

preferences will consider their options first, and then support a given group or philosophy because they truly believe in it. Miss Slabyj has a right to her own opinion, but I do not feel that she is entitled to make broad generalizations concerning any one group of people. One piece of advice: Miss Slabyj, and others, should keep in mind that conservatism is not restricted to the upper classes, nor is socialism the exclusive property of the poor. (And if you don't believe me, just ask our Prime Minister.)

Stuart Rosser
Sciences I

Rampant sexism denounced



photo by Martin Beales

The oldest gimmick in our society?

Dear Gateway:

Although many people have objected to material (sexist) that has been appearing in your esteemed journal, I feel that it is necessary to add my two cents worth to the general noise of discontent.

I'd like to know where you guys get off discriminating against women who actively support the paper by putting their hard-earned dollars into keeping it running. And I'd like to know where you get off make (sic) value judgements about a woman's sexuality when no one has invited the judgement and it is not your position (or anyone's I may add) to do so on the basis of her body.

This attitude which you have doubtless heard as described as sexist over and over again, is, I'd like to point out, derogatory, immature, irresponsible stupid and plain boring. Can't you think of a more original way to catch the reader's attention? Outrage the general public? Make people sit up and take notice? Make people read you? Than by using a woman's body which is one of the oldest gimmicks in our society? And one which is still going on today?

What I'm writing about is the cover picture of your Tuesday September 28th 1982 issue of a woman in football kit wearing high heels subtitled, "The shape of things to come?" Very subtle. Especially when one notes that it is not connected with the table of contents or the front page story or even the ears. (Or the date)

And of course there are Jens' articles. One can't deny that Jens has a certain how shall we say, je ne sais pas, a certain sang-froid, a certain... style... but that certainly does not excuse the content of "Cabbie meets emancipated woman" (if you want to attack pluralism maybe you should look at your own "pluralistic" attitude before writing about it). I mean really, give me a break. The weakness of that article was so apparent the only thing that kept it afloat was the character study. Repellent as it was. The style not the content worked.

So think a little bit more of your reading public before you publish. Or before they go as individuals and pull their funds from the Gateway which they can do at any time through their Students' Union. There's nothing more disgusting than watching a misuse of power and responsibility at work. And I think the Gateway should re-examine their attitude towards women, the two women they have on staff this year, and their reading public seriously.

Sue Matheson
Human Rights Co-ordinator
Western Region Canadian University Press

Christ: he's the real thing

I would like to take this chance to address some of the letters and articles that have begun to fill the Gateway lately. To my good surprise, a good deal of attention has been given to the topic of Christianity, some good and some not so good.

One of the prominent ideas that seems to exist on campus is that Christians are not concerned with this world and making it a better place to live. To answer this claim, I would like to point to the most famous and well known Christian prayer of all time, in particular one line; "thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven". It is our greatest wish that our earth be just like heaven, no sickness or disease, no war, no hatred, no suffering, love and peace for everyone. Where we do differ is that we realize that we alone cannot achieve this goal but rather must rely on our Lord to supply the answer to these problems.

Christianity is an exclusive club, not because only certain few can become members (for anyone can be a member if they truly wish to do so), but rather it is exclusive in that only by becoming a member can one begin to understand all about Christianity and what it does for people. Becoming a Christian is an act of faith and it is through faith that things unclear are made clear. As a Christian I find it so interesting to reflect back on my views before I took that step of faith and how I simply could not comprehend what motivated these "religious fanatics". Now that I am standing on the other side of the fence I at times find it hard to understand how I did not grasp the things that motivate us Christians.

I feel certain about saying that many of you who are reading this and other letters on Christianity are wondering why this has become such a popular topic of

late. Allow me to make a speculation about this and you can decide for yourselves how close I come to the mark.

In Luke 12:54 Jesus talked about the idea that we could read the signs of nature so well yet could not read the signs of the times. Today more than any other time mankind has come face to face with his destiny. The future that faces this earth can best be described as bleak. The Club of Rome, an international group of scientists and prominent leaders has already forecast that the earth is beyond saving and that very soon we will witness the collapse of the world as we know it.

This group based their findings only on things like food production, pollution, energy sources, etc. They did not take into consideration the idea of nuclear holocaust or world-wide war.

