

Porn editorial half-baked

Editor:
Serious thought on the structures of our sexist society, advertisements and pornography will surely be welcomed by groups organized around the politics of gender. The problem with your 23 February editorial "Soft pornography not so harmless" is that it only thinks through half of the issues.

How exactly are the censorship laws which you advocate to be phrased so that objectionable images are eliminated and those "portraying sexual acts between or among consenting adults in a spirit of sharing and caring" are permitted? If the regulation of pornography remains a matter for the Criminal Code it is enforced by the police.

And the police do not have a record of neutrality. The police raids at the Dorothy Cameron Gallery in the mid sixties, at the Isaacs Gallery in the early seventies, and repeated attempts to close down *The Body Politic* newspaper, show that the power of the state is used selectively and against artists and writers who seriously try to explore alternatives to actually existing patterns of gender and sexuality.

Feminist artists in Toronto such as Anna Gronau and Varda Burstyn, and feminist writers like Susan Crean, much as they dislike pornography, dislike increased state censorship even more. They are against censorship because, unlike your naive editorial writer, they know from experience that such power will be used against those who challenge the sexual status quo. My

own position (briefly) is that pornography should be removed from the Criminal Code and police surveillance, and included within the jurisdiction of the Human Rights Commission.

Many of those presently calling for increased state control over censorship are silent on issues about equal pay and employment opportunities for women, adequate day-care, abortion, and sexual preference. The feminist position on porn has been taken over by the enemies of feminism—the Moral Majority and other such groups. A video called *Confused: Sexual Views* was recently banned from the Vancouver Art Gallery. There are no sexual images in the video. It consists of interviews with 27 people discussing sexuality in an honest way. Under existing laws the attempt to do that can result in a police raid and criminal charges.

We don't need the censorship which you call for in your editorial. We need collectives engaged in serious artistic and intellectual work about sex, with the resources to produce and distribute adventurous and innovative material about sexual relations and gender. A really frightening thing about *Playboy* and *Blueboy* is that for far too many of us they are the only "alternative" sexualities available.

—Alan O'Connor

Army recruitment coerces students

Editor:

Youth unemployment officially stands at 18 percent. Unofficial figures put it closer to a staggering 25 percent. In addition, Canadians are being told to accept a permanent unemployment rate in double digits.

Given that bleak prospectus, what student wouldn't jump at the following?

FREE TUITION, GUARANTEED EMPLOYMENT UPON COMPLETION OF A DEGREE PROGRAM PLUS —AN INCOME WHILE STUDYING.

It's called the Army; catch the regular classified and 1/4-page ads appearing in *Excalibur*.

Coupled with Bette Stephenson's unremitting hatchet-job on the universal education system, an army recruitment [unintelligible] such as this serves to undermine and coopt students struggling to obtain an education in their chosen field of study. It blackmails those who can't afford the ever-increasing costs of post-secondary education.

And, it's a blatant attempt to coerce young people into joining the armed forces.

York's students should be outraged at the federal government's underhanded recruitment tactics, and even more so at *Excalibur's* show of support through acquiescence.

—Drew Burgess

Pleased with Dean

Editor:

Being a student representative of the Faculty of Arts Council, last March I had the opportunity to cast my ballot for a new Dean. I listened to the three finalized candidates and I spoke to each nominee individually about how they would improve the registration process. Dean Traves impressed me the most with his ability to listen to students and look at alternatives. It is encouraging to see ("Lineup relief for arts students," Feb. 23) promises not only made but more importantly kept. Thank you, Dean Traves, for keeping your promise.

—Andrew Zarnett

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DOUGLAS ROCHE P.C. FEDERAL M.P.

speaks on

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on

MONDAY, MARCH 5

at 3:00 P.M.

in STEDMAN "E"

York Association for Peace
667-3431 (Prof. McNamee)

CYSF ELECTION INFORMATION

1984 Annual Elections for The Council of the York Student Federation Inc.

Election Day: Thursday, March 15, 1984 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Advance Poll: Wednesday, March 14, 1984 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Nominations Open: Monday, February 6, 1984 9:00 a.m.
Nominations Close: Friday, March 2, 1984 9:00 a.m.
Campaigning Opens: Friday, March 2, 1984 9:01 a.m.
Campaigning Closes: Tuesday, March 13, 1984 12:00 Midnight

Positions Open:

1. President
2. Director of External Affairs
3. Director of Internal Affairs
4. Director of Women's Affairs
5. Board of Governors Representative
6. 9 Faculty of Arts Senators
7. 1 Faculty of Fine Arts Senator
8. 1 Faculty of Science Senator

A description of all available positions, nomination forms, a constitution and a copy of the Resolutions Governing the Conduct of Elections can be picked up in the C.Y.S.F. Office, Room 105, Central Square during office hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Board of Governors position is open to all York students who are Canadian citizens, while all C.Y.S.F. positions (1-4 above) are open only to C.Y.S.F. constituent members (Environmental Studies, Founders College, McLaughlin College, Stong College, Vanier College, Winters College and Graduate Students). In order to stand or vote for any student Senator position, each student must be a member of the appropriate faculty.

James Crossland
Chief Returning Officer
C.Y.S.F.

VOTING INFORMATION

Classification

McLaughlin College Student

Founders College Student

Stong College Student

Vanier College Student

Winters College Student

Graduate Student (Including M.B.A.)

Environmental Studies Student

Osgoode Student

Atkinson College Student

Calumet College Student

Bethune College Student

Glendon College Student

Faculty of Arts Students

Faculty of Fine Arts Students

Faculty of Science Students

Eligible to Vote For:

C.Y.S.F. Positions
Board of Governors
Referendum

Board of Governors

- 9 Faculty of Arts
Student Senators

- 1 Faculty of Fine Arts
Student Senator

- 1 Faculty of Science
Student Senator

ANOTHER SERVICE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE YORK STUDENT FEDERATION