

SPECTRUM

The views found in Spectrum are not necessarily those held by the *Brunswickan*. People interested in writing for Spectrum must submit at least three (3) type-written articles of no more than 500 words each to the *Brunswickan*. The *Brunswickan* retains the right to publish material at its discretion.

GAY FORUM

By Terry Richards

The greatest poverty is not to live in a physical world, to feel that one's desire is too difficult to tell from despair.

- Wallace Stevens, *Esthetique du mal*.

A faction among people has accumulated a tactic that many, myself included, find a total invasion at someone's privacy. This faction, in an effort to abolish a stigma attached to homosexuals, is outing - forcing people to unwillingly come out of the closet.

With a way of showing achievement in the gay community publications are stating that certain figures in the entertainment and business world are gay. Recent examples of this is that of a french newspaper in Paris which reported that actor Richard Chamberlain ("The Thorn Birds"; "Dr. Kildare") is homosexual. The "National Enquirer" recently had a front page story on John Travolta having problems with his live-in lover. "Out Week", a gay publication from New York, even reported that the deceased

business tycoon Malcolm Forbes was gay.

It seems that supporters of outing - as in "out of the closet" - believe that homosexuals in well-known positions have a responsibility to state who they are and to provide positive role models for gay people. People feel this is especially true here in the 1990's where the gay community is facing a rise in discrimination because for the AIDS, the editor of "Out Week" states that "the media talks about the private lives of famous people in great detail, but when it comes to somebody being gay there is a code of silence because being gay is perceived by many as the worst thing someone could do." He further adds: it's taken for granted that other minorities deserve to have role models, so why not gays?"

I have argued from the onset that one of the smartest things I have ever done was to finally come out. I wasn't blackmailed or forced into doing it, in all reality it was my own personal decision.

The point I'm trying to make is simple: if someone is gay and in the closet whether it's your average carpenter or business executive, then that person has the right to live their life the way they want to. It is totally wrong to enforce (or "out") someone, no matter what reasons may be in question. As Dr. Eric Plaut, a professor at Northwestern University says "we've already given up privacy in so many ways. And one's sexuality is the most private."

Probably the biggest case of outing occurred last year with Barney Frank, a gay politician from Washington, D.C.. He had an affair with Steve Goble, a male prostitute who blackmailed Frank to giving him money. Eventually, Goble told a local newspaper of the affair and ultimately the whole country found out. It was Goble and his personal greed for money (he was paid \$10,000 for the story) which outed Frank. Barney Frank chose to live his life in the closet with no harm to anyone. When the "Frank Affair"

First scheduled meeting of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) is Thursday, Oct. 4, 1990 at 7:00 p.m. in Rm 26 of the SUB.

All members of the Gay and Lesbian community are encouraged to attend. Look for an article devoted to GALA in the coming weeks.

became public Frank was in his fifties. It is people like Goble who give the gay community, and people like Goble who give the gay community, and people in general a bad reputation. I for one would never want to be associated with his kind.

However, there is another side to the coin when dealing with outing and political figures. A politician, like anyone else, has the right to privacy. But if a politician goes out of his/her way to harass gay people's private affairs do become a matter for debate and discussion. A prominent NDP political figure recently stated on CBC's "The Journal" that "there is a right to privacy, but not hypocrisy." He was referring to an Illinois gay politician who "acted poorly" when dealing with AIDS issues. In my mind outing is ethically justified where politicians are pursuing an anti-gay agenda and building a career on the

dishonesty. Why someone who is gay and would help promote homophobia just doesn't make sense. It is the same that when I start my career as teacher, I would teach that gay bashing is an accepted way of life. I would never help promote that kind of hatred.

Everyone has a right to privacy and outing, in all reality, is not an answer to anything. If someone wants to repose who they are then they should be entitled to that immunity. The bottom line is that we should not lower ourselves by resorting to the same type of invasive behavior that anti-gays have been dining for so long. The ethic is that we should protect each other and just because a politician has betrayed that ethic doesn't give us a mandate to betray that ethic. Politicians also commit crimes like drug abuse: does that mean every Canadian and American should follow suit?

METANOIA

By John Valk (Campus Ministry)
Thank Goodness Its Monday

Yes, you read it right: "Thank Goodness Its Monday." Sounds a little odd doesn't it. The familiar line is "Thank Goodness Its Friday." Oh, don't get me wrong. I like the weekend as much as the next person. Time off, leisure and recreation are and should be an important part of everyone's life.

