

CJSR unfairly singled out

Recently, Students' Union VP Finance Steve Twible instigated a survey to determine how many students listen to CJSR. The survey found that 7.4 per cent of all U of A students listen to the campus station. In light of the results, Mr. Twible feels that CJSR must increase its student audience to 10 per cent or the SU will cut the station's funding. His logic being, students should pay proportionately for services used. Fair enough. There are, however, a number of questions Mr. Twible needs to address.

Most student services lose money so why is CJSR being singled out for preferential treatment? If Mr. Twible is exercising fiscal responsibility, why be so selective? Are the losses incurred by other SU services acceptable and CJSR's are not?

According to the 1987-88 SU final budget summary CJSR received a \$38,000 subsidy, plus a further \$2000 for its program guide *Airright*. SU information desks received \$47,000 for the same period. How many students use the information booths? We've obviously missed a golden opportunity to find out. The same can be said for SUB Theatre which lost \$28,000, and SORSE, which lost \$22,000. An accurate percentage use of all student services could easily have been collected along with data for the CJSR survey. Why was this not done?

CJSR's total financial contribution to the SU cannot be judged simply by the bottom line on a balance sheet. The campus radio station is the main media conduit between the public and the University. How many campus clubs have benefited from successful gigs in Dinwiddie thanks to city-wide promotion courtesy of CJSR? Unsuccessful gigs mean higher club subsidies. Should a percentage of profits from Dinwiddie gigs go into the coffers of CJSR as a more accurate indication of the station's net value to the SU?

Part of CJSR's main financial burden in the past has been created by the transformation from a campus club to a full-fledged FM radio station. Its 250 volunteers have donated hours of time raising funds for various materials needed at the station, including recording equipment for making quality commercials. Obviously as CJSR attracts more commercials, their financial situation will improve. Should their achievements be placed in jeopardy just as they are about to bear fruit?

Mr. Twible says his survey was motivated by anonymous SU councilors complaining about the radio station's funding. Why these councilors would raise issues in secret rather than in Council is a matter of grave concern in itself. Complaints attributed to anonymous sources raise doubts about their authenticity. CJSR deserve, at the very least, to know why their service alone must adhere to Mr. Twible's scrutiny or face repressive measures.

Rod Campbell

The Gateway



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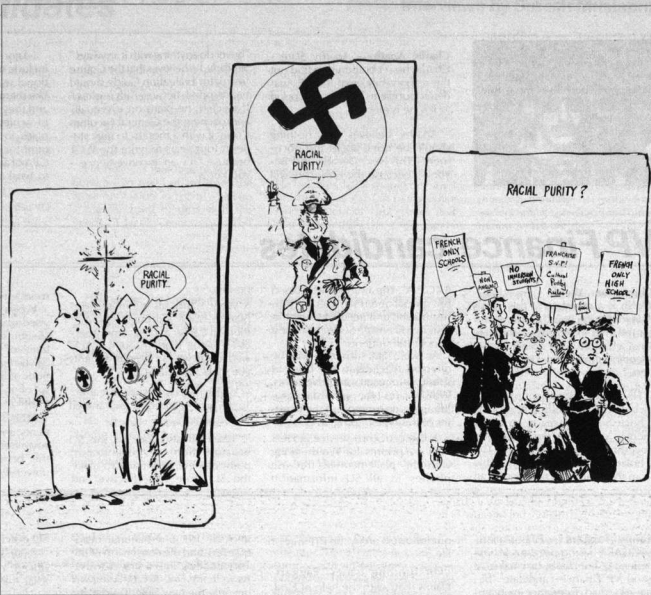
The Gateway welcomes letters to the Editor.

If you have a comment which would be of interest to the students of the University, please do not hesitate to send it in. Letters must be signed. Addresses and phone numbers are required but will not be printed.

Letters may be edited for length.

Mail or deliver your letters to Room 282 SUB, or drop them at any SU information booth.

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LETTERS

Vander Zalm a Bigot

I am truly sickened by the bigotry of Peter Englefield and other so-called "educated and liberated" students and instructors at this university. I fail to understand why Englefield insists upon glorifying Bill Vander Zalm except to conclude that either Englefield likes to shoot off at the mouth so he can hear himself speak, or he is making a clever attempt to evoke the criticism from those who have perceived the truth about Bill Vander Zalm and his self-serving actions.

