling the salaries of professors with a dozen years or more of academic study.

The fact that this situation is tolerated by provincial and federal politicians responsible for funding allocations while Ministers' spouses and staffs junket all over Europe and the rest of the world with totally negligible benefits to Canadians is completely and totally intolerable. They certainly didn't mind the funding of universities when they were going to school, did they?

Further, not a few of these blowhards are sitting on Boards of Governors and Regents of Schools across the country, and it is high time that these people were held accountable for their

niggardly attitude towards the hallowed halls that they once occupied.

It brings a tear to the eye to admit, but in a very real sense the question must be asked, that as it is now undeniable that the quality of education has been perhaps irreparably damaged by the ignorance of the system of higher learning, is it possible that a continuing deterioration will threaten the physical presence of the school itself?

But the federal government considers universities fit for naught but the Strategic Defence Initiative! Shame.

Sincerley,

M. Rory Waite
Arts '79

Wendy Black
Science '78
Education '79

Support

To the editor,

I am responding to the article "A Second Look at SUNS", because quite honestly I never really knew how it affected me. Perhaps this is the case for many students.

However, thanks to Mr. MacIntosh I am now aware of many pertinent aspects of SUNS. Why do they get free office space in the SUB? Maybe they deserve our support as students' organizations, but before they gain this support reform may be necessary. SUNS must become a truly provincially based organization, otherwise they only repeat the job done by our own Dalhousie Student Union.

Jay Jacobson
4th Year Poli-Sci



Warm wishes
from

THE GAZETTE