4 out of 5 ain't bad

"... students in support of a particular political position may engage in acts which are considered to be contrary to the University interests and to which the University must respond." That's what the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the Campus Police stated in its report to the Senate, a report that has been accepted.

The same report also says that the new Student Campus Security force should NOT be used to deal with political disturbances because of possible political prejudices. Professional police forces should be used in such cases, it says.

Wonderful. That lets the SCS off the hook, doesn't it. Now we know that instead of having to fight off fellow students, we'll have to face "real" police — if such a 'contrary act' comes up. Who knows better the "interests" of this university than the agents of the university system?

We ask again, for our own benefit, what exactly are the university interests? Which political position is contrary to these interests?

Does the fact that Henry D. Hicks, President of Dalhousie University, and former Premier of Nova Scotia is now a member of the Senate in Ottawa, give any indication of what the political interests of this university are?

Does the fact that not one student involved in student government at Dalhousie, or anyone outside it, has responded in any way at all to this Report and particularly to the phrase quoted above mean that no one cares?

Does the fact that professors at this university are being paid to find ways of killing people more effectively mean anything at all to anybody? Probably not.

Our basic structural relationship with the university seems to mean nothing either, if the interviews with Student Union executives are any indication.

So why worry about police on campus repressing political activity? It can't happen here anyway. This is a democracy.



We have freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly. So we don't have freedom of political expression. Four out of five ain't bad.

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Advertising and Business Manager: Marg Bezanson 424-2507 General Calls: 424-2350 Room 334 — Student Union Building