

letters

Children, crime and the time they do

BY TRACY STEWART

one was gone except her and I. I asked her if she would stay and dance with me and she did. I did all I could not to stare at her, but she was gorgeous!!!

We danced for quite a while, took a break, and then danced some more. After quite a while, my friends came to get me and said that they were leaving. I talked them into waiting a couple of more dances, but finally,

I had to give in. I told her that I didn't want to leave and she said she didn't want me to go either, but I had to.

I haven't stopped thinking about her since. I felt really bad that I didn't get her phone number or last name or address or anything. I also felt bad that I didn't take the opportunity to really get to know her. Now that I think back on the evening, I realize what a nice girl she was, and I just hope that she doesn't think anything bad of me. I think she really wanted to talk and become friends, but I'm a little shy, and I have trouble thinking of things to say.

So now, I'm in search of my dance partner. I just want a chance to talk to her again and make sure things are good. I know this all sounds like a movie or something, but that's why I'm going to pursue her because you never know. She could be the girl I've been looking for.

If there is anyway possible that you could help me, I would really appreciate it. My name is Chad Bradbury. I go to the University of Maine at Orono. I am a senior, 21 years old. I will graduate next December. I am an elementary education major.

Again, I really want to talk to this girl, and I need your help. I have been searching for the right girl for a long time, and this just might be her. If you have any faith in love at first sight, or if you are any kind of romantic, you'll help me, or at least put me in touch with someone who will.

Thank you very much, and I'll be anxiously awaiting your reply.

Chad Bradbury

Chad.Bradbury@voyager.umeres.maine.edu

Contact the Gazette for more information on how to contact Chad, that sly devil.

IDS hypocrites

I hope the IDS pub crawl on February 8 was a huge success. Lots of alcohol consumption, sexual harassment, smoking cigarettes from multinational tobacco companies, techno music, infantilization of legal-aged students, obnoxious behaviour...

IDS...doesn't that stand for International Development Studies? Now, call me naive, but what does IDS have in common with a pub crawl? Frankly, I find it quite hypocritical for IDS students to participate in such an event.

Perhaps it was planned in the spirit of camaraderie, perhaps they discussed sustainable development and human rights, perhaps they even danced to world beat music. Perhaps the whole thing was just a ploy to see if anyone could detect the irony...

Or, perhaps they're on to something. Maybe all the world's problems could be solved if we could all just sit down and order a Keith's. In that case, I'll buy the next round.

Karen Stille
4th year Arts

From the moment a child passes from the mother's womb into the world s/he is to call home, it begins to learn the values of life taught by surrounding loved ones. A baby is dependent on its parent(s). As a child grows, it learns to make new friends and attempt new things on its own. Each day after that, the child begins testing its survival skills by trying to prove to its parent(s) that s/he can be independent. This is a part of growing up. Every teenager walks through this stage with their parents. These kids end up growing out of this stage and become parents themselves, to one day deal with their own kids' teenage years.

On the other hand, some children have more of a tendency to be more of a problem than others. The question is whether or not it is the fault of the parent, or other influences in the child's life.

Children all over the world have broken the law many times. These crimes range from stealing and assault to murder. How is it that a nine-year-old child knows about this type of violence? Does s/he see it on television, in society or in the family environment? There are many influences on a child and it is up to the guardian to mediate what s/he sees. I don't believe we should criticize everything around us because what we see is a learning experience. It is how the child sees the message displayed that should be concentrated on.

The justice system is the biggest problem. How exactly are these children to be punished? I see no problem in how adults are tried and convicted, but the Young Offenders Act has many problems that need to be worked out.

I think that if a child commits an act of violence, s/he is aware

of what s/he is doing and therefore, the consequences of the crime. If a child commits adult crimes, s/he should serve adult time. When I say adult crime, I mean serious crimes like arson, robbery, sexual assault and murder.

Some kids know that they can get away with anything and avoid severe punishment. They even test you by tempting you to take a swing at them so that they can charge you with assault. If children were treated like adults for serious criminal offenses, then maybe serious youth crime could be controlled.



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DSU GENERAL ELECTION

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

DSU President
- The President is the Chief Executive Spokesperson of the Union. This person sits on the Senate, Board, Faculty and School Councils and all committees of the Union. The President also enforces the By-Laws, Regulations and Act of Incorporation of the Union, as well as being the official voice of the DSU.

DSU Executive Vice President
- The Executive VP is the head of the internal matters of the Union. They chair the Honour Awards Committee, SUB Ops, the Recruitment Committee as well as sitting on the Grants, Special Events Committee. As well, they oversee the registration and constitutionality of subsidiary societies.

DSU Vice President Community Affairs
- The VP of Community Affairs develops, organizes and promotes charity events, clubs, societies and special activities for the DSU. They are also responsible for maintaining communication between the Student Union and the student body as well as with the community at large.

DSU Vice President Academic/External
- The VP Academic/External assists the President in formulating the DSU's internal and external policies. They also chair the Senate Caucus committee and representing the DSU on the Senate.

Senate Representative
- Represents the student body on the Senate.

Board of Governors Representative
- Represents the student body on the Board of Governors.

NOMINATION WEEK: February 17th starting at 8:30 am and ending February 21st at 4:30pm. Nomination forms can be picked up in the DSU Council office on the second floor of the SUB.

CAMPAIGN WEEK: March 3rd to March 7th.

ELECTIONS: March 10, 11, 12th

For further information, please contact the Chief Returning Officer, Jennifer Riordan, room 214 of the SUB (494-3527 or e-mail jriordan@is2.dal.ca) or any member of the elections committee:
- Brian Collins
- Julie Towers
- Angela Savard
- Katherine Hannah

They may be reached through the DSU Council office.

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If you have a reaction to anything you read in the Gazette be it good or bad - let us know, we can take it, usually.