

# Rape problem lacks publicity

The recently-disclosed information about rapes on campus is a cause for concern. Rape, one of the most violent crimes, is one that should not be kept quiet. Students of Dalhousie must be warned that it is indeed dangerous on campus at night. Women cannot safely walk alone after dark.

Rape is a serious ugly part of our lives and of the life of this campus. It is vital that everyone be made aware of its existence. Hiding the facts in an effort to protect Victorian ideals is irresponsible. Women cannot protect themselves if they are not informed. Keeping the facts quiet in order not to scare people does more harm than good. Sources have confirmed three rapes in the last two weeks although there appears to even have been four. The Dean of Women at Shirreff Hall actually claims to be unaware of the situation. And campus security also does not realize what is happening.

Lighting in the area of the Dalhousie 'quad' (between the A&A and the Chemistry Buildings) is inadequate and you can hardly see your own feet let alone someone awaiting a victim.

We have been informed that the area around the Tupper Building and University Avenue have also proven to be most dangerous.

It is the women on this campus who will have to walk in two's and three's everywhere they go after dark. It is a sad reflection on society, but right now a fact that should be emphasized.

### Attention Gazetters:

On Thursday at 7:30 there will be a very important staff meeting to do the final work on our new constitution. The more input the better—be here.

## 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.

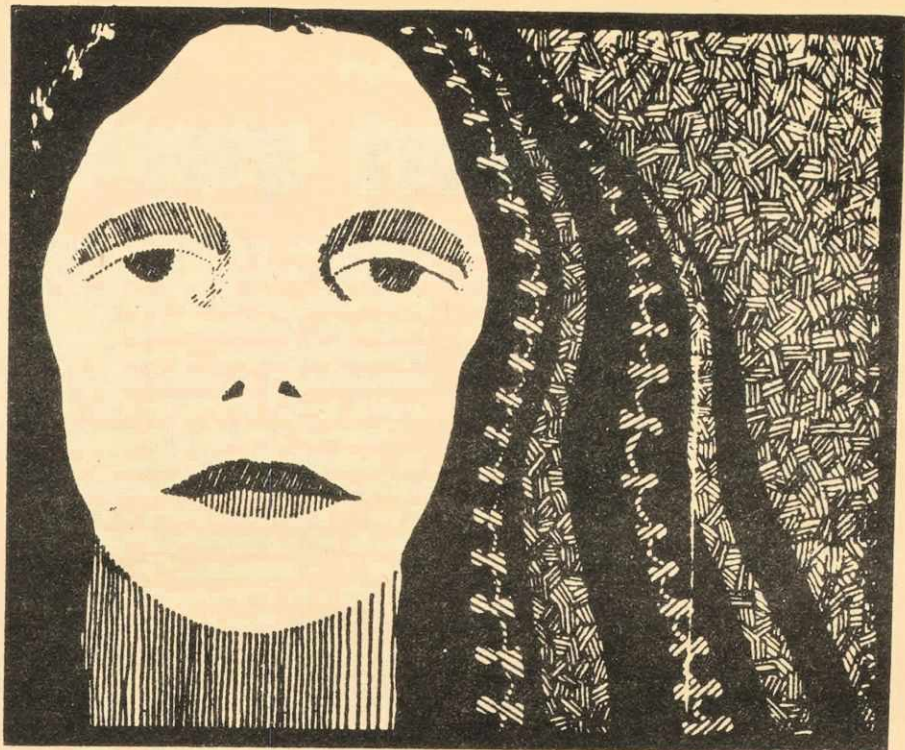
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### Letters

## Palestinians mis-understood

**To the Gazette:**

Mr. Barzelai appears (The Gazette, Jan. 12, 1978) again to misunderstand the nature of the Palestinian conflict. Let me briefly state the issue as the Palestinians see it:

1) The attachment of any person or people to a property or a country does not entitle them to take it over by force from its rightful owners. Moreover, no matter how strong Jewish attachment may be to Palestine—and we do not deny the existence of such an attachment—the Palestinians' attachment to their own country is even stronger.

2) There is a continuing and deliberate attempt, by some Zionists, to confuse Judaism with Zionism. The Muslim Palestinians, as an integral part of their faith, have great reverence for the Jewish faith, as do the Christian Palestinians. They have no conflict with Judaism. Their conflict is with Zionism. I am perfectly aware that the definition of Zionism, on paper, is "The national liberation movement of the Jewish People". This may be so, but it is the practice and methods of political Zionism, as the Palestinians have experienced, that we are talking about. The Palestinians know Zionism from bitter experience as dispossession, eviction, discrimination and torture.

3) The Palestinians have repeatedly expressed their willingness to live in peace with the Jews, but as equals, and not as second class citizens in their own country.

4) The Palestinians are asking, like any other people in the world, for the right of self determination, in their own country. They do not want to be told, by Messrs Begin and Carter or any one else, who should represent them and what is good enough for them.

5) The Palestinians demand their natural right of return to their homes, a right clearly laid down in The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and repeated U.N. resolutions. It is, they believe, a principle of elemental justice that they should be entitled to return to their homes before Russian immigrants, of any faith, are allowed to settle there.

6) If the current peace negotiations achieve these rights for them, the Palestinians will happily accept. Mr. Begin's intransigence, however, and his talk of "liberated territories" bode ill for any such hopes for peace in this vital area of the world.

The Palestinians are asking for their basic rights and it behooves all free-thinking people in a Western democracy like ours to support their just cause.

Yours sincerely,

Yours sincerely,  
 Sami F. Muhtadie, M.D.

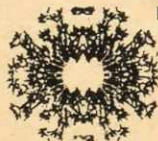
## objective Journalism ?

**To the Gazette:**

I would like to comment briefly on the Gazette's coverage ('Dalhousie Council Releases Student Fees', 12 / 01 / 78) of the Dalhousie council's release of the AFS funds. continued on page 5

## Gazette needs more newswriters

We aren't printing all the news that fits. And it's not because nothing is happening but because there aren't enough people writing it. The Gazette is in need of people who will investigate and write news for the paper. We have lots of ideas and we're sure you have some of your own. Contacts are no problem as there is always someone around the office who knows of someone who knows of someone else who just might be the person for your story. Drop by the Gazette, 3rd floor SUB-anytime.



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