

Mugwump Journal

This week I volunteered to fill in for Joe who's busy with other stuff, like running a paper.

I'm feeling cynical like a lot of you are about this time. With your 3 essays due, your 2 group projects still lagging on and a brain that quit on you two weeks ago. Cynicism it is.

Ok eek. Welcome to MacMonkey's I was sitting around in my sometimes catatonic state in my sometimes attended class the other morning and the professor woke me with an interesting study he had come across. According to the prof, and this is no word of a lie, monkeys have been trained to work at McDonalds. The class got a great guffaw out of that one. I never asked him how or why it was done or even if the little monkeys had to wear pants, but I've got my own idea of what's going on. It's probably something like this:

You teach the monkeys what certain McGrease food looks like with some sort of pictorial representation of Fillet o' Fish or something like that, someone selects a picture of the fish-eye burger, the little monkey then presses a corresponding key on the register and your bill is tallied. You pay or else they throw faces at you. You just pay them with bananas and they're happy.

You know if your front line at McDonald's can be run by a bunch of little monkeys in pants, maybe they could try monkey managers, too. Hell, if that works out, they can join the asses in Ottawa. Then we'd have one hell of a zoo then. Wouldn't we?

Jim Morrison is a bum
I don't like Jim Morrison. In fact, I

think the talented bum sucks sour frog ass. His drugs had all the talent.

Before all you Disciples of Jimmy get out the old hemp rope and lynch me, just sit still and smoke a yard or two.

Who could forget these catchy lyrics from The End "...Father. Yes son. I want to kiiiiiiiilllllll you. Mother...I want to... aryreerihhy iehelay arrgrhergh you." Man, that's talent. I mean he couldn't lick a guitar and keep his tongue attached like Hendrix. But at least he was more consistent in his shows than The Grateful Dead. Couldn't those guys ever play the damn same show twice.

My roommate from a couple of years back yonder, who I'll call Roommate X worshipped Jimmy. I had an interesting theory to test. I wanted to see if I could make him as successful as Jimmy was and still is. I was gonna be his manager and take a 45% cut of everything. So in order to pursue my Utopia of Mammon, Roommate X became my lab rat.

Every day I made sure he had a healthy sarache of Doors waffling through out the apartment. I even built him a shrine to Jimmy in my closet with candles and everything.

Anyway. Every once and a while Roommate X would do what Jimmy would do to get creative, and he started writing lyrics.

Here's my all time favourite line he wrote "Cauliflower Cock Kings bow down to dog pavement smiles." I know what you're thinking. Sign this boy a record contract. I tried, I really did. But the sad part was he didn't have

any little monkeys with pants that could play instruments.

Here is a letter I might want to send to a couple of daily newspapers in this province.

Dear Newspaper Bosses,
I read your paper. My cat Slink likes it too. When that HST came into law, I was thinking you were gonna lower the price. I mean I read your nice writings in the paper about how the HST hurt poor people like me. It sound like you guys had a heart. That all changed Tuesday when I went to pick up your paper. It was the same price. I was sad. The newspaper stand guy said you raised your guys', what did he call it?...Oh yeah, "Before Tax" price to 65" and then added the HST to keep it at 75". Why Mister? Why didn't it go down by 4.77%? Are you bad or is your heart won't sad? Don't tell me paper prices went up again 'cause I shop you know, and toilet paper didn't go up. How much more money does your paper make now that your thousands of daily readers like me and Slink pay more "Before Tax"? Please Mister, lower your paper prices. I need the extra change to pay for my higher power bill.

Thanks Mark Morgan
PS You should put Spider-Man in your paper. He was a boy who got bit by a spider. He has webs too.

PFS I know a guy who writes like Jim Morrison and he's trying to train little monkey in pants how to play music.

Mark Morgan is a former Editor-in-chief of The Brunswickan

BLOOD & THUNDER

Letters to the Editor

UNB Environmental Society needs your help to make UNB green

To the Editor:

UNB's Environmental Society is pushing toward making UNB a greener campus. In conjunction with Concerned Youth for Development, a group of environmentally conscious high school students, the week of April 4 has been deemed Consumer Awareness Week. These students believe that making people aware of how much they consume is a move toward a more environmentally sound

conscience. The week will be spent providing information for people at tables set up around campus and at certain high schools.

