



## Second-hand smoke

It has become common knowledge that cigarette smoking seriously endangers a person's health. Yet until recently little was said about the effects of cigarette smoke on non-smokers. A company that made its employees work in an environment half as polluted as the air next to a smoker would be heavily fined. Yet smokers continue to pollute the air space of non-smokers with impunity.

Most smokers realize that they are damaging their bodies, just as surely as if they regularly cut away at their toes with butcher knives. Yet they don't seem to recognize the discomfort, unpleasantness and physical harm they are causing others who must breathe the air they foul.

Non-smokers owe it to themselves and to smokers as well to discourage tobacco use. Canada cannot easily afford the medical bills, lost productivity and human suffering caused by people whose health has been ruined by tobacco.

Perhaps one day Canada may be free of the most poisonous form of air pollution and the cigarette will be as socially unacceptable as the spittoon.

### the dalhousie gazette

The Dalhousie Gazette is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union. The views expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the Student Union, the editor, or staff. We reserve the right to edit material submitted for space or legal reasons.

The deadline for advertising is the Friday noon preceding publication. Articles and letters are due Monday noon. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity, if necessary, will be granted. Letters should not exceed 600 words, and must be typed if more than 100 words.

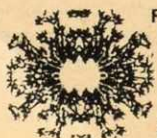
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## Dal Investments support racism

In a television interview yesterday, the president of Dalhousie, Henry Hicks, stated that he personally didn't agree with apartheid (the racist system of South Africa).

Dr. Hicks is to be congratulated for his position.

But it is very easy for President Hicks to condemn the South African system. However we can't accept his sincerity until he backs up his statement with action.

Dalhousie University has invested millions in stocks in Canadian banks. These banks are lending money directly to the South African government and every three months Dalhousie receives dividends from these stocks, dividends that are partially accumulated from the bank loans to South Africa.

In short, Dalhousie is profiting from the maintenance of apartheid. We would be happy to believe Dr. Hicks' statement but only when the university withdraws its money from the Canadian banks guilty of supporting racism, or at the least pressures the banks to stop their loans.

Campuses across North America are examining their investment policies and are withdrawing money from banks which support apartheid. Are Dr. Hicks and the university going to continue to offer moral platitudes or are they going to act responsibly and follow this lead.

It all comes down to a question of "Which side are you on?" We are on the side opposed to apartheid; right now the university is firmly planted on the other side supporting systematic oppression with their investment policies.

It's time for a change.

## Letters

### Men are to blame

To the Gazette:

All Dal students should be concerned by the Gazette's January 19 story "Rapes rumoured on Dal campus".

But Steve Kay of campus security is clearly out-of-whack when he says "Young women should not walk alone after dark."

This seems a classic case of "blaming the victim."

The truth of the matter is that men should not rape women.

Instead of placing recriminations and restrictions on the victims, Security should be concentrating on catching the aggressors.

Yours sincerely,  
 Mike Marshall

### Rape relief can help

To the Gazette:

The report on rumoured rapes on campus in the Jan. 19th issue of the Gazette perpetuates the myth that the woman is somehow responsible for being raped. The basic truth is that some men rape, i.e., commit the crime of rape, and all women are the victims.

"Once in a cabinet," former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir related, "we had to deal with the fact that there had been an outbreak of assaults on women at night. One minister suggested a curfew; women should stay home after dark. I said, 'But it's the men who are attacking the women. If there's to be a curfew, let the men stay home, not the women.'"

The fear of rape, as well as the anti-solution offered by the campus "security force" restricts the freedom and movement of women. There are no simple answers. Rape is a complex problem; deeply embedded in the roots of our social structure.

Halifax Rape Relief is an organization which started in 1975 to deal with the problems of rape. We have trained volunteers who can be reached through Help Line (422-7444) 24 hours a day, everyday.

These volunteers provide counseling and support to women who have been raped. We also have speakers who are available to groups and individuals. We provide many other services to rape victims and to the community.

To the rape victims: we are here to help, call us.

Deborah Gilbert  
 Volunteer  
 Halifax Rape Relief

### Get serious Jim McLean

To the Gazette:

We are writing in response to a "Comment" in last week's Gazette written by Jim McLean regarding IN STRUGGLE's intervention at the Coalition meeting on unemployment.

Obviously Jim McLean thinks any kind of critical analysis of precisely what is or isn't in the interests of the working class is "disruptive", "divisive", inspired by "agents provocateurs", and "discredits valid elements of a Marxist analysis." Now we know what he's ignorant of, let's find out what he does know.

Does Jim McLean know that the Metro Coalition of Support for the Unemployed has existed for 5 months? Does he know that there was a union of the unemployed and that it dissolved? Does he know why? Does he know the workings of the Coalition and that the Federation of Labour leaders, the Trades and Labour Council leaders, the Communist Party of Canada and others worked actively to oppose and sabotage certain demands put forward by IN STRUGGLE? Does he know that those demands were: "For an end to wage controls", "Fight Layoffs and Shutdowns", and "Fight to withdraw Bill C-27" (which is aimed to deny UIC to thousands of workers)? Does he think workers are too fragile to deal with these questions? Or is it only high-sounding Marxist intellectuals who should discuss these issues in the Gazette while workers are patronized and told to "organize"

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