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letters

French collection

I am convinced that Mr. Geldart's reaction regarding bilingualism does not represent the attitude of the majority of U of A students. It is unfortunate that a university student, such as Mr. Geldart, talks about intellectual development and doesn't seem to understand what it entails. Dr. Silla's article intended to show that those people or citizens who wish to know and learn the French culture and language should have the appropriate opportunity to do so. The opportunity should exist in as

much an extent as possible. If Mr. Geldart was personally offended, I am sure that was not the intention of the article. It is presently law in Canada that there exists Two official languages. The Canadians who realize and accept this law and take the initiative to know the languages are accepting Canada rather than dividing it. I personally feel that it is the so called undeveloped intellectuals like Mr. Geldart, who are dividing Canada.

I agree with Mr. Geldart when he says that the French Canadians are a minority in Alberta. So what? If they want to develop intellectually, academically, culturally or economically, why shouldn't they have their right? By trying to prevent or discourage this right, it is you that is violating human rights.

I am strongly opposed to Mr. Geldart's statement when he says that those people who want to learn the French culture and language should move to France. That is the same as saying that those who want to learn English should move to England. But you as much as I know that this is being unrealistic.

I am a Canadian; I am bilingual; and I am proud. I thank Canada for it. I fully respect all cultures which are part of Canada. But I will not move to France because an uncultured and undeveloped said intellectual suggest so.

Because a culture, such as the French Canadians, wishes to preserve and develop itself, Mr. Geldart says that English culture students find their intellectual development jeopardized. I do not believe that this is really the case. Canada includes many

cultures, two official languages and most important, Canadian citizens. The diversity of cultures in Canada is the element that makes this country unique. I respect it and I see no reason why any bitterness should exist. Why do the English people feel threatened??

Lastly, I saw no references in Dr. Silla's report suggesting that he wanted to disunite Canada. It appears that Mr. Geldart's biases and prejudices have overtaken his intellectual development and judgement. Imagine!! A Canada dominated by the English Culture and feeling threatened by a minority.

Roland Genereux
Education 4

Dear Saint George Geldart, Thank you so much for having at last heard my prayer! For so many years I have prayed for you to come back and fight this dreadful doug-le-tongued dragon of bilingualism that is threatening our "once great and united Canada."

How happy I am that you finally felt exasperated by the sacrilegious, disrespectful statements of that Dr. Silla and drew your holy sword against him!

Such persons are the cause of the state in which our country is now. With their intolerant and naturally rebellious character (we all know for what those Frenchmen are reputed), they have corrupted our culture, despised our traditions and cynically ridiculed us.

Now, forgetting in the most utterly revolting manner that

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