

nonconformist, you have conformed to a prefabricated viewpoint. If you are going to adopt an unpopular viewpoint on every issue how can you expect to be taken seriously. You are no longer rebelling against injustice you are simply rebelling. (ah, the rebel without a brain) The Gazette used your letter as a tool as your opinion is compatible with that of the paper. This paper continually assaults us with unpopular opinions on a stunning array of subjects. In your attempt to appeal to the fringe you have completely lost the respect of the majority who lie somewhere in the middle. I take offense to your personal attack of Ms. Logan "the commerce student always concerned about funding." It is ridiculous that we have to fund a newspaper which is in the hands of a small group of pseudo radicals.

I have been a Dalhousie student since 1985 and have yet to read an issue I generally like. The occasional article does not a good paper make. It is too bad that the editorial section is the only part of the paper in which I find opinions that I can agree with. As I have noted above, such opinions usually get shot down as I am sure this one will. There is an ongoing complaint about apathy and lack of school spirit at Dalhousie. However, how can you expect to unite the school when you continually alienate the majority of the students.

In closing I find the hypocrisy of C. MacIll'losa's statement that he will "yuppify" upon graduation to be more than I can stomach. Is this such lack of conviction typical of all such pseudo radicals?

Yours sincerely,  
P. Flinn

P.S. Since apparently the comments of Commerce students are

not well respected in your paper, I wish it to be known that I am an Arts student.

## Gazette bashing

To the Editors:

Although I write this letter with some hesitation, I feel it is necessary to set the record straight on an article I wrote for the International Students' Supplement published in this paper on March 9th. I submitted an article expressing my views on Dalhousie's registration procedure, which I feel is discriminatory towards students whose summer address is outside Halifax. While I make no claims to possessing any great literary skill, I felt that my views were clear, organized and reasonably concise.

To my dismay, for reasons of space constraint, the Gazette chose to drastically edit my works so that what emerged was in my opinion, incoherent, extremely disjointed and bore little resemblance to my original submission. I feel quite ill-treated, not only because I was personally embarrassed to have my name associated with such a poor piece, but, more importantly, because an issue that I feel very strongly about was presented in such an inept manner. While I can certainly understand the numerous constraints the Gazette is under, I would hope that in the future they would treat work, especially from sources outside their staff, with much more sensitivity and respect than that which was given to me.

This said, I feel I must comment on the Gazette-bashing that I've observed in recent letters of the editor. My comments, although certainly intended to

distance myself from the article which bears my name, are intended as amicable constructive criticisms which is not what I can say for many of the submissions I've read. Although there are legitimate reasons for many students to be concerned with the Gazette, I feel its staff deserves commendation for devoting their time and energy to doing the best job they can and addressing the issues they feel are important. Those students who feel that the Gazette is not representative of their views and is in serious need of reform should either make some real constructive criticisms ("Wake up and smell the coffee" just doesn't cut it) or shut up, join the staff, and work to shaping the paper into whatever they may feel is a more appropriate vehicle for student concerns.

Andreas Katsouris

## Editorial comment

To the Editors:

Please allow me to submit my two cents worth on the complaints about the quality of the Dalhousie Gazette. As a former editor and contributor to the Athenaeum, at Acadia University, I feel that I can make a few suitable comments.

Since I don't see every issue, I missed Heather Logan's complaints. It is probably similar to many. The Gazette is a student paper. The photography, writing and reviewing is done by students.

Roy MacDonald is not happy with the coverage of *Little Mary Sunshine*. I have \$5 which says the editor printed the best review

received; the only one. I always found it difficult to find people to cover organization's events.

Commerce students are too busy to write about commerce events but they don't like what others write. Music and drama students don't want to write about their own events, but take the time to write long letters to berate those who do.

So you don't like the amount "gay/lesbian propaganda, articles about the plight of male prostitutes and feminist harangues." The reason these articles appear is that the people involved think enough about themselves and their issues to sit down and write something.

If each student at Dalhousie contributed only one article, letter or review during their time here, the paper would be twice its present size with material to throw away.

It's your paper. If it's not good enough it's your fault. If you don't like it and you don't want to support it then you don't deserve it.

Murray R. Gamble  
Acadia Class of '85

## Abortions' costs

To the editors:

This is a submission to CARAL in response to an article by Kathy Coffin in Dalhousie Gazette Women's Issue March 2.

