

Spectruim

The opinions contained herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily shared by the Brunswickan, its staff or its publisher. Prospective writers must submit 3 columns of 500 words in length. Deadline: Monday at 5pm

POSITIVELY PINK

Try to imagine heterosexuality being the exception in society. Imagine that every book, every film, every TV show, every newspaper was telling you that YOU should be homosexual. Sure, there are the occasional films or shows that have token heterosexuals on them but, the heterosexuals they portray are almost always shown in a degrading manner. Consider that society thinks heterosexuals are deviants, perverts, child molesters and incapable of having a lasting, loving relationship.

Think about losing your job, your apartment, your friends, your family and being denied basic services simply because you choose to love someone of the opposite sex. Think about not being able to legally marry the one you love or visit them in the hospital if they're sick. Try to imagine what it would be like to walk down the street with the person you love and not dare to hold hands or kiss because you know that at the very least it will provoke a verbal attack and, at the extreme, a physical one. Think about not being able to volunteer to work with children because, as everyone knows, you'll recruit or molest them. Worse yet, think about losing custody of your own kids because you lead an immoral life.

Imagine for one instant that you are the minority and answer the following questions:

1) What do you think caused your heterosexuality?

HETEROSEXUAL QUESTIONNAIRE

- 2) When and how did you first decide you were a heterosexual?
- 3) Is it possible your heterosexuality is just a phase you may grow out of?
- 4) Is it possible your heterosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of others of the same sex?
- 5) If you've never slept with a person of the same sex, is it possible that all you need is a good Gay lover?
- 6) To whom have you disclosed your heterosexual tendencies? How did they react?
- 7) Why do you heterosexuals feel compelled to seduce others into your lifestyle?
- 8) Why do you insist on flaunting your heterosexuality? Can't you just be what you are and keep it quiet?
- 9) Would you want your children to be heterosexual, knowing the problems they'd face?
- 10) A disproportionate majority of child molesters are heterosexuals. Do you consider it safe to expose your children to heterosexual teachers?
- 11) Why do heterosexuals place so much emphasis on sex?
- 12) Could you trust a heterosexual therapist to be objective? Don't you fear they might be inclined to influence you in the direction of their leanings?
- 13) How can you become a whole person if you limit yourself to compulsive, exclusive, heterosexuality, and fail to develop your natural, healthy, homosexual potential?
- 14) There seem to be very few happy

heterosexuals. Techniques have been developed which enable you to change if you really want to. Have you considered trying aversion therapy?

I hope you recognize how ridiculous, unnecessary and unfounded these questions are in relation to you and the way you feel about your heterosexuality. Unfortunately, these are the types

of questions, attitudes and the reality that gay/bi/lesbian people face everyday of their lives.

As an openly gay person I refuse to live my life in fear of what people might think or do. It is my hope that by being open about who I am and who I love will give some heterosexuals a positive image of homosexuality and reduce some of their unfounded fears.

WIMMINS ROOM

We talk about having a moment of silence at memorials, services and vigils. We do so to remember individuals. On December 6th many people will be having a moment of silence to remember the 14 women who died at the hands of violence in Montreal.

