

BUT WE HAD TO!

I am insulted. November 25th's edition of the *Excalibur* could be the most disappointing edition of a weekly newspaper that I have had the opportunity to read. The articles, themselves, are worthy of a student production; however, the editorial judgement that has been shown by yourselves is reprehensible.

On page six you make a plea for reader support, and then on page seven you provoke all arguments against giving this support. You have done yourselves, and I'm sorry to say, you have done the *Excalibur* a great disservice.

The damage you have done to the reputation of the York community as a whole--students, faculty, and staff--is inconceivable.

I write you to answer the following:

1. Who will advertise in a scandal sheet that supports inane petty, and as I see it, anti-intellectual backstabbing?
2. Is it not enough that damage has already been done to the reputation of both schools by their marks alluded to several weeks ago?
3. Have you not further fueled the "silly" arguments that the students at the other school have perpetrated in an effort to undermine the esteem of the students at this school?
4. Do you feel that our intellectual maturity here at York--as a whole--is so stymied that we must resort to this very "low level" of backbiting and petty squabbling?
5. Is the *Excalibur* a forum for intellectual debate, and / or discussion? The advertisement on page seven certainly dispels that notion--do you not think?
6. By printing the advertisement you have implicated every individual associated with the York community, and have given others (outside the community, such as Bette Stephenson, cause to believe that those of us in the academic community at York are, in fact, no more intelligent than the previous attacks on our student body have implied. Do you feel, the attacks on our student body have implied. Do

PRO-ABORTIONISTS FAIL TO BEAR RESPONSIBILITIES OF SEX ACT

After reading the Nov. 25 article "Abortion Clinic Challenges Law" (*Excalibur* Sanjay Dhawan), I was compelled to write to those who are in favour of the opening of Henry Morgentaler's Abortion Clinic. Let me make it clear right now that I'm against the opening of these clinics.

I find it very sad that there are people who are Morgentaler supporters and I find the newly-formed "Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics", deplorable.

As I watched the OCAC meeting on the evening news (Nov. 18), I saw a bunch of ranting women in euphoric support for a man who represented a death clinic. The women say they have the right to do what they want with their bodies. I say, what about the rights of the unborn child.

People who support abortion fail to bear the responsibilities of their sexual action. They are all-round irresponsible people. The very act itself, in its purpose, is for the reproduction of human life. Now, I

you feel, the students, and by implication, the faculty and staff at York are less intelligent than the students, faculty and staff at other universities? By printing this advertisement you have implied we are all less intelligent. Why did you do that? Do you not feel that it is an insult to our community?

7. When you print advertisements such as that one, do you not "think" that you are causing grave harm to the intellectual community? That is what a university is supposed to be--isn't it?
8. Do yourselves, and the rest of the *Excalibur* staff, and the CYSF, really believe that this advertisement will aid in ending the present tension between the two schools, or do you, in fact, hope to perpetuate the present situation? Whose end were you serving, and does the end justify the means?
9. Are you certain that the CYSF was acting on behalf of "all" or a "Majority" of the students' interests when it conceived this advertisement?
10. Are you that hard pressed for finances that you would risk the future of the paper for a 12 page edition instead of a 10 page edition? Could the advertisement have been rejected, even though it would have meant two less pages?

I was insulted, as I'm sure most of the others at York have been, by the fact that you printed this advertisement. I feel devalued by the notion that this letter is being written by a "boob", and not an intelligent, thinking, human being who is a member of an intellectual community and an establishment that fosters intellectual creativity, and curiosity.

I would like a public response--IMMEDIATELY!

Jim Godfrey
York Student

P.S. Perhaps this will stimulate honest debate, instead of assinine petty squabbling. Is this an intelligent community, or is it a "watered down" rendition, as those who initiated this squabble would have us believe? This issue would have, and should have, been ignored by truly intelligent people. Oh--What harm you have done!

don't want to sound totally naive to the pleasurable aspect of sex. This is a part of it, but having sex should not be regarded like other, everyday human pleasures of one sort or another. Sex is the veritable result of the human formation of human life. This fact should not be disregarded and it is not some concept inside my head.

Therefore there are no conceivable excuses for abortion, except in the case where a mother is endangered for her own life.

For any other reason, it is the selfishness of the mother who wants to rid herself of her responsibilities. If the mother did not want the baby, she should have taken precautionary measures. Becoming pregnant is the risk taken when having sex. It is immoral to abort. We as human beings cannot be God, and judge who should and should not live. Only God can do that.

The availability of these clinics will justify irresponsible acts of sex. It will be a haven for those who "make" a mistake.

Finally, I would like to conclude by saying, that if a mother can't respect and love the very human being she helps create, what kind of "love" is left in the world? If this is so, let the bomb drop on us now.

Marco Cipriani

MORE GODFREY

I would like to add to that letter of the 25th of November.

