

## Speaker at forum claims views on abortion can never be reconciled

By ZENA McBRIDE

The ideologies of both the Right-to-Life and the Pro-Choice groups are mutually exclusive, according to Rob Taylor, spokesperson for the Right to Life Association. Taylor was one of six speakers to address the issue of abortion at a forum sponsored by York's NDP club last Tuesday.

Also at the forum were Carolyn Egan, spokesperson for the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics (OCAC); Ken Campbell, founder of Choose Life Canada; Chris Burton, a York graduate and member of the board of directors of the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL); Beverly Hadland, director of the Abortion Outreach Centre (a post-abortion counselling centre); and Dana Shaw, a York student.

Taylor began the forum with a brief summary of Pro-Life and Pro-Choice philosophies. The Pro-Life organization maintains that "no one has the right to take the life of an innocent human being; that life begins at conception; and that each person has the right to the protection of their life, before and after birth," Taylor explained.

Taylor argued that the Pro-Choice stance "will not, at any time, recognize the life of a child in the womb or its right to life." For this reason, he said, the Pro-Life and the Pro-Choice ideologies can never be reconciled.

Carolyn Egan, however, stressed that respect must be given to women, and the right of a woman to make her own decisions must be recognized.

According to Egan, the real issue is not whether abortions should be legal. "Abortion exists," she stated. "The question is, who should have access to it." Those who lack access to the health care system, such as native people, immigrants, and poor people, can't get abortions, Egan explained, but others can.

"Society does not provide for what women need," she said. "There are a lack of support systems." Inadequate child care, lack of money, and lack of paid maternity leave all contribute to a woman's inability to care properly for a child, Egan said.

## Contest organized to kick smoking

By LORNE MANLY

Quitting smoking is never an easy thing to do, especially during exams. But Vanier College's Stop Smoking Challenge may add the support needed to kick the habit.

Organized by Stan Taman, Vanier's residence tutor, Pat Chester, the manager of the Open End, and Norma Jean Newbold, the Challenge begins 11:59 p.m. on December 4 and runs through January 9. A point will be awarded for each day a smoker can withstand the urge to light up.

By January 4 the smokers are expected to have quit, and for the next five days they will be under the watchful eyes of the non-smoking sponsors. If any sponsor catches a smoker cheating, s/he will capture that contestant's points.

"Pro-Choice doesn't advocate abortions," said Egan, "but gives women a choice."

According to Ken Campbell, "There can be no solution to the difficulty of an unwanted pregnancy which would destroy the life of an innocent individual to satisfy the needs of another individual."

"If Helmut Buxbaum were here today, he would be Pro-Choice," he added, comparing Pro-Choice ideology with Buxbaum's decision to kill his wife.

Campbell also likened Pro-Choice philosophy to that of the Ku Klux Klan. "The Ku Klux Klan says 'a black man is sub-human, destroy him,'" he said, adding that abortion amounts to the labelling of a subject of the human family as subhuman. "The logic of Pro-Choice leads to the Holocaust," he stated.

Campbell added that "the compassion of Christ must be brought to the predicament." He called for the establishment of more adoption agencies, as well as the enforcement of "informed consent laws" (laws that state that a woman must be informed about all aspects of abortion, such as the possible side effects of the operation, as well as what the procedure does to the fetus), as a solution to the problem of unwanted pregnancy.

Chris Burton called these arguments spurious. While she agreed with the concept of adoption, she pointed out that orphanages are full of children waiting to be adopted, but who aren't because they may be physically or mentally disabled, or because they are considered too old by people wishing to adopt a baby.

Informed consent laws, on the other hand, "deny a woman's ability to decide for herself, and therefore, her dignity," said Burton.

"Women are still dying from (illicit) abortions," according to Burton. Women who do not have access to therapeutic abortions are obtaining them in "back-alley" clinics, which often employ unsafe methods, she explained. "Forcing a woman into a 'life or death' situation (i.e., an illegal and unsafe abortion) is barbaric."

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1980s VERSION OF A SIT-IN: Locked out of the Senate Chambers, York's Student Council was forced to hold their meeting in the hall. Security never showed up to open the doors.

JAMES HOGGETT

## No studying rule enforced in Central Square cafeteria sparks controversy

By TOM JOHNSON

How do you feel about the newly enforced rule of "no studying" in the Central Square cafeteria, asks Ari Getrajhendler.

Getrajhendler, a third year psychology student, was asked last week to put her schoolbooks away after being seen studying by Ross Cafeteria staff. Fed up with the no studying rule, Getrajhendler drew up a petition against the rule and collected over 70 signatures within 30 minutes.

