

FEEDBACKFEEDBACKFEEDBACKFEEDBACKFEEDBACK

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Dear Sir:

I wish to clarify one point before I pick up where I left off at the close of my last letter, that point being I do not seek to stifle anyone's freedom of expression. If this was the impression you got, I apologize, however, I thought I made my aims very clear at the end of the letter. The sole reason for the reference to editorial policy was to further draw attention to the complete and flagrant bias of Mr. Crosby's "Among Ourselves". I would like to turn my attention now to the subject of that column.

Actually, Mr. Crosby, in re-reading some of your material, I find several points upon which comment could be made. One is your remarkable lack of logical consistency, especially in the definition of faith (this you share apparently with E.C. Allen). Faith is not involved in sitting on a chair; the principle involved in that instance, as related ones which you dredge up from time to time is one of a learning situation; as opposed to faith in a supernatural intelligence/being, which does not require the faculty of rationality, as does learning—and you know it.

The point I wish to examine at length, sir, is your attitude towards your fellow man (in this particular case read students). For someone who professes love of his fellows, you seem to hold a very low opinion of them. Recall how many times you have pointed out the predilection many students have for getting drunk or stoned and/or having sexual intercourse, and how they eventually wake up dissatisfied. I grant the validity of your point, however, and leave you to wrestle with the problem of your apparent lack of charity. The affliction you describe is a common and chronic one

among those who find the pressure of taking a moral stand (and have no consistent moral code on which to base such a stand) intolerable and must escape by "turning off". But you knew that, didn't you? And I also submit, Mr. Crosby, that you know most people believe that when it comes to choosing a consistently viable code, they have but two (in fact, one) choices: your system or nothing. As long as you can convince people that the "elsewhere" you speak of as an alternative to Christianity actually leads to nowhere, you again have a monopoly.

I will not mince words—an alternative code does exist, and is viable. This moral code, as you may have deduced, is based on the premise that man's rational mind is the only tool he has to apprehend objective reality, and that the only decisions and beliefs that he makes and holds which are viable are those which he makes and holds by the rigorous application of logic. This automatically rules out the basic tenet of your code, Mr. Crosby, for, as you know and say, the only way to God and Christ is through faith, an irrational act, in that the existence of this/these intelligences/beings cannot be logically ascertained. You will of course argue that the existence of God can neither be disproved. This too I grant and reply—so what? I thus hold that the question has no bearing on the human condition as all of man's thoughts and actions must be conducted rationally if at all. On this point I wish to close and await your reply.

Sincerely,

L.J.S-M

Dear Sir:

When I first saw the signs around campus about the "Free Abortion on Demand" debate held last Tuesday at St. Thomas between Alastair Robertson of the NDP and Father Waugh, I felt rather annoyed. The image of two men sitting on stage discussing what rights women should be allowed is typical of our society, and symbolizes the difficulty women are having in trying to get decent abortion legislation in this country.

Other women had the same reaction. When we met at last week's Women's Liberation meeting, we decided to phone up Alastair (who was supposed to be speaking in favor of free abortion on demand) to ask him to step down in favor of a women spokesman. I made the phone call on the group's behalf, and Alastair's response was that he would think about it and reply the next day. During the conversation I told him that if the two men debated,

the woman's group had agreed to take action to point out the absurdity of the situation. Alastair said that he had been told Father Waugh refused to debate a woman.

Next day, Alastair informed me that he would ask to step down in favor of an NDP woman spokesman. If the organizers refused, to accept a woman, then he would not participate. As there aren't very many NDP women in the Women's Liberation group, the lot fell to me to present the women's arguments.

The day before the debate I phoned Alastair to make sure everything was okay. He said he was having second thoughts about stepping down, and would phone again in the morning. He didn't phone.

At noon, I discovered from a friend of his that he intended to go ahead on his own. In the afternoon the women's group circulated a leaflet mocking the debate. Later in the afternoon, he let me know that he had changed his mind again.

He wanted me to speak, so I made some hurried notes in preparation for the debate.

About a minute before the debate started, Alastair informed me that the organizers would not accept a woman as a speaker and he indicated that, despite his previous commitment, he intended to go on.

In his opening remarks he made a direct attack on me and the women's group, saying that I had used "abusive and violent language" in our conversations, and that the group was "just silly".

The facts show that Alastair acted in a deceptive and dishonourable way. He not only lied to me, he misrepresented our conversations to an audience of 300 people.

Angry that an officer of the NDP would act in such a shameful way, I destroyed my NDP membership card.

Mr. Robertson has made no apology to me or the Women's Liberation group.

Jacqui Good

Businessmen's Tour begins this week

By TERRY MACPHERSON

The first of a series of eight business men's tours of the UNB campus will be held Friday, Oct. 22. Organizer of these tours is SRC President Robert Poore. He is expecting approximately ten people on each tour.

These people will include landlords, downtown merchants, garage owners, managers of local companies, the Mayor of Fredericton, representatives from the Department of Tourism and RB Mills the Director of Student Aid for New Brunswick.

Poore says that one of the main objectives of the tours is to clear up the misconceptions that many local business men seem to have about "that bunch on the hill."

The tours will attempt to prove that university students do not just sit around drinking, taking drugs and fronicking if this can be done Poore feels that a better relationship will be established between students and businessmen. This is turn could conceivably lead to better deals for students in such areas as off-campus housing and summer and part time jobs.

The tour will begin at the Student Union Building which houses among other things CHSR and the Brunswickan. Other stops include a lecture hall, the gym, McConnell Hall and Lady Dunn Hall. It is expected that the businessmen will have an opportunity to meet J.O. Dincen, President of UNB.

There will be a follow-up story on the businessmen's impressions of the tour, next week. In the mean time Bob Poore is hoping that on Friday the students will have on their cleanest bluejeans.

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