The truth is this: Bill Vander Zalm is narrow-minded, blind, and intolerant to any creed or opinion that is not his own. He is a bigot. His personal opinion is such that abortion is morally wrong and, from this, he has based his authority as a representative of the people. He has acted and does act in a manner which denies and, thus, endangers the rights of women. This government official does not act in or consider the rights, interests, and needs of the majority.

Certainly, Bill Vander Zalm has never been faced with the issue of being pregnant, nor can he ever. So, who is he to think he can control and manipulate a decision that should be and is, ultimately the pregnant woman's own? He has certainly extended his own rights and privileges in trying to do so.

It is a pathetic society we live in that still goes out of its way to preserve its ignorance in attitudes, regardless of the rights of all individuals, including minorities.

Lorelei G. Loveridge

Vander Zalm Narrow-minded

Re: Vander Zalm Rules (*Gateway*, March 8th)

How dare you, Peter Englefield, as a man, dictate what women can and cannot do with their bodies. Certainly, abortion is unpleasant but so are child abuse and neglect, children born addicted to drugs, children born so severely deformed they will never lead close to a normal life, children whose mothers carried their pregnancies to term and then could not bear to give them up for adoption but cannot properly care for

them either. Personally, I find this more unpleasant and do not believe I am in any position to say that these things should or should not be allowed to happen.

Vander Zalm, as a devout Catholic and anti-choice advocate (I refuse to use the term "pro-life"), is also probably against increased availability of birth control which is one of the leading reasons why women need abortions. Granted, he is one of the few "who has the guts to disagree publicly" but we forget about the things which he does not say. Perhaps we should think about the issue, not from the perspective of a well-off, upper middle-class politician who has probably never had to face or deal with an unplanned pregnancy alone and with no support or money, and not from the perspective of a self-righteous university student. Perhaps we should take the perspective of those who are affected — teenagers without access to birth control and women — people who are the ones who will suffer because people like you and Vander Zalm are, or think you should be, in the position to dictate what other people should or should not be allowed to do. I must say that I object very strongly to this rather frightening scenario. Let those people make the decision for themselves — that's what pro-choice is all about.

Jackie Specken

Vander Zalm Wrong

(re: Vander Zalm rules/March 8, 1988)

Mr. P. Englefield is obviously confused as to why people specifically and generally are reacting to Bill Vander Zalm's position on abortion. First, they are not reacting to only his comments (but also (and more importantly) reacting to his policies (women only granted abortions when their lives is threatened). Mr. Vander Zalm's policies ignore the Supreme Court ruling on a woman's right to control her own body. He is obligated as a Canadian citizen and as a public official to respect the ruling of the high court of our land.

It seems that Justice Allan McEachern of the Court of Appeal in British Columbia agrees with me on this point. He struck down the policies formulated by Premier Vander Zalm and his cabi-

net. McEachern's decision was based on the ruling previously made by the Supreme Court of Canada. In essence, Vander Zalm's government is being forced to comply with the ruling.

I have only one question for Mr. Englefield. You stated that people "are probably feeling guilty about condoning, having, performing, or resulting from an abortion themselves." How does a person become a person and subsequently feel guilty if they were aborted during pregnancy? If you are unable to answer this question perhaps you would be well advised to take or re-take Biology 30 or an equivalent. (like you said, "insults aren't the best way to make a point, but some people don't deserve to be spoken about in any other manner")

Peter Fargey

Parent Fees Significant to Playground

I wish to thank the Gateway for its article on the need for playground renovations at the Students' Union Day Care Centre.

I do wish, however, to correct two statements that were inaccurate. The first is "with parent fees covering a very small portion of the total cost of day care." In fact, parent fees represent a very significant portion of the total cost of care.

The second statement implies that a new design for the site has been developed by the University of Alberta Planning and Design Section. I am totally at a loss as to how your reporter arrived at that conclusion. I, myself, was unaware of the existence of that particular section. I might add, however, that having become a ward I feel it to be an avenue well worth exploring.

I must point out that the picture you published of our playground "castle" gave a completely erroneous impression of the real state of our play area.

Kate Watts

Director
 SU and Community Day Care Centre

Apathy Again?

Why does the apathy slats always copy the stuff we've done a year before? John, Paul, George, and Ringo