

"Politics is not a good location or vocation for anyone lazy, thin-skinned, or lacking a sense of humour."

- John Bailey

"S.U. Council is very strange. Someone gets up to speak and says nothing. Nobody listens, then everyone disagrees."

- Cal Rifkin

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"I'd never buy a used car from Nixon unless he was drunk."
Raoul Duke

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Jargon invading our language

by PAM JOHNSON

Those of you slogging through English courses must have heard, at one time or another, the squeals of disgust which periodically emerge from the English Department's Staff room. Those irate outbursts are triggered by the creeping jargon invading our language. Usage of 'unauthorized' vocabulary has led many to prophesize the decline and fall of English. Meanwhile, these concerned folks point to the past with pride, and imagine an age when English was spoken and written in the 'pure' form. They try to hold back a tidal wave of linguistic corruption.

What lies behind the deft opposition to neologisms and new colloquialisms? How can a change in linguistic fashion be termed a 'violation'? After all, English did not come into existence in some virginal form. Our language is a concoction in

a cauldron, being swirled and whirled and boiled down. The more ingredients that are added, the richer and more wondrous the broth.

Because English is, and always will be a rapid growth industry, Cambridge University Press has begun publishing a new magazine called *English Today*. The *Sunday Times* reports that Tom Mc Arthur, the editor of ET, said early promotional mailshots indicated sales of the magazine in "tens of thousands" was possible.

One article in a recent issue of ET addresses the problem of a masculine bias in English. There have been many attempts to coin a new personal pronoun without a sex bias. There is 'co' with a plural form 'cos' and a reflexive 'coself'; 'et'; 'hesh'; a mixture of he and she which turns into 'hirm' for him and her and 'hzer' for his or hers; 'jhe'; 'na'; and 'thon'. Now aren't those bright ideas! Will it be another hun-

dred years before they are fully authorized in the OED?

The *Sunday Times* reports that an Oxford don raised unfraternal doubts about ET and said, "It is very surprising to see Cambridge University Press going downmarket. ET is interesting, but not scholarly."

Humph! I'm going to kvetch about that one. It's pretty scholarly to be pursuing a new line of research on a subject which is neither written down, recorded, nor existing in a permanent state.

During times of social change English must be allowed the freedom to twist and stretch. Man has a need to describe new situations and phenomena. Instead of fighting off new words we should be asking ourselves who has the power to render certain words acceptable and correct, and others, slang. Perhaps the cranky system of absorption needs a good oiling.

Students voice choice or pro-life views

By VICTORIA LORIENT and STEPHANIE THORSON of the **QUEEN'S JOURNAL**
Friday, January 25 1985
PRO-LIFE

"Most people who are pro-life like myself, are not out for violence. We don't want to put ourselves on the same level as Morgentaler." (Ledwein Grafe, Kingston resident).

"It is very unfortunate that they invited him." (Gordon Grafe, Kingston resident).

"We are not responsible for our bodies, God is." (Linda Grafe).

"This is not a religious issue, it's a matter of life. You don't have to belong to any religion to support the pro-life issue, you just have to be a citizen. Even if you are agnostic, you should respect life. You don't need the Judeo-Christian ethics for this." (Father Karl Clemens, Kingston Catholic Priest).

"This is not a religious issue. Even if you are an agnostic, you should respect life." (Gordon Grafe).

"I feel that coverage on the issue has not been fair." (Ledwein Grafe)

"It is a scientifically proven fact that life is sacred from conception to natural death." (Gordon Grafe).

"Not everyone who is a feminist is for abortion." (Linda Grafe).

"I've always been a women's rights proponent

but it is unfortunate that a certain group took over the movement, and made abortion the prevailing issue. Instead they should have been more concerned with health care issues, benefits for single mothers, and equal pay for equal work. These issues got hidden behind the pro-choice issue." (Father Karl Clemens).

"We are very confident that in the long run pro-life will win." (Gordon Grafe).

"I wish Queen's would realize the mistake it is committing and that it will be facing many far reaching effects like the loss of support from the alumni." (Gordon Grafe).

PRO-CHOICE

"I think it's amazing and marvelous that he is coming to Kingston." (Georgia Ferrell, member of the Sexual Assault Crisis Centre).

"We disagree strongly with those who want to stop him. Opinions shouldn't interfere with what someone has to say. If they don't want to hear him they shouldn't come. It's a freedom of speech issue." (Kim Mackinder, St. Lawrence College).

"I hope the protestors let him speak. Why are they threatened? If I was a pro-

lifer, hearing him may make me more so. I would love to hear a pro-lifer after his

speech if order is kept." (Joanne Yash, Arts '87)

"The option of abortion, as well as the adoption of undesired children, provides a viable alternative to the young welfare mothers plaguing the system. Preventing the freedom of choice in this will only result in more young mothers keeping their children and perpetrating the cycle of poverty that afflicts so many welfare recipients, which the taxpayer ultimately funds." (Casey Worthington, Arts '88).

"It should be your decision. If you don't have the right to choose then...I don't know." (Leslie Kruk, Arts '88).

"Tell the pro-lifers that they can adopt all the unwanted children." (Aiden O'Callaghan, Arts '87).

"What I admire most about Dr. Morgentaler is not his stand on the particular issue, which I happen to be in agreement with, but his determination and belief. Unlike many people today, he stands up for what he believes in. He sticks to his guns. He's a man to be admired." (John Wellner, Arts '86).

"I'm hoping that the pro-lifers will be quiet enough so that the truly interested people will be able to hear what he has to say." (Robin Hargadon, Con Ed. '87).

"I hope he can give a lecture without being harassed. He has a free forum like anyone else should have." (Margaret Knapp, wife of Kingston Alderman Bill Knapp).