Do you ever think that you or I may not have had the "chance to life" if our parents had thought like the "pro-choice" and were brain-washed into thinking this pregnancy was not convenient or wanted?

With all the contraceptives and birth controls available today, WHY are there so many women becoming pregnant with

unwanted pregnancies? WHY are we not giving much more thought to adoption when there are so many women who are unable to have children? WHY are the "pro-choice" so adamant on abortion? Could it be that they are so ashamed of their "predicament" that they don't want a living reminder to haunt them? Perhaps too, if abortions were not made so easily available PLUS paid for by the rest of society, there would be a deterrent in getting pregnant in the first place. They would be required to dip into their own pockets to pay for their own actions. WHY should our Medical Insurance Fund be pent on this self-inflicted condition? "Pregnancy" is not a medical problem. What is happening to our thinking? It is a personal choice.

Society has made available all kinds and types of preventatives for people to avoid pregnancies but that still does not satisfy. Now they want abortions for which the cost is staggering at the expense of those who need medical treatment for illness.

Would the "pro-choice thinkers" — think differently if they had to make a choice between money available for an abortion or money for medical treatment to save *their* life, the life of a parent, friend or child?

Our Medical Insurance is in financial trouble! Do you wonder why? What is OUR CHOICE?

I challenge you to write to our MLA, the Minister of Health and the Premier of N.S. to encourage them to spend our Medical Insurance money saving lives — not destroying lives — BECAUSE this life that is saved, just might be yours or mine. . . and the answer could come back "SORRY, THE BARREL IS EMPTY!"

Dorothy Weston

## Opinion

# How sexual harassment hides

by Alexandra Dobrowsky

Janet's thesis supervisor repeatedly leans over her, persistently touching her arm, shoulder and back. Initially, these actions seem harmless, for she feels that her supervisor is giving her "guidance", "support", and "reassurance". However, it soon becomes painfully apparent to Janet that the incidence of such gestures is increasing, and she feels that these actions are becoming more and more inappropriate. Janet begins to dread working on her thesis as the thought of meeting with her supervisor becomes distasteful, and even frightening.

Joe believes that his T.A. takes particular interest in his work, and this apparently explains his T.A.'s request to meet with him in the Grawood after class. Then Joe begins to receive calls at home from his T.A. insisting that he keep up these meetings and indeed go on dates. Joe becomes perturbed. A few days later, his worst fears are realized when his T.A. mentions that Joe's grade may suffer if he does not comply with the T.A.'s wishes.

Sue gets friendly winks from her professor in class. She is often the butt of her professor's jokes. At first, she goes along with his

"sense of humour", but then the professor's comments become cruel and more bawdy. Moreover, being one of the few women in her small class, Sue begins to feel she is being singled out on the basis of her sex. Increasingly, she is unable to concentrate in class, which sets off more derisive comments from the professor. Sue starts avoiding the class altogether.

These hypothetical scenarios demonstrate how sexual harassment can manifest itself in the university. It is a process that is often misunderstood. At Dalhousie, sexual harassment is defined as any sexually-oriented behavior of a deliberate or negligent nature which adversely affects the working or learning environment. This includes but is not limited to: sexual solicitation or advance of a repeated, or abusive nature by a person who knows or ought to know that it is unwanted; an implied request; reprisal or denial of opportunity; implied or request and sexually-oriented remarks or behaviour on the part of a person who knows or should know that such actions may create a negative psychological or emotional environment for work or study. As this definition

suggests, sexual harassment can take many forms.

Sexual harassment is pervasive. It can happen to anyone, male or female, although the majority of complainants are female and most respondents are male. The encounter can be of a heterosexual or homosexual nature. It is the responsibility of students, faculty, staff and administration to provide a positive, safe environment, free of unwarranted sexually-oriented attention, because we are all potential victims of sexual harassment.

To stop unwelcome advances of a sexual nature in the university, the first consideration is that of avoiding the common "blame the victim syndrome". Targets of sexual harassment should never feel as if their complaints are being trivialized, discredited or silenced.

Second, it is crucial to recognize that ignoring the problem is a common, but usually ineffectual, solution to sexual harassment. The repercussions of this approach can include emotional and physical turmoil on the part of the target. Furthermore, avoidance often leads to an escalation of the situation. In addition,

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