"I'm tired of the authoritarianism," Getrajhendler said. "Pretty soon you won't be able to sit and talk." Getrajhendler pointed out that many people don't like studying in the library and have no where else to study in Central Square.

Nancy Accinelli, from Student Affairs, received Getrajhendler's petition and has forwarded it, along with a request for clarification of the no studying rule, to Norman Crandles, director of Housing and Food Services.

The manager of the Ross Cafeteria, Helen Coleman, explained, "I receive several complaints a day from people who can't find a place to eat their lunch and I'm simply trying to deal with them and make the cafeteria run smoothly. I have six children of my own and don't want to push the students around."

The no studying rule started to be enforced after last summer's renovations. The rule permits reading of newspapers but not schoolbooks.

Yet Getrajhendler contends that "people with notebooks are an open target. What about people reading a newspaper or socializing? They take up space, don't always spend money, and stay a long time. If a diner can't find a seat s/he should ask someone to leave. Studying requires a table, but socializing does not."

Crandles explained that the no studying rule is University policy "approved by a committee at the request of people who use the area. Anyone can see that the cafeteria is crowded and anyone who insists upon studying in the cafeteria is being insensitive to the people around."

"It is perfectly reasonable to have no studying in the cafeteria," Crandles continued. "After all, there is no eating in the library and there shouldn't be studying in the cafeteria. We are talking about a common

sense approach to a problem."

Crandles specified that the no studying rule applies only when people who are studying are not eating. The rule could also include socializers who are not eating, he said. In regard to Getrajhendler's petition, Crandles said, "I don't plan to do anything about it because my sympathies are with people who can't find a place to eat."

Getrajhendler gave several reasons why people study in the cafeteria: there is no eating in the library; no study halls in Ross; some people can't study in the library because they find it distracting; and people can't study in groups in the library.

Gerard Blink, president of the Council of York Students Federation (CYSF) sees a wider issue at hand. "It is blatantly obvious that there is not enough space in the Ross Cafeteria," he said. "The school is in a difficult situation because it was built for 20,000 students and present enrollment is 40,000."

"There is no short term answer, but there is a long term one," Blink noted. "I don't want to say that the student centre project will solve all our problems at York, but the centre would provide an added 15,000 square feet of non-academic space to Central Square's 1,000 square feet of cafeteria area. The Centre would provide a place for students to

lounge, eat, and study, and would be centrally located."

"Since we're in a learning institution," Getrajhendler emphasized, "priority should be students, then socializers."

Professor Gottfried Paasche is another person who feels that the no studying rule is unjust. After discussing the issue with his Sociology 1010 class, Paasche and a group of about 35 class members went to the Ross Cafeteria at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday to eat and study, as a measure of protest against the no studying rule.

However, nothing happened in the half hour that the group stayed in the cafeteria. According to Coleman, cafeteria staff have decided not to enforce the rule as strictly since it is exam time. Coleman instead hopes "students will enforce the rules themselves." Although she said that there was a small ruckus in the cafeteria last Friday, "things have been quiet since then," Coleman concluded. (*Excalibur* denies playing any part in this shocking incident. See photos p. 13. Any resemblance to *Excal* staffers dead or alive is purely coincidental.)

"In daily life at a university, it's the small things that are important," Paasche said. "It is terribly important to provide a university atmosphere at York, not that of a suburban mall (in Central Square)."

## CYSF NEWSBEAT

David Dollard on the Hallway Beat for December 2, 1986

In the shortest, most sparsely attended meeting of the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) this academic session, this reporter learned of CYSF plans for cover-up. The proposed cover-up will involve the unrestricted dispensing of over \$200 from CYSF coffers. This cover-up will not be complete until the venetian blinds are in place at 105 Central Square.

- The allotting of \$211 was not the only funds disbursement of the proceedings. CYSF also targeted \$723 for the band for Homecoming '86, \$123 of which was to pay for the buses to bring the band from Malvern Collegiate Institute to and from York. This band

has built the reputation of the hardest partying high school band in the province.

- As the result of the major changes in the security services at York, this week's CYSF meeting was held in the hallway outside of the usual site, the Senate Chamber, as no members from security showed up to open the doors. This occurred despite phonecalls from the well-groomed CYSF President Gerard Blink.

- And finally the CYSF voted to accept Bryson Stokes as the Chief Returning Officer for the period December 30, 1986 to April 30, 1986, at a cost of \$800 to oversee the next set of student elections. Stokes was approved from a dearth of applicants, he being the only contender.