

Run nice campaign please

To the editor,

Yes, it is once again that time of year here on the Dalhousie Campus when the various candidates for office are hot on the political trail. This year, being no different from previous years, the amount of mudslinging involving the presidential/vice presidential candidates abounds.

The point in question is that an innocent mistake, made by myself, may be blown entirely out of proportion by one of the presidential/vice presidential teams to the detriment of their opponents. It sickens me to no end to realize that various people have nothing more constructive to do with their time, here at Dalhousie University, than to promote their cause by creating unnecessary dissension in an already tense atmosphere. These scandal mongers are to be pitied. Someday they will come to realize that the means employed do not guarantee the desired end.

This letter was written to deter those discreditable factions from resorting to the use of such tactics. In conclusion, I challenge both teams to run on the basis of their merit, and not to capitalize on situations at their opponents' expense.

Sincerely,
Roslyn M. Johnson
DSU Executive

Curtis affair painful for Dal student

To the editors:

I am taking sciences at Dalhousie. But I am different, because I do know Bruce Curtis. I know him quite well.

Firstly, I would like to thank David Olie for the article. He completed the task with insight and understanding. I am sending the article to Bruce and I am quite sure he will be pleased. It is important that everyone reads and understands the whole story.

I would like to clear a few little details up. I am from Lawrencetown in the Annapolis Valley, close to Middleton. Bruce did not go to school in Middleton. He went to school with me in Lawrencetown. He and his parents decided that he should finish his high-school years at King's-Edgehill.

Bruce was my biology partner in Grade 10. We had many amusing labs together. He played a superb game of chess—I never did beat him! There were four of us that were good friends, "formed a group" if you will; Bruce, another young man, a young woman and myself. David Olie mentioned this young woman in his article. She was not from Middleton but a short distance from my home in Lawrencetown. She did not tell me of her talks with Bruce in the summer of 1981. I was here at Dalhousie at a biology seminar when she died. She was my best friend and it still hurts. Bruce and I both used writing as a vent for our feelings of loss of a close friend. We both feel responsible for it somehow (If

only I had...) I know myself Bruce's need to help Scott. Bruce did not want to see another life wasted. He truly stayed with Scott in a desperate attempt to help him.

In June 1982, I met Bruce while trying to solve the unbelievable maze of setting up a schedule for my first year of courses at Dalhousie. He was able to help me and we arranged to take some of our courses together. He mentioned he might be taking a trip to the States. He told me how excited he was to begin the next stage of his education at University. He looked forward to seeing me that September. Of course I haven't seen him since. I am graduating this spring; I wish Bruce was here to graduate with me.

Bruce holds an incredible fascination for life. Life in its many diverse and exciting forms has always intrigued him. I know that. That is what makes this whole affair so painful. Thank you.

Valerie Milo

Bad day for gay wedding

To the editors,

I am writing concerning the article, "Nice Day for a White Wedding," (Feb. 21). It made many excellent points but was also filled with the sort of inconsistencies and illogic common to many discussions of homosexuality and its place in our churches.

Yes, persecution should be eliminated, all sorts of persecution. Christians all over should indeed be concentrating their attacks on the persecutors, the oppressors not the oppressed. Gay action, support and lobby groups such as those cited in this article are a step forward, and a sign of impressive social progressiveness. Gays and lesbians do need spiritual involvements and certainly have much to offer. However...

Hey, Rev. Bidwell, not everyone uses the Bible to read what they want to read in it. Many people have read and re-read it, hoping to find some glimmer that will allow them to believe what they desperately want to believe—that homosexuality is not a sin. (It surprised me that in an article on homosexuality and its place in religion, sin wasn't mentioned once.)

The Bible may very well have been misinterpreted—if so, I too am a victim of this misinterpretation. But how can anyone know that? I have not yet read John Boswell's book, but look forward to reading it. Meanwhile, if anyone can direct me to Bible passages in favor of homosexuality, please do so, I'd love to read them.

Bidwell is correct in stating that Christ accepted all oppressed people. Yes, *accepted*. Not condoned. He loved them as people, apart from their actions. Love and acceptance should be universal, but that doesn't mean there is no more right or wrong.

Mr. Knight's comparison of homosexuals and Greeks is illogical. Accepting homosexuals into the Church is not "rather like" accepting Greeks—being

Greek is not defined as a sin. And no, salvation is not "for everyone—without exception". There is one exception: those who, according to the Christian faith, are sinners and are not remorseful. And farther, "Knight is upset by the Catholic church's hypocritical acceptance of lesbians and gays while rejecting their life-style." That is *not* hypocrisy. That IS the Catholic Church. It accepts people, not actions. Christ ate with sinners, pardoned them, loved them—but He didn't say what they did was good. He could love a murderer, but that doesn't mean murder is morally right.

I am not saying homosexuality is wrong. But the Christian church does. A religion, by its very definition, identifies what it considers right and wrong. If something is a sin, it's a sin—in

that religion. You can't change that. That doesn't mean that homosexuals aren't "worthy individuals". Whether you or I think homosexuality is a sin is totally and completely irrelevant. The churches, the very ones these groups are struggling for admittance to, say it is a sin. Period.

A religion, unlike other organizations, does not have an underlying set of beliefs. A religion IS its set of beliefs. It may have a doctrine, dogma, structure, hierarchy connected with it, but its essence is its beliefs. Asking a church to change those beliefs is, in effect, asking for not change but destruction — the destruction of that church as it exists and the creation of something new and different in its stead. While a new church may be infinitely

desirable, asking the traditional denominations to effect their own cessations in favor of that new church is nonsensical.

The issue has two sides. This article asks the church to accept homosexuals without changing them. How about homosexuals accepting the church without changing it?

Brenda Beagan

Student grunts indignantly

To the editors,

Ahhh...the indignant grunt... where would you be without it?

Sincerely
Bryon Fevens, B.Sc.

Where, indeed?

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