

Dear friends, gentle readers and all other komrades:
Letters to the editor must be

**TYPED
DOUBLE-SPACED
and SIGNED with a
TELEPHONE NUMBER.**

They must also be devoid of

**RACISM
SEXISM
and HOMOPHOBIA**

Try to be

**WITTY and
GRAMMATICALLY
CORRECT**

Keep it

**LESS THAN
500 WORDS**

Love, yer editor

Balance

I was repulsed by the article "Drawn from the Fire — Children of the Intifada" in the Nov. 30th edition of the Gazette. Not only was the article sensationalist (a full page dedicated to drawings of injured and dead children from one side of a political controversy), but it was also unbalanced. If the Gazette chooses to further the glorification of the Intifada's victims — a protest that has needlessly chosen violent rather than non-violent civilian disobedience, and that is directly linked with the most malignant international terrorist organization in the world today, the Palestine Liberation Organization — then let it at least glorify the victims of all sides. Let it include the Israeli victims, the Palestinians accused of cooperation and negotiations with Israel, and the members of the Intifada.

By the very gravity of the injustices performed by all sides of the conflict they demand balance and a full comprehension of the history and the present reality. This article dealt with neither, and I sincerely hope that in the future the Gazette will forego such reprehensible material.

Barbara Leiterman

when they automatically attach male references to doctors and lawyers (as Barbara Frum did while interviewing a female doctor!), that they do not mean to discriminate. Nevertheless, they are contributing to the perpetuation of a sexist society in which males are considered the norm, while females are the supplement, the incomplete human that was begotten from Adam's rib.

Changing language does not guarantee the end of sexual discrimination; we don't think anything short of change in attitudes and understanding can accomplish this. Therefore, in the meantime, we must do what we can to recognize the legitimate position of women in society with the same rights, respect, and opportunity as men.

V. Nguyen
H. Nguyen
P. Sarson

Racist

To the Editor:

Nuri Katz's commentary (Nov. 30) was extremely disturbing. Mr. Katz wonders if the potential reunification of Germany will be the beginning of an age of peace and freedom for all. He seems to doubt it. He writes that the possibility of a united Germany worries him. Then, in an attempt to explain his worries, he reminds us of the atrocities committed by the Nazis 50 years ago, events which occurred when Germany was a "unified entity". Clearly the implication is that we have cause to worry that a united and strong Germany may repeat the crimes of the Nazi era. This stance cannot be acceptable, for it carries with it a strong element of racial discrimination.

Certainly the Holocaust, in all its horror and tragedy, must never be forgotten. But Mr. Katz is not using this opportunity to remind us of that. He not only recalls the past, he wants to talk about the future as well. He says that he feels "some ambivalence at the prospect of a united Germany", that he is "wary" and even that he fears the possibility.

Mr. Katz writes that a unified Germany could have "enormous impact" on the "future of the world and its economy" and this makes him "very skeptical". He goes on to explicitly link a) his dislike of the prospect of a strong united Germany to b) the crimes of the Nazi regime, which happened in the context of a strong united Germany. This implies that if Germany becomes too powerful, we might see the rise of the Fourth German Reich.

The Nazi regime in Germany 50 years ago arose out of a unique set of historical circumstances. Naturally, these circumstances do not exist in Germany today.

If, therefore, one fears that the re-unification of Germany might result in something like Nazism, then clearly one does not believe that the Third Reich grew out of a specific historical situation. Instead one believes that the Germans, as a people, are somehow predisposed to cruelty and evil, that there is something inherently vicious about them which waits, under the surface, for an opportunity to break loose. This is clearly a racist attitude.

If we fear the reunification of Germany because of a bloody and tragic episode in its history, then we ourselves are guilty of this implicit racism. Atrocities against humanity have happened in many countries, throughout

Actions

Dear Editor:

We wish to comment on the discussion entitled "Minorities Ignored in Pamphlets" (Gazette, November). Mr. A. Beals applauds the affirmative action efforts of the Law School, and "challenges the other professional schools at Dalhousie to do the same".

The Maritime School of Social Work has had an affirmative action program for over 15 years. This consists of:

- * active recruitment of students from the three major regional minority groups (Blacks, Micmacs, and Acadians);
- * an elective course (now required) on Cross-Cultural Issues in addition to the incorporation of relevant materials into all classes;
- * a standing committee (Committee on Racial and Ethnic Affairs) consisting of faculty, students and community representatives;
- * a new faculty position specifically designated for a member of one of the three regional minority groups;
- * a Micmac B.S.W. Program designed for Micmac students (since 1984) which has incorporated considerable input from the Micmac community on design, personnel and curriculum decisions;
- * ongoing activities, student supporters, and special events related to issues of race and ethnicity.

With such an affirmative action program, the M.S.S.W. has set a standard for other professional schools.

Bessa Whitmore
Co-Chair, COREA

Attention, dear Gazette staff! Screenings and reviews of all staff positions will take place at the next weekly staff meeting, Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. Come and grill your favourite editor! Good times promised for all.

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Words

Dear Editor,

We applaud the Women and Law group for their effort in dealing with the problem of language discrimination. It has always been a sensitive issue for us and for other "fellow" women students, yet when we raise the issue, we are confronted with charges of being extremists, hard-liners, and nit-pickers. Or worse, we are dismissed as uptight feminists with absolutely nothing better to bitch about. As trivial as it may seem, we cringe whenever someone inadvertently uses the so-called generic pronoun "he" as we would cringe when the terms "nigger" and "chink" are used. We fully realize that when people use the pronoun "he", or when they refer to a "policeman" instead of a "police officer", or



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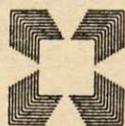
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