

EDITORIAL



The kill 'em. The building is ominous to behold. The monolithic fortress looms like a leaking nuclear reactor that has been encased in a sea of concrete to protect the populace from the dangers within.

From an angle it becomes apparent that the concrete is permeated at regular intervals by gun portals: more evidence of malevolent intent. As you pass through the drawbridge like entrance the mechanical roar serves to remind you that this is truly something unnatural.

It is the work of Sisyphus to put names to all the frustrations the library has to offer, but a student poll makes it clear that with relatively little prompting the truth will out:

We hate the squeaky little stools to which anyone under six feet in height must resort in order to reach 50 per cent of the books.

We hate the fluorescent lights that never seem to function and flicker stroboscopically when you're reading reserve material under the tyranny of the two-hour loan.

We hate the people who spread the surface area of one work station over an entire table for four, and matching chairs.

We hate the lack of chocolate chip cookies (doesn't everybody?).

We hate the librarians who speak at a decibel level proper to only very, very healthy lungs and larynxes (we can't imagine how they got so healthy considering the ventilation system).

We hate the ventilation system (or lack thereof).

We hate the fact that it thinks it knows more than we do (or, who wrote those books anyhow — dry academic types, just like those found in any lecture).

We hate seeing the "NO EATING" signs, and then sitting next to a garbage can full of week-old reeking banana peels.

We hate the flock of kamikaze pigeons that dive — bomb us when we attempt to enter the library. What are they trying to protect?

We hate going in when it's light and not leaving until it's dark. That sucks.

We hate the photocopiers that don't take change. Isn't our money good enough?

We hate the labyrinth that is the basement.

We hate the feeling of not being trusted. An alarm system more sophisticated than Fort Knox, and to protect what?

The library geeks



LETTERS

The **Dalhousie Gazette** welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and should be typed and double-spaced. The deadline for letters is Friday noon before publication. Letters may be submitted on Mac or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

Grawood "fun"

To the editor:

I caught the end of the film Robin Hood at the Grawood last night (Nov. 17). The climax of the movie culminated in a rape scene which was distastefully portrayed amid wisecracks made by the villain. Even more distasteful were the sporadic shouts of encouragement from males in the audience during that scene. Surely after a week of reflection on the struggles women face and the atrocities of the Montreal Massacre one might expect that such films not be supported?

What will it take to make people realize the detrimental effects the support of such films has on how we view the treatment of women and the crimes committed against women?

Mari Roughneen

Why Chromosome?

To the editor:

Why am I made to feel like an awful person even though I've never raped, assaulted anyone male or female? Is this week of rejection not reflection? Why not rise above the bullshit instead of trying to swim in it?

The world's a crazy, fucked-up place and it really does suck. But you've got to fight with love not hate. Hate breeds hate, and love breeds love. I realize it sounds like sappy bullshit but it's the only truth I know. As I walk to class I walk over several large painted messages, that seem to say to me, 'You are male, you are full of violence and you are a rapist.' Well to this I say NO. I am a human and I have feelings, and I have needs just like any other human, male or female. Conversely, it seems to say 'you are female, you cannot hurt and you are perfect.' Well I've met too many awful people of both sexes to believe it depends just on the Y chromosome. I don't think it is that simple.

I will continue to try and break the barriers I feel, through understanding and peace because this world cannot afford a war between the sexes.

Love,

a person who happens to have an X and Y chromosome

No thanks

To the editor:

This letter is in response to the article "Six pack at 7-11" published Nov. 5. The article was a real eye opener for me. Mr. Cameron may feel he has a wonderful idea, selling alcohol in the corner store, however, Mr. McDonald's personal comments say just what would happen if the Premier were to do this. Without intending it Mr. McDonald informs the public that in fact the law of selling alcohol to minors will be broken. He compares the selling of alcohol to the selling of tobacco products and suggests that the store owners will follow the law by not selling alcohol to minors.

The fact is 69 per cent of the current users of tobacco under 16 years of age get their cigarettes from the corner store. More shocking is the fact that 64 per cent of the grade six students had never been refused the purchase of tobacco products. Now I ask you if the law of selling tobacco to minors is so readily violated then who is to say that alcohol would not follow this same destructive path? — that of easy access

by our vulnerable youth resulting in yet another early addiction to a substance that society seems to label as socially acceptable.

Randy L. Bullerwell
Exec, Asst, N.S. Council on Smoking and Health

Thanks

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the societies who participated in the Society Challenge for the Canadian Paraplegic Association - Nova Scotia Division, on November 13, which raised over \$1100!

I would also like to express my thanks to everyone who braved the elements on Saturday to collect food for the Metro Food Bank Society. The community, and particularly Dalhousie students living in the area, deserve our sincerest gratitude for their incredible generosity in helping us collect over 1000 cans of food. We could not have done it without your help.

Again, many thanks to all of those who helped with the success of these events.

Lale Kesebi
VP Community Affairs, DSU
LETTERS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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before publication. *The Gazette* offices are located on the third floor of the SUB. Come up and have a coffee and tell us what's going on. The views expressed in *The Gazette* are not necessarily those of the Students' Union, the editors or the collective staff.