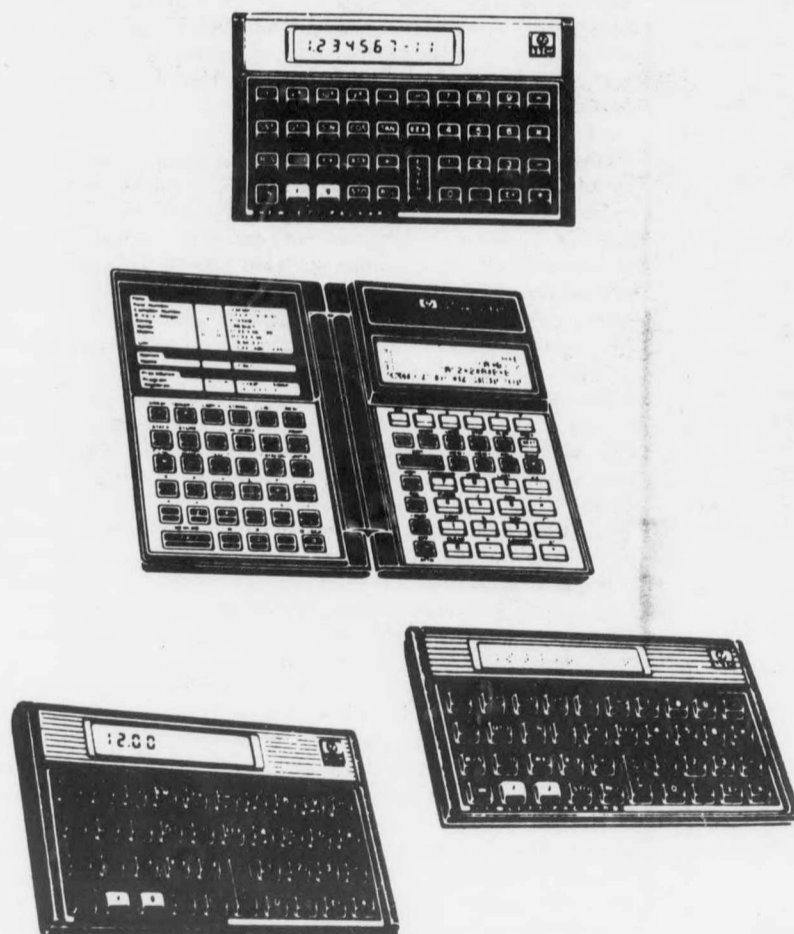
But isn't silence what has gotten us into trouble in the first place? Child molesters tell their young victims to keep 'this our little secret'. Rapists threaten their victims with violence and fear from telling anyone, like the police. Even if they do go to the police, they are subjected to 'the second rape'. Finally, abusive spouses alienated their wives from the rest of the world so no one else will find out (about the abuse). In general, women are socialized to be passive. They are also socialized to keep quiet and 'not to rock the boat'. Some people theorize that sexual assault is a tool to keep women 'in their place'. They step out of line and it (sexual assault) is used to punish them and keep them under control. It seems silence is women's enemy but the violators' friend. Silence is what enables violence against women to continue.

SILENCE EQUALS VIOLENCE

So what are we, as Society, to do? The Women's Collective suggests a moment of screaming to remember and acknowledge women's pain and suffering from violence. The women who died at the hands of Marc Lepine had their screams cut off, by a gun. Do not forget them. A moment of screaming could also symbolize the screams of women who have died and continue to suffer at the hands of violence.

While we understand what the moment of silence signifies, we (the Women's Collective) still cannot help but feel we have been silent long enough. We, as Society, have read the statistics, seen the pamphlets and heard all about it on the news. It is time we acknowledge that violence against women affects us all. It happens to your mothers, sisters friends, lovers, neighbours, everyone! Put a face to the statistics, look around you, (at least) one in four women have been or are the survivors of some kind of violence. Break the silence and start screaming! Candlelight Vigil and Service will be held Dec. 6th at 4:00 in the Saint Thomas Chapel. All are welcome.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT



**hp HEWLETT
PACKARD**

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL 1994

CAVE HILL, BARBADOS • MONA, JAMAICA • ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD

The University of the West Indies is a regional institution serving 14 English-speaking Caribbean territories. In addition to the three campuses, there are University Centres, run by the School of Continuing Studies, in all contributing territories. Eight faculties offer degree, diploma and certificate programmes in Agriculture, Arts and General Studies, Education, Engineering, Law, Medical Sciences, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences.

The Summer School Programme is coordinated by the Office of Outreach and Institutional Relations through its International Summer Schools, in collaboration with the School of Continuing Studies, the Institute for Caribbean Studies and Faculties.

Twenty 36 hour courses are offered within the period July 4 to August 13, 1994. Students are not expected to take more than two courses. Each course is equivalent to 3 credits in the North American University system.

• CAVE HILL, BARBADOS •
Cave Hill campus sits neatly on 48 acres overlooking the scenic harbour of the capital city, Bridgetown.

• MONA, JAMAICA •
Mona campus nestles in the foothills of the magnificent Blue Mountains, on 653 acres of land in Kingston.

• ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD •
St. Augustine campus reposes on 500 acres near the foothills of the Northern Range close to Port of Spain.

Details of Courses, Eligibility, Fees, Location and Accommodation are available on request.

SEND FOR BROCHURES AND APPLICATION FORMS IMMEDIATELY

CONTACT:
Coordinator, Summer Programmes
Office of Outreach and Institutional Relations
2nd Floor, Assembly Hall Building
The University of the West Indies
Kingston 7, Jamaica, W.I.
Telephone: (809) 977-1689