

COMMENTARY continued

gain from this? When in college for the first year most students fit neatly into one of these following categories:

1) . . . Your Parents have generated and saved for the last 7 generations to be able to give you what they couldn't get for themselves. — Besides a 59 Chevy and a good set of teeth to last them into their early nineties. —

2) . . . You've sweated and saved for the past 7 years in one of those truly grueling summer jobs — like mowing Saskatchewan — to be able to give yourself the education you feel you deserve, i.e. sex, drugs, rock and roll . . .

3) . . . You received a \$100,000 scholarship, in which case why the hell are you reading this article?

Any of these situations sound familiar? Well, in order to keep the good students of Dal from failing their courses and having to enroll at SMU, I have compiled the following list of time saving techniques for the harried scholar: Those of you in Math, take all of

your anti-differentiation paperwork, pile it up and then set it on fire. It is generally recognized as a never-fail method of solving integrals, known as dis-integration.

Do you need a 20,000 word essay for class in two hours? Entitle it *Avante-Garde*: (and a sub-heading referring to the subject), then take a monkey, a IBM Selectric, and 500 sheets of paper. Train the monkey to poke randomly at the keys, and to change the paper when the page is covered. Two hours later, wander into the room and staple it all together. Page numbering, foot notes and a bibliography are not required.

Undoubtedly the paper will be ranked highly as it has been scientifically demonstrated that monkeys in fact have a more superior grasp of the English language than do most college students.

Since I am trying to pay my own way through college, I will let you have the rest of the time-saving techniques for a very modest price. Send ten dollars, plus \$1.25 for postage and handling to me, care of this paper and I will send you your very own photo-copied edition, as well as a list of suitable agencies where you can procure IBM Selectrics and monkeys — please specify either pica or elite, optional for

typewriter . . .

"Well Spock, our mission here is just about finished. What are your thoughts on these unusual creatures?"

"Fascinating Captain. It appears they spend many thousands in local currency units to enlist in a strenuous form of education, only to concentrate on a variety of social activities to the exclusion of everything else. I observed a similar condition once on Phycrion IV with the large, green, slug-like inhabitants. It was very interesting, I had just . . ."

"Fine Spock, fine. — beep beep —, team us up Scotty . . ."

St. Patrick's cheer promising revelations

by Paddy O'Hooligan

Top o' the morning to you from none other than my fine self, wee Paddy O'Hooligan. I know you'll all be turning your eyes to the green on that day we call St. Patrick's. So I haven't come amongst you to be checkin' your socks and underwear, although that could be fun. To be truthful, I've travelled the rainbow to be telling you something of the origins of green beer, the green flag, and wee green men like myself. Stay awhile, my darlings, listen to an Irish heart.

I can't help singing the praises of sweet Colleens, true Guinness, new potatoes, and pots of gold but what I really want to tell you is that the Irish heart is a Celtic heart. Ireland

is the last outpost of a Celtic heart that once beat from Iberia to the Orkney Islands and from ancient Gaul to Galway. The Celts gave the Irish their mystical, magical, and other-worldly collection of ghosts, gods, goblins, fairies, and prechauns. Celtic mythology fostered an Irish nationalism. Since the time of Cromwell Irish nationalism has been anti-British. The "Troubles" continue today. Both sides claim the right to govern Northern Ireland. And, on this day, the pubs the world over, Irishmen and psuedo-Irishmen drink green beer and wave green flags.

You too can drink green beer and you a green flag but it is past the time to support a war against

British imperialism. A much more powerful and subtle enemy is smothering the Celtic heart. As long ago as 1890 W.B. Yeats realized that Celtic traditions were disappearing into a time warp. Yeats knew that progress would eventually eclipse the magic of the Celts and that Ireland and the world would be spiritually poorer though they might be materially richer. The following lines are from a tribute to Yeats entitled "The Celtic Twilight:"

I know where stands a Celtic cross
Strong circle squared
Grey Stone Bared
Suspended in a druid sleep
A lust cross craving for the shores
of Ireland's Western Keep.

There lie the Celtic Fairy Ties,
Turfside Tales
Of Bards who cast rhyming rings
For Eire's high kings
Of enchanted peoples who walked
west
To dance endless fairy flings
Where sea mirrors sky mirrors sea.

I know where stands the Tuatha
De Danann
Misty shadows at dusk,
Mythical giants
Guardians of ancient
Dolmens,
Progenitors of the Celtic
dawn, precious protectors of the
twilight.
You are not lost to me
You with swords drawn

You battlers against the eternal night of progress
thought men crumble the
crosses of your furthest keeps
still you cast shadows of glory
in this, your twilight hour.

Still you, yourself, cast a green shadow on St. Patrick's Day. May a thousand four-leaf clovers fall into your hands. Good day to you.