While the push is on for the week, hopefully this initiative will have longer lasting results. Another project undertaken by the Environmental Society involves implementing a better, more effective recycling program on campus; especially getting the involvement of the residences. The disposable mentality is deep

rooted in our society, part of the reason it's difficult to get people to change. Out of sight, out of mind right? Landfills don't rectify our wastefulness, they simply bury it. Taking a Styrofoam cup when you buy your coffee; throwing out what amounts to a place setting in plastic when you eat your lunch; not putting your beverage containers in the recycling bin; buying things you don't need - emphasizes the need for awareness. There are numerous ways you can reduce waste - bring a mug to school, bring your lunch, don't buy items with excessive or unrecyclable packaging, recycle - consider where your waste is going. Consciousness of consumption is imperative to solving the problem. In an aim to bring about this consciousness Monday, April 7, students, faculty and staff are asked to support the environment on what has been called Buy Nothing Day. People are challenged to go one day without making purchases. As the first step in the adage goes, Reduce-reuse and recycle. We need your support.

HST hurts the poorest most

To the Editor:

As of April 1, many of life's staples are going to cost seven per cent more. I wonder how the contact cleaners at UNB are going to cope. For people who are already strained by grossly inadequate income, a seven per cent increase in the price of shoes may mean that a child must make do with shoes that are too small.

Even if the employer doesn't care, shouldn't we as a university community be doing something? Should we allow this sort of poverty continue to be a part of UNB? The next time that we look at our pay slips, try to imagine if our salary for two weeks was less than \$400. How well would our families live?

David Bedford
Political Science professor

Homosexuality: ignoring the truth

Sebastian MacLean

Is homosexuality a completely moral and natural sexual orientation? Should we perceive homosexuality as a mere alternative to the heterosexual life style, which just happens to be the more common of the two? Many people believe that the answer to these questions is or should be a simple yes. Yet, for still many others the answer to these questions is and always will be no.

This first conclusion is drawn from the idea that homosexuality is not a matter of choice but is a matter of genetic predisposition. The conclusion then being that a natural genetic difference results in a natural, yet different, behaviour. This behaviour, then, cannot be seen as harmful or negative to either the individual or those around him/her. These conclusions are not only based on psychological theories but also on "Christian" religious arguments as well. The majority of these arguments being that the Bible has been misunderstood and misinterpreted for thousands of years.

The argument for the second conclusion begins with a misunderstanding. Many people believe that the only reason anyone perceives homosexuality as wrong or immoral is because of religious fanaticism and ignorance stemming from discrimination and rules not backed by logic. The argument against homosexuality, although not understood by all who disagree with homosexuality, is based on logic and hard evidence. The following writing is aimed at explaining the argument that this conclusion is drawn from.

Let us begin by examining what the driving force is behind homosexuality or any other sexual orientation. This driving force is the arousal of the sex drive through mental or visual stimulation and attraction. Homosexuality is defined, as is any sexual affinity, by the stimulus that provokes a sexual attraction. Therefore, simply saying that homosexuality is justified, strictly by reason of sexual preference is an unaviable argument due to the fact that pedophilia, necrophilia, bestiality, incest and sadomasochism are all derived from a sexual orientation yet are not looked upon as acceptable acts or orientations.

Genetic predisposition cannot be considered a valid argument for homosexuality as the evidence this notion can be looked at in two different areas. The first of these two pieces of evidence is that genetic disposition has never been scientifically validated as a definitive reason for actions such as homosexuality. This last statement, however, would preclude the notion that this idea may yet to be discovered possibility, which brings us to the second piece of evidence. Even if genetic predisposition were an undeniable scientific fact, justification for homosexuality is still nowhere to be seen.

The argument of genetic predisposition must also, if it is to be considered valid, justify alcoholics, criminals, and all the perpetrators of the earlier mentioned sex crimes. These people, however, are not excused for their actions, but at the very least, are expected to receive professional help in order that their problem may be treated. We know that the natural genetic structure of humans is one of a heterosexual nature. Biologically, this makes sense because in order for any form of procreation to occur, this natural biological process is a necessity. This puts all those genetically predisposed to other types of sexual orientations (pedophiles, necrophiliacs, homosexuals, etc) in a biologically and psychologically unnatural state and

in need of help not social acceptance. Alcoholics may be genetically predisposed to alcoholism, but their behaviour is treated, not condoned. Even someone genetically predisposed to alcoholism does not necessarily become an alcoholic unless exposed to the right environment and right set of circumstances. Likewise, individuals genetically predisposed to homosexuality do not necessarily become homosexual unless exposed to the right set of circumstances. This is proven by the fact that there are effeminate homosexuals in society which can be contrasted by the fact that a number of men that go to prison heterosexual come out homosexual and a number of men go in to prison heterosexual come out heterosexual. These points demonstrate that genetic predisposition must be triggered by environment before the disposition becomes active. Predisposition to a weakness or ailment does not make that weakness or ailment a strength it merely creates a need for caution. Therefore, genetic predisposition does nothing for justifying homosexuality.