On the other hand, work, including study, is also a part of life. In fact for most its a big part. A good deal of energy, the better hours of our day and the best years of our lives are spent engaged in our work.

Some refer to work as a necessary evil; to pub bread on the table, gas in the car and beer in the fridge. Most depend on it to supply basic needs: food, clothing, housing. For others the rewards of work offer indulgence in wants or cravings: luxury cars, clothing and housing. For a select few work is control, influence, might.

From this perspective work becomes largely a means to another end. If employment

or careers are chosen for the things, prestige or power to be potentially gained, the focus remains primarily on the individual. That limits or demeans work. Thought ought also be given to the meaning or purpose of work itself, or to the particular job one does.

It is here that one ought to begin asking oneself some hard questions, because what one does in one's occupation has wide ramifications. It affects oneself, one's immediate community and the delicate environment in which we all live.

Mary Evelyn Jegen, a professor of theology, outlines in her book, *Keeping the Garden*, four purposes of work. I think she has something of great significance to say.

According to Jegen, the first purpose of work is to complete God's creation. That is, in order for us to live we need to use or rework nature as we meet it. Water, food, or natural resources do not automatically come from the tap, the store or the gas

pump. At the same time, to speak of the earth as God's creation means that we are not ultimate owners but only stewards of the earth. No one person or groups of persons ultimately owns the land. It belongs to all of us, not excluding plants and animals. As such, we are required to ensure that nature in its manifold diversity remain beautiful, plentiful and safe, for others and for generations to come.

The second purpose of work is to complete ourselves. We make ourselves through work; we discover and develop our powers or abilities by using them. What we do, or how we go about doing it, reflects the type of person or persons we are or may become,

The third purpose of work is to bring us into community with each other: "it is a cure for loneliness, for isolation." We are interdependent, we need to work as a team. Research, construction or teaching ought not to be isolated activities. To do things only for ourselves is an affront to our humanity.

It is also a refusal to acknowledge that what we do impinges on others, directly or indirectly.

The fourth purpose of work is to provide goods and services that the human family needs, as distinguished from what certain individuals may want. Goods and services are not intended to be

possessed; they are meant to be shared. Therein, believe it or not, lies our happiness. It was Gandhi who said, in relation to the earth's limited resources, that "there is enough for each person's need but not enough for each person's greed. Whatever people have beyond their needs is stolen from the poor."

It will take compassion for others and a change of heart - a metanoia - to incorporate these purposes of work into our own. We are certainly not used to thinking this way. But try them on for size. Work may become more meaningful. And, next time Monday roles around it may be less difficult to gear up for work or study.



Plagiarism

As most students are aware, plagiarism is a very serious academic offence. It is an offence that can result in expulsion from the university, or a failing grade in a course. It can also have far-reaching implications with regard to an individual's career opportunities.

Plagiarism can be defined as the presentation of material claimed to be your own while knowing that it is someone else's work. The University of

New Brunswick has a policy on plagiarism which can be found in the Academic Calendar of summarized in the handbook *Tackling the System* available at the Student Union Office.

The University recognizes that plagiarism may be unintentional. If the professor involved is satisfied that the plagiarism was the result of a genuine mistake, he or she may allow the student to submit another piece of work to replace the one plagiarized. However, a second case of

misunderstanding will be considered an offence and will be treated as if it were deliberate.

If the professor finds that the student knowingly and deliberately copied the work of another, he or she must submit the student's name and relevant evidence to the Registrar of the University, who will advise the dean of the faculty involved.

Deliberate plagiarism may result in expulsion from the University. However, for a first offence the penalty is usually a zero grade for that course unless the student submits another piece of work to replace the plagiarized work,

in which cas
receive a
assignment
pass the co
subsequent
student will
grade in the
face expulsio

Always
acknowledg
borrowed fro
You can quot
work of
quotation m
your reliance
another per
either case,
proper foot
format to g
source. Als
the works yo
at the end o
bibliography
it seems that
many footno
wise to be
such matter
not a laughin
if you es
minimum p
incident can
your persona

This
intended a
It is not
replacem
professiona
If you
additional
legal coun
contact a

"V

ANN
B.C.

KP