Letters

Inquiry into the Inquiry

To The Editor,

The Student Union of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design would like to express its concern over the recent actions of Judge Robert J. McCleave.

We feel that Judge McCleave has used 'unorthodox methods' as Commissioner of the Public Inquiry into Uranium Mining in Nova Scotia. It is our opinion that these 'unorthodox methods' serve to intimidate concerned citizens, which threatens our right to free and democratic expression.

We request that the Buchanan Government instruct the Attorney General, the Honourable Harry Howe to launch an investigation into the recent actions of Judge McCleave.

Eric Walker
President, SUNSCAD

Abortion not love

To the Editor:

Rickett's article on "Abortion".

The use of the term physically loving another person is contradiction in the context where it is used. Of course the physical aspects of love are natural and not to be condemned, or worshipped. But love often if not always, requires a sacrifice of selfishness. It is not love that will murder an embryo that is not wanted. It is fear and selfishness that denies and kills human beings out of pure and irresponsible greed. Will you deny that from the sort of mentality that proclaims that "abortion is Necessary" comes an inability to truly love another human being, to respect another person except where pleasure is to be gotten conveniently? It is the contraceptive mentality that seals a person away into their own ego-centered shell and does not let them truly open up to another, emotionally or physically. Can there be love without complete openness?

To say that physical love in the conjugal bed is only for the naive sounds, on second hearing, like a pretty hefty judgement for couples who believe in integrity and commitment.

Equally hard to buy is the statistic from Sweden; something from a little closer to home and with a little more detail as to the actual social circumstances of these women would be better. It comes across as grasping at ill-defined straws.

The world of "love" as it is used here is hardly the true love that has been given credit for healing all wounds, or giving joy to life, or for completing the self through giving, or for banishing loneliness. In fact the use of the word love in this article is ill-founded, given its apparent consequences. I would suggest the word: "usability."

Andrew Ager

- and vice versa

To the Editor:

I am writing you concerning the article "an ounce or prevention a pound of cure" by Catherine Ricketts. I and several other readers found it very disagreeable. Firstly, I consider abortion a matter of equality of human rights, in particular the right to life, which society has never before set aside for the kind of indefensible reasons Ms. Ricketts seems to promote.

Her argument that the after-effects of terminating an unwanted pregnancy are not as severe as adoption or parenting are downright insulting. Her claim opposing adoption as an alternative includes the argument that "the woman who places her child up for adoption faces the condemnation of society for carrying and giving birth to a bastard." This is an absurd point and one which effectively eliminates a half century of progress in the women's rights movement.

Concerning parenting, Ms. Ricketts would have us believe that the mother's seek an abortion as an act of selfless concern for her offspring. Every abortion accomplishes the death of a fellow human being. Society has never before recognized "selfless concern" as justified for the taking of a defenseless life. Because a person may need social assistance at some time in his or her life is no reason for that person to never exist. No one has ever been able to ensure a perfect life for his or her child, and to destroy the child as an assurance that it will not encounter the normal difficulties of living is a completely irrational and considerably savage gesture.

Ms. Ricketts wants change in public attitudes. Does she realize that because abortion is such a controversy, the gen-

eral public is listening very carefully to what women are saying these days, and examining women's positions in society very earnestly? Women seem to be in an excellent position to achieve effective change for themselves and the whole of society. It would be a pity to lose such an opportunity by insisting on the granting of rights to women with completely unacceptable alternatives, and which ultimately belittle womanhood and degrade her unique and much underrated role as a giver of life.

Sincerely,
Bradley P. Blanchard
Dalhousie Student
College of Pharmacy

PS: The Quasi-humorous cartoon placed in the midst of Ms. Ricketts obviously serious and carefully thought-out article was not only in poor taste, but was insulting to Ms. Ricketts and to this author.

Kudos for women's supplement

To the Editor:

May I congratulate you on your excellent supplement, Not for Women Only? May I also request some space to correct what I believe to be a mistaken impression given in the article on women faculty?

I was quoted in relation to the new provisions in our collective agreement relating to tenure for part-time faculty. While I think the Board of Governors is to be congratulated for agreeing to provisions improving the potential status of part-timers, it is significant to note that this was only achieved after weeks of complex and painful negotiation. The DFA is also to be congratulated for persevering with this issue.

The crucial question will be whether part-time appointments are made to tenure-track positions. Then we will know whether the change is one on paper only or indicates real progressiveness on the part of the administration.

One final point, I was pained to be quoted as saying "wal-low in the ghetto." Memory plays tricks but self-knowledge tells me that is not my style — "languish in boondocks" perhaps?

Yours sincerely
Christine Boyle
President
DWFO