When I queried the President of the CYSF about the advertisement I was told that my thinking needed a little changing. To quote the President: "I think your thinking needs a little reconditioning."

I do not think that this kind of reply is appropriate when a member of the student body comes directly to the president's office seeking answers to questions he might have.

He also never explained why the money that was put out on this advertisement and the contest alluded to its contents was not used

indifference has faded. What replaces this mature indifference is not only a full-fledged CYSF retaliatory smear campaign and a full page ad in *Excalibur* for a button contest, but now in the face of supposed financial disarray in CYSF, the council has seen fit to financially endorse this button charade to the tune of \$350. It appears that "Friendly cross-town rivalry" will carry a price ticket.

Come, come gentlemen, what about some of those neglected campus organizations that have been patiently awaiting some financial backing since their budgets were submitted in mid-August!

By retaliating in this manner to the U of T prank and by admitting rivalry, York is being foolishly drawn into a silly game that will, in the end, prove nothing. The best thing York could do is ignore this farce. If we really believe the education that we receive is the finest in North America then we do not consider U of T a rival or a threat. It is U of T that feels threatened by York and not vice-versa. If we indulge in this game we are admitting a discrepancy in the quality of our education. However, by ignoring it we are asserting our confidence in our educational environment. Those anti-York buttons are subtly camouflaged cries of insecurity coming from U of T. The fact that the buttons are products of uncouth taste simply indicates who the experts in cheapshots are! Why spend \$350 on a copied idea as retaliation when one sentence will do:

If little plastic buttons and childish attitudes are enough ammunition to pique your academic integrity, then try U of T.

C. M. Carvalho

CYSF HORROR

It was with great distaste that I read of U of T's shabby attack on York's academic integrity exemplified by their cheap, cut-rate buttons. It was with even greater distaste that I read Tony diGeorgio's letter a week or so later that suggested we follow suit and respond with the same juvenile, destructive display of supposed spirit. Now, to my horror, I read that his suggestion has materialized as an all-out, CYSF sanctioned, slogan competition with prizes, guaranteed fame and possible immortality for the winner. Please accept my entry:

U of T;
An alternative to higher learning.
Stevan Ciric

CYSF WASTE

I am disappointed to see that the CYSF has launched a button campaign of its own in response to the one launched by U of T. Up until

now I had been rather proud of the manner in which York students have dealt with the situation, i.e., ignoring it. After all, it is only natural that an institution which has long held the limelight in terms of higher education should feel threatened at the prospect of having to share that limelight with York. (rapidly making leaps and bounds when it comes to quality and respectability). To fuel that insecurity is inhumane. To lower ourselves in the process is worse. Can't we spend our money on something more useful?

Denis Murphy

WELL DONE

I would like to congratulate the *Excalibur* for its recent excellent article regarding Professor Lee Lorch's endeavours not to be retired from this university.

There is a well-established tradition at York University of continuing the appointments of faculty members who have reached the normal retirement age, but prefer to continue their academic careers here. Many examples could be cited of individuals over the age of 65 who continue to teach and carry on research on a full time basis at York and are continuing to make praiseworthy contributions to the York community in both endeavours. I would like to mention one member, whose achievements cannot be denied -- the late Professor I.R. Poimder, who taught me freshman mathematics at the University of Toronto almost thirty years ago and joined the faculty of York University to found the mathematics department after he had reached the normal retirement age. He continued to teach and carry out scholarly work for many years after that.

Professor Lee Lorch is a fine scholar and teacher with an international reputation. At present he holds a three year NSERC fellowship. Yet he is denied the privilege accorded to others in his peer group of staying on in a full-time capacity at York. One gets the feeling that he has been singled out by the Administration not because of any failing intellectual powers, his mind is as clear and active as ever, but because of his past political involvements. I sincerely hope that this is not the case. In any event, I would like to join others in urging the Administration of this University to grant Professor Lorch his earnest wish to carry on his duties with all the rights and privileges that were his in the past.

C.M. Sadonski

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS PAGE

to promote something of value--such as a literary contest.

I admit that this "kind of thing" might kindle school spirit, but somehow I am left with the impression that it could be done in some other manner.

We regretted having to print it. But the York paper is totally dependent upon the patronage of its advertisers: beggars can't be choosers.

MAD AT CYSF

It is incredibly difficult to express my disappointment with CYSF. My feelings have fluctuated from indifference to sheer anger. This type of reaction is probably indicative of many on campus concerning the hallabaluh over the U of T button caper. At first indifference was my only defense against the childish behavior emanating from the U of T. We have all heard the saying "ignore childish behaviour and it will abate itself." Well, I truly believe that *Excalibur's* initial response to the incident was adequate (perhaps a small corner space of the newspaper might have been too generous, in light of the ridiculousness of the whole issue). Now, however it appears that *Excalibur's* and CYSF's admirable



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