If you have not accepted the Lord then you must be asking yourself the question; "There must be more than this?" Have we come so far just to be snuffed out, a forgotten speck in the vast eternal cosmos? It is like asking yourself; Does the incredibly complex and vast machine with all its emotions, ideas and feelings called James one day simply cease to exist? Deep inside you must know that something inside of you goes on even after your body dies.

Now, more than any other time, people have begun to look for the answer to this question. And there are many out there who would try to tell you they have the answer but as the saying goes "eat moose, five thousand wolves can't be wrong." Today in Africa there are more people being converted to Christianity than people being born on that continent.

The gospel of Jesus has reached every corner of the earth and many people have found the answer. The answer is so strong and real that millions of people throughout the world are willing to suffer persecution because of it. As the saying goes "Yes Jesus is the real thing". What else could make a small woman in a village in India step out in front of everyone there in the face of threats of banishment and death and accept Christ as her Lord. She has found the answer.

So as you try to cope with the time in which we live, when you look for that answer, look at what Christ has done for so many others and ask one of them what he can do for you.

James Albers
Education IV

Reader criticizes newsman...

After reading Peter Block's version of what was said at the PC forum held recently at the Law School, I debated stooping so low as to respond in kind. Whatever excuse the Gateway may offer for subjecting its readers to such a fine example of "journalism", I will gladly accept it.

However, let it be said that when Mr. Block appeared on the battle front that memorable October lunch hour, dressed in those well-worn red leotards, cape and all, and waving the unmistakable banner of the weak, oppressed and hungry, he meant business. Any fool who dared acknowledge the PC party in any manner, could expect a tongue-lashing in his next attempt at whatever in the Gateway.

Mr. Block, dare I, the girl with the "heartwarming story" as you so cleverly phrased it, suggest that you are being (ugh) less than fair? Of course, you among others would have preferred some horror story detailing the waste, ineptitude and arrogance of the present government. Instead, (gosh, golly) you had to stomach an example where the PC party may have done some good in their time. And Mr. Block, that same girl, you know with the "heartwarming story", is not even a member of the PC party nor (gasp) has she always voted PC.

Finally Mr. Block, few things are one-dimensional. Once you remove your blinders, you may realize that rarely do we find a given candidate or party in this province that is totally bad or totally good. Further, life for most Albertans including university students can, of course, always be improved upon; however Mr. Block, even with our unemployment rate, we are hardly on the verge of economic ruin as you would have us believe. After working in third world countries, I find it difficult to sympathize with our so-called plight.

Rosanna Saccomani
Law III

...newsman defends himself

Further to the editorial explanation of the "Julian Koziak Forum" story (Explanation 28 Oct.; story 26 Oct.), I would like to personally explain in greater detail the story and the events surrounding it.

My story on Mr. Koziak WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE OBJECTIVE. I submitted, with express consent of a News Editor, a personal analysis of the forum. Of course, the way in which this story was presented does not indicate this, and understandably it questions my apparent lack of objectivity. The story's location on page 2, with a headline tying it to my NDP story, did suggest this was a news story. The two articles had no relation to one another: furthermore, I have absolutely no control over either the layout of the paper or the headline, I simply submit the stories.

While denying responsibility for the presentation of the article, I in no way deny responsibility for the overall analysis. It does appear necessary to clear up certain aspects of the story, however. First, the addressing of Mr. Koziak as "Julian" or "Julie" admittedly was not in good taste and I do apologize for this. I do owe it to Mr. Koziak to address him in a more respectful manner.

Second, regarding the story as told by the Law student. I brought this incident up because I considered it to typify the forum; that is, its complete lack of relevance. The incident as reported was basically what was said. While it was very efficient of Mr. Koziak to respond so quickly, I still question why, six years after the case, it warrants discussion. This is the second election since the incident, why thank him in 1982? Further to this, I in no way intended this incident to be sexist ("Miss Law student", "sweet student"), and I do apologize if some took it this way.

To conclude, for the record, I am not a card-carrying NDP member, nor have I ever voted NDP. I still believe Mr. Koziak avoided important issues; this does not mean I am NDP, WCC, Communist or whatever. I do hope this will help clear the air of the misunderstandings surrounding this issue.

Peter Block
Arts IV

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