

EDITORIAL

Rape; campus divisions

Since this is my last kick at the proverbial cat, and since my past editorials tended to come unglued around the middle (as critics have told me), I thought this issue warranted two mini-editorials on subjects of current importance:

Compare these two paragraphs:

"When a lady accompanies a man home at 3 a.m. to drink beer and smoke marijuana, one might not be too surprised if something happened under those circumstances. It would not be surprising to that young woman that something would happen to her...."

"When a man accompanies a friend home at 3 a.m. to drink beer and smoke marijuana, one might not be too surprised if something happened under those circumstances. It would not be surprising if his friend attacked him and violently beat up...."

I think the parallel is obvious, and both statements are patently absurd.

But the first was made by Chief Justice William McGillivray Monday as the Alberta Appeal court involved a rapist's prison sentence.

Justice McGillivray said that a woman should not be too surprised if she is raped under such circumstances. This outrageous opinion now enters the legal precedents in this province. This is truly dangerous for the safety of women in Alberta in future.

The man who was initially sentenced to an eight-year term got the stiff sentence (by our province's standards) because of three aggravating factors.

First, the woman wore braces on her legs because she had been crippled by polio.

Second, the woman was severely beaten. Justice Donald Bower (who gave the initial sentence) said "I've sat on the bench for ten years and the circumstances of this crime, I can say, without exception, are the worst I've ever seen."

Third, the sentence was to be served consecutively to a three-year term the man had received for a previous conviction for rape.

Given the fact that Alberta has a pathetic record in handing out sentences for this crime ("Sentencing for rape in (Alberta) is unduly lenient and has been for a long time," says Crown Prosecutor Jack Watson), this reduction of sentence should not be tolerated.

Many so-called feminist issues are debatable. People are not even unanimously agreed that pornography (even violent pornography) increases the incidence of violence against women.

But certainly the vast majority agree that a) rape is a crime of violence, and a danger to our society, and b) stronger measures must be taken to stop it.

Call me a traditionalist if you will, but I think universities should return to the days when "Arts and Sciences" was one faculty.

And I think it should be the *only* undergraduate faculty in the university.

For someone to leave university with a degree, yet no knowledge of (for example) philosophy or genetics or english or physics or psychology or biochemistry....is reprehensible.

This would serve many purposes. It would give extra value to those degrees which have been devalued by the standards presently required to attain them.

An Education degree would no longer be the laughing stock, it (in my opinion) is now, if Education was a graduate faculty (I can see those Deans' secretaries typing death threats on Faculty of Education letterhead already).

Commerce students would no longer rush off with the ink still drying on their four-year degrees to earn an instant \$30,000 a year; never giving a thought to the Truth and the Good.

Engineering students would no longer be virtually forced to remain ignorant of the fine arts and most of the humanities, if they had to graduate in Arts and Sciences first.

Beyond these advantages, students in both Arts and Science would be exposed to the other side of the coin. Physics majors should take Comparative Religion (there is Zen in 'the atom....'), English majors should take Computing Science (so they can deal with the technological age).

This idea might also bring about more student fellowship and slay the dragon of apathy. If students were all in the faculty, there would be inter-departmental rivalries, but not the rifts between faculties that occur now.

I mean, there are buildings on campus I've only been into once in the five years of my duration on campus. I know this isn't a unique sentiment.

If students had to take classes in varied disciplines, it would inevitably lead to more interaction and understanding.

Admittedly, university education does prepare us for jobs. But it could, and should, do much more than that.

It is important to fight the Lloyd Axworthy - National Training Act mentality that views education - even university education - as short-term training for short-term job market needs.

One way to fight it is to oppose the narrow specialization of today's university. One undergrad faculty - the rest graduate faculties.

How about it, Dr. Horowitz?

Dave Cox



"The thing you South American bishops have to do is separate yourself from politics! Oh, and by the way, you can pick up your Solidarity t-shirts and badges on your way out."

« LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »

Kill capitalist swill!

I thank God that you are leaving, Watts. I can, honestly (believe me), tell you that you preside over the worst student paper I have ever read. I suppose that to conclude a glorious year of incompetent arrogance, it is necessary to end your term of office, like Miss Universe, in a dethroning finale more mindless than the last 100 lobotomized issues. But Watts, you genius, you managed it. And it wasn't your usual twice-weekly editorial about the Canadian University Press (so, so fascinating). No, it was your other thought, the obsession with the Soviet Union.

Now, most people every side of the spectrum know that the USSR is one big failure. But only you and Ronald Reagan think about it when they (sic) are masturbating. And maybe you're right to. After all, it's more exciting than the Canadian University Press. But it's really a bit much when you go to an outside source for the material, and come back with the same oh-so-studenty pseudo-logical drivel that characterizes your endless attempts to defend capitalism. Let me correct some of the mindless-isms in Tom Wolfe's section of the editorial, titled "the deadly isms" (March 8, 83).

1) If socialism is bankrupt because of Stalin, then so is capitalism because of Germany under Hitler, Israel under Begin, South Africa under Botha, Chile under Pinochet etc. etc.

2) "Socialists" did not find out about Stalinism in 1956: thousands of courageous socialists had waged a battle against Stalinism since the mid-1920's. In fact, at various times, such as during the Second War, it was only the revolutionary socialists (especially Trotskyists) who stood up and denounced Stalin's butchery, while all the sub-intellectual right-wing toadies like you were cravenly sucking up to the kindly uncle image.

