

EDITORIAL

Buncha Hypocrites

It's nice to have ideals, but the test of our sincerity to any cause comes when we have to pass these ideologies on.

In the January issue of Ms. magazine Elizabeth Rommel wrote an essay in the parenting column on how her feminist friends are raising such darling little chauvinists.

For example, Rommel writes about one woman, Irene, a vice president of a Fortune 500 company, who's five-year-old son stomps around the house shouting "boys are the best, boys are the best." In Rommel's words:

"In Irene's mind, 40 or 50 year old executives practice sexist oppression. But when her Jonathan shuts girls out, he is cute, natural, ('It's the age,' she told me), and turning out to be a 'real boy.' Adults like Irene drink the heady wine of liberation themselves and continue to serve the kids sexist pap."

What Irene has done is totally negate any advances towards sexual equality her career might have produced by not successfully passing on her ideology to her son. After all, he is the 'legacy' she passes on to the work force after she retires.

A lot of people spout off at the mouth about their "causes" and even sometimes manage to convince themselves that they actually believe in them. But deep inside their progressive-trendy souls, they hold the old status quo dear.

People on this campus and elsewhere have to realize that being a parlour pinko, a part-time feminist, a radical biding his time till his Rhodes Scholarship comes through just doesn't cut it. If you don't manage to believe in your cause to pass it on to your kids, how can you expect to sway anybody else?

The advances made by one generation will be lost to the next generation unless we stress the importance of these advances. The hard-fought for rights won by this generation of women and minorities will go straight down the tubes when Irene's son's generation (chock full of sexist, racist, and second generation hypocrites) take over the nation's boardrooms.

Unless the campus progressives take to heart the trendy causes that they parrot and actually raise a second generation of like-minded thinkers we'll be stuck with the same fight for equality (be it sexual, racial, or religious) generation after generation.

Gilbert Bouchard

Election Buzz

As this year's Student Union election campaigning starts up, a couple of buzz-words to consider might be "perspective" and "representative."

At Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Vancouver, students usually hold a good "perspective" on campus politics. A left wing slate ran for office last year and won three out of four executive positions. However, these three victorious candidates were hardly "representative" of the student population, or for that matter, the campus left.

The one conservative student who got into office at SFU didn't represent the right-wingers either.

The spectrum in student politics has shrunk considerably since the 1960's.

At the University of Alberta, there is a disturbing trend towards an all-too-conservative, business-oriented student association. The U of A is only one of many so-called "beer and pizza" councils in Canada.

This situation exists simply because the U of A population is nonchalant about student politics. But as the saying goes, things can and should change.

Future SU Executives and future student councillors need to be more assertive if they want to show they care. And the SU should care.

True, university students by and large come from higher than average income families. Some have busy lives outside the U of A and don't participate in SU activities. This shouldn't be interpreted by SU executives as apathy. Because it's not. It's about time student "government" got its act together here and not only provide services, but grab some guts and take a stance on political issues.

University students can be influential and their elected representatives should take issues - even international ones - seriously.

Obviously, some degree of restraint is needed in such debates. Nevertheless, student councillors should have proposed, say, a referendum on what U of A students think about the cruise.

The SU isn't a growth industry or a blue-chip stock.

The day the SU Executive forgets about student activism will be the day you'll inherit a corrupt SU.

Brent Jang



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Atheists unite

Campus Crusade for Christ is busily and boldly sponsoring "Christian Emphasis Week." Fair enough, but is any campus organization going to sponsor "Islamic Emphasis Week," "Judaic Emphasis Week" or "Buddhist Emphasis Week?"

Kathleen Moore
Business III

God's not dead, just apathetic

Salvador Guayabetos, God is alive! If you need proof of His existence just look around you. His creation is beautiful and cannot be fully explained by science. Search His Word (the Bible) and see if what it says is true.

However, only good things come from God. Yes, many atrocities have had the "banner of God" leading them but God loved man so much that He has let him run his own affairs even though He knew how badly we would turn good things into bad and destroy many other human lives. But God is not watching us and laughing but He has provided a way out of our miserable existence for those who are humble enough to admit that they can't run their own lives. This is not accomplished by adhering to strict rules but by entering into a personal relationship with Him through His son Jesus Christ. It is that simple. Education in many cases makes life harder to understand comrade Salvador but remember that God is waiting for you to choose, between self and Him, between wrong and right.

Dan Bartsch
Engineering III

So sue me

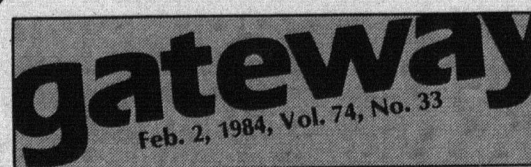
The letter of January 24, 1984 from Stuart Mackay, Arts Alumnus, "Tossing the first stone," contains a serious error of fact. Mr. Mackay states that I was involved in Erin Campbell's lawsuit against Constable Hudyma of the City of Edmonton Police Department. The fact is that I have had no involvement whatsoever with Erin Campbell in any capacity. Mr. Mackay has misled your readers in a significant way by being careless in his research.

B.M. Barker
Professor of Law

Med show sick?

It is apparent that the Med Show will be taken to task for its content once again. Some people are trying to preach to others what "sexist, racist, degrading or otherwise offensive in nature" is. They fail to realize that the means by which the med show achieves most of its humor is by making a mockery of society's stereotypes. The ratio of men to women participating in the med show closely approximates the ratio in the faculty (about 2:1). These women don't sit around complaining about inequality, they know they're equal and have proven so! As for racism, an equal proportion of "minority" groups participate in the show, and like the women of the class, are at home enough with their identities to make jokes about ridiculous stereotypes.

The med show contains no nudity (which can be seen in almost any adult movie) and no more foul language than can be heard in an elementary school playground. Generally the material is purely suggestive and in no way could teach anyone anything they didn't already know. Nor could anyone be aroused by the material and be led to



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So anyway Sal Paradise and Dean Moriarty and the girls they picked up on the highway come tumbling out of the car and keep right on rolling into a jazz club full of Gilbertologists. Terry Lindberg finds them a table right up at the front and the Patrice-Struyk-Warren Ophelm combo come out with old man Ian Ferguson wailing on saxophone and Jim Moore singing the blues. Jordan Peterson tickles the keyboard and Neal Watson bangs the skins like a bennie addict in hellfire. Dean adjusts the bandage on his hand and goes to the men's room. There he asks Gunnar Blodgett if he's holding any tea but he isn't but Kent Cochran overhears them and tells Dean to try the big black dude by the door. At the next table, Ninette Gironella and Sarah Hickson grab Shane Berg and Glenn Byer and start dancing crazy. As Algard the poet said, "the Beat goes on."