

GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the University of Alberta Graduate Students' Association will be held **Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m.** in the 'back room' of the **Power Plant**. Retiring executive members will present reports on their areas of responsibility for the 1981-82 term. All graduate students at U of A welcome.

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Escaping from brutal tyranny

I have written this letter to reply to the nonsense contained in Eugene Plawiuk's letter in the Feb. 17th *Gateway*, as I feel that someone besides a confirmed feminist (after all, a couple years ago, Ms. Bizon and I were on opposite sides in one of the perennial abortion debates in the *Gateway*) ought to speak out against it.

When a bookstore seeks to cater to a specific market, then naturally they will avoid carrying material inappropriate to the market they seek to serve: a petition, rather than a letter-writing campaign, however, was probably a more public way than necessary to obtain the withdrawal of these titles.

Free speech is the right of everyone to safely advocate any point of view, any opinion, no matter how unpopular. Thus, it is *not* the right, say, to plant a hidden camera in a locker room and publish the results, or to publish the secret ciphers of one's country. Divulging information is an action, and there can be rights, from privacy to copyright, that give ownership of information.

If a group of Islamic fundamentalists wanted all women on TV to wear veils, in order that children might not be corrupted by the sight of the female jaw

structure, this would not be a direct assault on free speech in itself, thus if the majority of people were to agree to this, it would be legitimate to pass such a law.

The Jerry Falwells and Max Solbrekkens of the world may do many things that are open to question, but I am tired of hearing the nonsensical assertion that all forms of censorship are incompatible with free speech.

One can quarrel with support to the Salvadorean insurgents on political grounds, i.e. that a Communist dictatorship is forever, because it is protected by *The Bomb*, whereas right-wing dictators come and go. However, if the members of the Women's Centre honestly believe that they are the legitimate representatives of an oppressed mass struggling for escape from brutal tyranny, then I must say that I was unaware that the Women's Centre opposed violence in such circumstances. The only anti-violence position that extreme that jumps to mind is that of Jesus in the Bible: do good to them that hate you; if

struck on one cheek, turn the other; if an occupation soldier asks you to carry his pack one mile, offer to carry it another. I wasn't aware that the Women's Centre considered itself to be a specifically Christian organization.

None of this is what really made my blood boil at Mr. Plawiuk's letter.

The Women's Centre has failed to analyze "the political economy of rape". You see, Alberta is filled with all these "single males who are looking for work, or working up north in isolated, sexually repressive work conditions".

Social problems, whose true remedy may not be what Eugene Plawiuk thinks appropriate, cannot in any way excuse the moral responsibility of the individual man who chooses to commit the despicable and monstrous act of rape. Those people who don't care about the rights of their fellow sentient beings, but who take by force whatever they can get away with, are people with whom I have absolutely no patience whatsoever, even if it is merely property that they take. I don't want to send them back East; I don't want them around anywhere.

Yours Sincerely,
John Savard



Feigned liberalism exposed

as Stalinism

A retrograde smear of feminist Edmontonians E.W. Plawiuk's recent *Gateway* letter suggests them to be dogmatic and prudish. His letter is a provocation of little more sophistication than book burning. Unfortunately, as Mr. Plawiuk demonstrates, access to a wide variety of literature does not of itself provide the ability to think.

The feminist sources called to the letters, support all feminist non-Edmontonians of the past ten years should they have produced arguments for a free press so peurile as Mr. Plawiuk's needs, rather fear the self censorship of willful ignorance.

Mr. Plawiuk actually has the arrogance to suggest that women must service the repressed libido of Alberta's male population. Were he to provide a critique of male rapacity and its political expression, feminists might not consider his letter a protracted and political (Stalinist?), attack upon their persons.

His association of feminist Edmontonians with the Salvadorean revolution is both shallow and thoughtless. The technique of this feigned liberalism draws attention from his opportunism by projecting it upon Salvadoreans or feminists who attempt to defend

themselves from those who reason like Mr. Plawiuk himself.

Presumably feminists of the future will crouch over de Sade, *The National Lampoon* and *Heavy Metal* preparing for the large and sexual — *Oliver: A Five Year Plan* — which they willfully, for the present, leave to Eugene Plawiuk's imagination.

Ignoring the realities of the feminist community which he castigates, Eugene defends a rather limited press. He, like a little boy, puts on the face of reason while warning of his parents' arrival.

George R. Scott
Arts II

STUDENT VACANCIES ON G.F.C. COMMITTEES

The following Committees will have vacancies for members whose terms of office will commence on April 1, 1982 and be completed on March 31 1983

	UNDERGRAD.	GRADUATE
GFC Executive Committee (Must be a member of GFC).....	1	
Academic Appeals Committee	2	1 Regular member 1 Alternate member
Academic Development Committee.....	1	
Admissions & Transfer Committee	3	
Note one student must be a transferee from a college in Alberta.		
Computing Committee	3	1
Conference Funds Committee	1	1
Equal Opportunities Committee.....	1	1
Facilities Development Committee.....	1	
Housing & Food Services Advisory Committee.....	4	1
Library Committee.....	2	1
Committee on Native Studies.....	2	2
Parking Appeals Committee	1 Alternate	1 regular member
Planning & Priorities Committee.....	1	
Radio & Television Committee.....	2	1
Improvement of Teaching & Learning Committee.....	3	1
Undergraduate Scholarship Committee.....	1	
Undergraduate Teaching Awards Committee	2	
University Professorships Selection Cte.....	1	
Writing Competence Committee.....	1	1
University Disciplinary Panels & Appeal Panels....	Ten students.	1

All graduate students and undergraduate students of the University are eligible for election to the above committees and membership is not restricted to members of GFC, except for membership to the GFC Executive Committee. Members are eligible for re-election to serve a subsequent term of office if they expect to be registering at the University the following year.

The Nominating Committee will be pleased from students who have suggestions for nominations or who would be interested in serving on the above committees themselves. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary of the Nominating Committee, 2-1 University Hall (4715) or from Ms. E. Lunney, Vice-President (Academic) Students' Union.