3) The reason most everyone has ignored Solzhenitsyn since he defected is simply that he has shown himself to be totally "off the wall". Not many people nowadays support the return of Czarism. In fact, all of his acclaimed writings were done while he was clearly under the influence of democratic Marxism, especially noticeable in the case of the *First Circle*.

Finally, I would like to question your use of George Orwell as an example of an anti-totalitarian. I have no doubt that, if he was alive today, you would denounce him as a Red, which of course he was throughout his life. But then, you at least have read 1984 and have learned to twist the truth into (sic) your needs.

Yours thankfully on the occasion of your passing,

Jon Murphy, Grad Studies

P.S. Maybe you can put your valuable knowledge of the Soviet Union and the evils of communism into practice in your new position, by declaring war on Russia.

Managing Editor's note: Both selections mentioned above were actually chosen by myself.

Gateway promotes killer

It's time to take a stand on smoking. Tobacco is the single largest preventable cause of death in North America. The habit is insidious, self-destructive and endangers the health of non-smokers as well as addicts.

The Student Union must develop a policy to promote non-smoking. This should include:

- 1) large non-smoking areas in all building lounges, cafeterias, and drinking establishments.
- 2) posters promoting non-smoking displayed on all bulletin boards.
- 3) slogans and public events: "Protect Your Student Body" Chest x-ray clinics twice a year. Cigarette Dumps. Quitting Clinics.
- 4) a policy against the publication of cigarette ads in the Gateway and other student newspapers.
- 5) a policy of not presenting the smoker in a favorable light in these publications.

The Thursday March 3 edition of the Gateway ran a recruiting ad for staff. The ad portrayed young

people smoking cigarettes. This is the third such ad I have seen, and all Gateway recruiting ads show smokers. This is a poor image of the Gateway to present to the public. You may be driving away the non-smokers who are good journalists.

The same issue of the Gateway, and all subsequent issues, have seen a full page cigarette ad on the back page. Knowing that cigarettes can and do kill people every day, this acceptance and even promotion of such an immoral exploitation of lives **must be stopped.**

Katie Benschop, Ag III

Weir is not amused

I, James Weir, "Arts Students' Voice" candidate in the upcoming Arts elections for Student's Council, am not the author of that stupid cartoon appearing in the Tuesday, March 14, Gateway.

James Weir, Arts

Progress does happen

I would like to draw to the attention of your readers an advertisement appearing in the Gateway last Thursday. The advertisement on page 7 headed "Library Hours" reads, in part: "Because of additional staff funding made available to the Library by the University Administration, Library weekend hours will increase on March 12th through to the end of Winter Session". Let me say that I welcome this move for there is nothing more annoying than to hear the speakers blare at 4:45 in Cameron announcing the imminent closing.

I should also note in passing that this move, along with the announcement in January by Acting President Baldwin of a freeze on administrative positions, is consistent with the policy position of the Graduate Students' Association. In its monthly meeting in December, Council passed a policy which called for "the upgrading of the presently low levels of library service, the financing of which would come out of a tax on the central administration". I should say that this decision more than meets our qualms about Library hours. Further, I would certainly encourage the Administration to co-opt other areas from our policy, notably the call for a moratorium on new campus buildings.

R.L. Ascah, President

Graduate Students' Association.

P.S. On the question of new campus building, that decision will be made by the government on or about 24 March 1983.

Rep quits in disgust

During my term as one of five Arts Councillors I have become increasingly disenchanted with the operation of Students' Council. I can no longer defend the Students' Council as a vehicle for important progressive change on the U of A campus.

Because of my lack of confidence in this student government I have become indifferent and ineffective as an Arts Councillor. Therefore I have decided to resign. Following is some explanation of this decision for the handful of Arts students who supported me.

The U of A Student Council is largely a forum for political grandstanding and political backstabbing. The petty squabbles that erupt ensure that student interests are the last concern of some councillors. I am as responsible as any other councillor for the behavior of this student government. As a member of Council I do not absolve myself from criticism of its performance. Although there are certainly those members of council genuinely concerned with student interests, few concrete advances have been made. The reduction of student services and Council's reluctance to deal with important social issues and issues of international concern is most discouraging.

My attitude concerning the utility of this council makes it inappropriate to continue as a member of it. I have asked an Arts student with Council experience to serve as my proxy for the remainder of this term. This will ensure proper Arts

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Staff this issue:

Hot on the trail of Gilbert Bouchard's joy of Gerbil Sex comes word that Gateway staffers John Algard and Heather-Ann Laird are about to publish their treatise—*Reproductive Physiology: An Up and Coming Topic*...Ann Grever and Sandy Vickerson are studying the tango (it takes two)...Bruno Betelnucci scrawls hasty notes to John Roggeveen...Sarah Hickson and Darlene Milner study joint articulation (the art of speaking with dopes)...Theresa Kiefer and Barb Catling seem to be two of a type...John Sorenson seeks god...Kent Blinston lost his diary...Mark Harker seeks therapy for his sudden "chizophrenia"...and in the darkroom, Martin Beales, Bill Ingles, and Zane Harker listen carefully as Chief Raymond chants: Lens cap off/shutter button down/rewind carefully/film to downtown/Chemistry fresh/safety globe on/print on shiny side/then I won't frown....

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