Unfortunately, society, rather than attempt to help those who have now succumbed to their own weaknesses has attempted to normalize an otherwise treatable abnormality. The effect of this normalization of homosexuality has created a much larger problem than just a few misguided individuals. Because normalization, something that once was discouraged is now encouraged and the result is that more and more of those predisposed with homosexual weaknesses are now exposed to the trigger mechanisms that stimulate those weak areas. Children that would have grown up to be heterosexual fathers and husbands are being told that it is okay to experiment if they are confused about how they feel when it comes to the same sex. Some of these children have homosexual parents that society declares normal. Everywhere today's generation turns they find something advocating the homosexual lifestyle. If anyone is heterosexual but has a predisposed weakness to homosexuality, their chances of falling prey to their weakness is much greater today than at any other time in our nation's past. It is for this reason the homosexual population is on the increase.

The growing popularity of homosexual rights and favourable court rulings has our society heading in a direction that will end up promoting and encouraging pedophilia in a pedophilic society. According to William D. Gairdner, in his book *On Higher Ground*, the definition of pedophilia has already been watered down by psychiatrists in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual. It suggests that child molestation only becomes pedophilia if the perpetrator feels bad about it. Even now, according to Gairdner, the door is opening to pedophiles due to the fact that just recently, the age of consent for homosexual sex, which is fourteen in Canada, has been reduced to twelve in Holland with the consent of a parent.

In his book, *On Higher Ground*, Gairdner writes that the 1994 Gay and Lesbian Association conference received a heavy reaction from many members at the idea of throwing out the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA). They were heard to protest bitterly, saying, "Pedophilia is about love, not child abuse." The rationale here seems to be that if there are no restraints on sexual experience, because all sexual experience is good, then we can work toward a human

Continued on Page 7

Homosexuality: Reclaiming the truth

It appears that Sebastian MacLean's article, *Homosexuality: Ignoring the truth*, attempts to examine the societal perception of homosexuality through various social structures. The progressive lesbianig movement is questioned via moral, biological, and religious grounds and placed within the context of an argument against homosexuality. What this article will attempt to do is reiterate the progressive stance of society and the lesbianig movement, as well as critique the information found within Mr. MacLean's research. The progression of the article will begin with the moral issue followed by biological, psycho-social and religious examinations.

To begin, *Homosexuality: Ignoring the truth*, questions whether homosexuality is a completely moral sexual orientation. This is not easy to support because morality is a cultural and social phenomenon which differs from geography to geography, time period to time period, and even from culture to culture. The foundations of the American and Canadian nations are based on European notions, especially in terms of Judeo-Christian beliefs and doctrines. However, it is Eurocentric and narrow to believe that all citizens should follow a specific European way of religiosity, morality and normalization. To question whether homosexuality is moral requires serious consideration of the various cultures and ethnicities in North America. So long as individuals come to no harm and do not harm others, why should people be forced to conform to a specific code? Homosexuality is not harmful nor negative to the person and society; it is as much a sexual orientation as heterosexuality is in society. Heterosexuality, according to the opinion in Mr. MacLean's article, is not a choice nor is it harmful. Any sexual orientation is considered harmful and negative where the host society perceives it as such. For example, certain tribes and cultures across the world promote homosexuality while others do not. Thus, society is the culprit when negative perceptions and harm are presented as evidence of homosexuality's "immorality". The statement that liberal elements in the homosexual population demonstrates the dominating and oppressive nature of moral norms is justifiable in certain circumstances. Moral and religious standards have been created to justify slavery, oppression of minority groups, sexism, racism, economic inequalities and so on. Not all moral guidelines are positive contributors to society.

In terms of biological notions, it appears that science is steadily contributing to a biological predisposition to sexual orientation. Fundamentally, this draws on the idea that any sexual orientation contains natural predispositions toward heterosexuality, homosexuality or even bisexuality. Sexual orientation is not merely a choice (who would willingly choose to be persecuted and ridiculed for being who they are) but a way of being. This 'way of being' seems to find particular interest within several key issues in *Homosexuality: Ignoring the truth*. One issue is the "driving force" behind any sexual orientation. According to Mr. MacLean's information, "...arousal of the sex drive is defined...by the stimulus that provokes a sexual attraction." It is also claimed that to "simply say that

homosexuality is justified, strictly by reason of sexual preference, is an unaviable argument" due to associations with other sexual behaviours and "orientations" which are socially unacceptable. By this very notion, then, heterosexuality is also no more normal than the other sexual orientations - unless society perceives the sexual orientation as acceptable. It would also be rather unreasonable to associate homosexuality with such activities as bestiality, necrophilia and pedophilia. One would have to include heterosexuality within this association as well if it were to describe all sexual orientations.

