

Downtown Dalhousie overlooked

Dear Editors:

It is unfortunate that Lâle Kasebi, who reported on Orientation '87, neglected or saw fit not to mention Downtown Dalhousie and that no other coverage appeared in the *Gazette*.

Journalists should be aware that what they *don't* report on also carries a message, a message that may contribute to the marginalization of certain activities or happenings in the community. I believe this can be avoided if the reporter, rather than ignoring an event, indicates that it has taken place and, if she or he has the editorial freedom to do so, gives some account as to the event's relative significance or success. The journalist thereby makes an intentional evaluation and is accountable for it.

Downtown Dalhousie, as described by the organizers, was "a display of organizations and groups available on campus and in the community" and was designed to be "an opportunity

for publicity, educating and volunteer recruitment." All of these goals would certainly have been furthered by coverage of the event in the *Gazette*.

I was in attendance for most of Downtown Dalhousie because groups to which I belong (Coalition against Apartheid and Project Ploughshares) were invited to display materials and interpret our work at this event. As someone who has been involved in the Halifax network of peace and development education groups over the last twelve years, I was impressed with the wide range of groups represented at Downtown Dalhousie, and found the inclusiveness evidenced by the presence of Phoenix House, GLAD and CARAL most encouraging.

The careful planning and organizational competence of people such as Shannon Hessian, Director of Downtown Dalhousie, and Juanita Montalvo, Community Affairs Coordinator, are to be commended. We appreciated their efforts in facilitating the participation of off-campus groups such as ours.

Best of luck to the 1987-88 staff of the *Dalhousie Gazette* and may it continue to contribute to community life at Dal and in Halifax.

Barbara Rumscheidt

An End to Fear.

On Friday, October 9th, march through the streets of Halifax safely, in unison with other women concerned with the city's high rape statistics. Gather in the Grand Parade at 7:30 p.m., and help end the fear.



Women's march sponsored by Patchwork Community Women's Resource Centre.

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