

cont'd from p. 5

do not make derogatory comments about women's anatomy. I do not come home after a long day filled with alienation and perceived failure and beat my wife. I do not possess secret fantasies of mass murdering women. Mr. Nayman, the fact that you are a man does not give you the right to speak for me as if you have some deep insight into the psyche of all men.

Your shallow observation that a small number of women vent their anger on their children and the rest respond by internalizing their pain and frustration leading to assorted addictions or stress-induced physical ailments puts you right in the class of men that you must be referring to. Do you mean to tell me that the only options for a woman in today's society is child abuse or drug addiction.

Mr. Nayman, I suffer from pain and frustration and I am a man, I

am neither a child abuser, a woman abuser, or a self abuser (as that is what addiction would seem to be) and yet I survive and in fact enjoy life. Many women that I know suffer from the same pains and frustrations and their children are not battered and they do not walk around in a drug-induced haze. To again use your own logic, it would seem that men have latched onto the only option short of beating kids or turning to drugs. To segregate the human condition and the response to it by sex is to discredit us all. I suppose that the incident at Queen's University with the signs outside of the dorms also reflects the attitude of all men, in your opinion.

You also say, "There aren't enough strong, independent, self-respecting role models to show women a different way." Is the influence of role models determined by their abundance? Using your logic it would seem that the senselessness that Marc Lepine displayed should be attributed to the presence of negative male role

models, Jack the Ripper perhaps. Undoubtedly, when you can equate the telling of misogynist jokes to the wholesale slaughter of 14 women it may seem logical. If society recognized that the conditions exist in every man that under the right circumstances could unleash a killer, mass paranoia and hysteria would rule. The fact that you seem to find no diffi-

culty understanding such deranged behaviour would certainly put me on my guard in your presence, regardless of your sex.

A pessimistic view such as yours should be stomped on and ground into the dirt. The closing statement that the 'war' of the sexes can be won by neither side reflects your true evaluation of the situation. The normalization of

Marc Lepine can only help to reach this conclusion. Optimism, coupled with reasonable dialogue and time are the only avenues open to us for the resolution of a conflict in the evolution of the human condition, that BOTH sides can win.

Peter Degrou

Send your campus stories NOW

Dear Fellow Students:

Do you have any stories, no matter how extreme, that relate to your years at university that you would be willing to share? We are students from the University of Western Ontario who are trying to compile a book containing the best stories you have to offer. Help us get a real student's outlook on university life.

Was university what you expected? How did you deal with your annoying roommate? Write on any topic you want: relationships, parents, sports teams, sor-

orities, fraternities, that wild party you threw, the classes you did, or didn't, go to, your residence, your school's spirit and clubs. We are looking for anything that you experienced at your specific university that you think other students would benefit from reading. This collection is open to all students, faculties and staff. Please — we want your honest view on "real" life at university.

Confidentiality will be respected and we regret that no stories

can be returned. Send all submissions, of any length, to:

Steve Gill
31 Ranchwood Cres.
London, Ontario
N6A 3A1

OR
Cassie Boutcher
785 Sevilla Park Place
London, Ontario
N5Y 4H9

Please be sure to include an address and phone number at which you can be reached. The mailing deadline is January 19, 1990.

Frat complains

Dear Editor:

So the editorial board of *Excalibur* has declared itself "embarrassed" (editorial, Nov. 30) that the CYSF has voted to support fraternities and sororities, eh?

Well, pox to you (sic) for mingling in business you seem to know little about. You've managed to blow a small incident (a minor example of hazing) way out of proportion as a base for condemning fraternities in general.

Hazing is one of those vague terms that can often be difficult to handle. Obviously some good-humoured "razzing" is bound to occur sometime, but the men of my brotherhood are bound by a solemn code of honour under which no serious mental or physical cruelty would ever be committed.

This is one of the first things a pledge at any fraternity is taught. If a pledge feels a boundary has been crossed, he knows he has options within the fraternity system to have the situation dealt with, without going to the media, as one AE Pi member recently (and shamefully) did.

As a new student at York, I find it regrettable that fraternities are treated so negatively at this university. For those men and women who are introduced into membership, fraternities have deep and everlasting significance and can enrich the university community as a whole with their support and enthusiasm.

Most of the time, I find *Excalibur's* editorial commentary to be generally fair and balanced. But this is one instance where *Excalibur* should have left well enough alone and kept its reactionary nose out of where it does not belong.

Jaie Laplante
Kappa Sigma

Frat pains

To the brothers of the Eta Pi chapter of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity:

The truth hurts, eh?

Jeff Leibovici



Toronto-Bayview Regional Cancer Centre

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