The issues of justification based on genetic dispositions and naturalness contributes to the acceptance of homosexuality. The argument that homosexuality is unjustified, despite possible genetic dispositions and the validation of other genetic predispositions (e.g. alcoholism, various criminal behaviours), does not explore the actual content of homosexuality. The genetic disposition argument would actually argue for the naturalness of homosexuality as a version of human nature. Unlike the aforementioned genetic dispositions of alcoholism and various criminal behaviours, homosexuality has not been proven to cause harm to the person or others, except where social pressures force the homosexual person to extreme measures. Thus, the association of homosexuality with other socially unacceptable "sexual orientations" is ludicrous, since the social perception and contribution toward these orientations consist of negative attributions.

The third issue deals with the procreative aspect of sexuality as the normative necessity. The promotion of any animal as mainly procreators of their species is not the only manner by which creatures survive. There are many examples of sexually neutral organisms that do not procreate, yet contribute to the survival of their species as caregivers, guardians and helpmates to the species. Biological predispositions are not necessarily harmful or negative to the species, especially in humans. There is no inherent weakness or ailment in homosexuality; in fact, many homosexuals live as functional contributing members of society. The attempt at "treating" homosexuals is unrealistic due to the fact that even though homosexuality activity may be curtailed, the person is still a homosexual person. Besides, the few follow-up studies which took place after these so-called treatments found that subjects reverted to their previous behaviours, negating the success rates of the study. The perception of procreation as the only support for sexual orientation is a limited view that disregards the contribution that nonprocreating people make to society. It should similarly be noted that there are differentiations between homosexuality and homosexual acts and activities. This is an important differentiation because, as we shall see later, homosexual acts do not necessarily preclude homosexuality.

Many referents to the psycho-social ramifications of homosexuality are contained in Mr. MacLean's argument. Of questionable intent is the seeming association of

Continued on Page 7



Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication
Established 1867

Editor-in-Chief (Acting) Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III	Features Editor Jenn Brown	Typesetter Maria Paisley	Staff Charles Teed, Anthony Davis, Drew Gilbert, Scott Muscutt, Jethelo Cabilete, and Christina Atkinson.
Managing Editor Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III	Distractions Editor Trina Kilpatrick	Business Manager Charlene Keddy	Contributors Gordon Loane, Jon Stevenson, Jon Bartlett, Mark Savoie, and Ryan Naismith.
News Editor A. VOY DYTE	Online Editor Cynthia Kirby	Advertising Manager Bill Traer	Viewpoint Banner Illustrated by Kent Wiesel
Entertainment Editor Peter J. Cullen	Campus Editor Dennis German	Proofreader Jen Trites	This issue is dedicated to: Omega. The Greek letter signifying the end.
Sports Editor Maria Paisley	Book Editor Elise Craft		
Photo Editor Jud DeLong	Science Editor Amy McComb		

The Brunswickan, in its 130th year of publication, is Canada's oldest official student publication. We publish weekly during the school year, with a circulation of 10,000 copies. The Brunswickan Online is an ongoing e-zine version of The Brunswickan, located on the World Wide Web at <http://www.unb.ca/web/brun>. The opinions contained in this newspaper are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Brunswickan.

All members of the university community are encouraged to contribute to The Brunswickan. While we endeavour to be an open forum for a variety of viewpoints and ideas, we may refuse any submission considered racist, sexist, libelous, or those containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. The Brunswickan reserves the right to edit for brevity and clarity. Letters generally shouldn't exceed 300 words in length and must contain your signature, student number and phone number, or they will not be printed.

All copy submitted must be double spaced, on one side of the page only and must be legible. If we can't read it, we won't print it. You think that sounds obvious, but if you could see the horrors we've seen... The Brunswickan accepts copy on 3.5 inch disk, either Macintosh or MS-DOS format. Articles printed in The Brunswickan may be freely reprinted provided proper credit is given. Cause the last thing we want to be accused of is greediness.

The Brunswickan is proudly printed by New Brunswick Publishing Inc. of Saint John. This week's paper was delivered by Jud DeLong and Jen Trites. Thank your lucky stars there haven't been snow days! Subscription rates are \$27 per year. Second class mail is in effect -#8120. Contact the Sales Manager for further details. National advertising rates are available from Campus Plus at (416) 362-6468.

The Brunswickan
Student Union Building
University of New Brunswick
P.O. Box 4400
E3B 5A3 CANADA

Phone: (506) 453-4983
Advertising: (506) 453-5073
Fax: (506) 453-4958
E-Mail: brun@unb.ca
WWW Site: <http://www.unb.ca/web/brun>