

Letters cont.

Editor's note: The following letter was published in the last issue of The Grind, but their letters editor felt it necessary to intrude upon the body of the letter - here it is "undefined." It also made us smile, so that's another good reason for printing Pearce's letter. To address her questions: The Gateway is delivered to us by our printer around noon Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our circulation editor then has to distribute copies to our circulation boxes. What happens to them? We print 13,000 copies. I guess people pick them up and read them. That's the only reasonable explanation for their disappearance.

To the Grind:
Your "paper" is obscene, adolescent and insulting. Your "humour" is not appreciated and your "news-paper" should be posted on the bathroom walls from whence the contents are derived. I would never recommend that any money be donated to you from the S.U. You already have piles of your papers sitting around campus and no one is rushing to pick them up - what do you need more money for? Cut down on the number of issues you churn out and you'll easily pick up the extra 50¢ you are looking for.
Your efforts are not a plus for advocating free speech and, in fact, you are probably adding fuel to the fire for censorship.

J. Pearce
Arts II

Huh?

Jesus Christ! Can you do something about this for once please? I mean, really! Apartheid all over the world in South Africa, Phase III so big I can't even find World of Shoes and I sure as Hell am scared of AIDS even though some of my friends aren't.

But really! Jesus Christ! People with mouldy hair, drugs are over sports (every pitch a bean ball) and alleged profs allegedly feeling allegedly up alleged students and (allegedly) more allegedly alleged drug abuse? Money for alleged legal fees? HA! I didn't even vote for you. (By the way, what's a beer worth today? I hear it fluctuates with the Price Fisher council.)

Really though! (J.C.!) Where do you write to nowadays? One's yellow, one's pink, one's 'don't care', one's 'don't think'. You callin' that a hatrack, Fatboy? Really though! Guns don't kill whales, nukes kill outlaws! Undershaf was more righter than Ron (Reagan).

By the Bye — Hey Mike E. Yeah you! Cut the crap & let's play!

James Joyce had nothing to do with this, he is still (thank God) dead.

Ich(abod) bin Krank
Arts III
Yeah? Well your faculty's a joke too!

Prophet of relevance

I am writing to commend Mr. Maxwell for his eloquent, perceptive and thoughtful letter published in the October 16th issue of *The Gateway*. When students such as Grant Draper stray from the correct course of action, it takes clear thinkers like Mr. Maxwell to remind us of what is important and what is irrelevant.

For those who were unfortunate enough to have missed his letter I will summarize it briefly here. His purpose was to define the scope of "Student Council Representatives" action. His point (in opposition to Mr. Draper) was that discussion of issues at council meetings beyond those which directly affect students was inappropriate. i.e. South Africa. In his letter, he gave some cogent examples of issues which did not "directly" affect U of A students: the tragedy in Biafra and the Ethiopian famine.

To emphasize Mr. Maxwell's point it might be useful to examine further examples, past and present, which do/did not directly affect U of A students and are therefore irrelevant.

The extermination of millions of Jews did not directly affect us.

The bloody U.S. civil rights movement did not directly affect us.

The assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. did not directly affect us.

At My Lai, Vietnam did not directly affect us.

Soviet human rights abuses around the world do not directly affect us.

American subversive activities around the world do not directly affect us.

The inevitable starvation of millions of people in over 25 nations in Africa will not directly affect us.

Violent civil wars in Nicaragua and El Salvador do not directly affect us.

The public perception of the actions of some fictional John Rambo do not affect us.

At home:
The violations of the civil rights of the Witnesses of Jehovah under the Duplessis government in Quebec did not directly affect us.

The internment of over 10,000 Japanese-Canadians in the 1940's did not directly affect us.

The actions of an incompetent, bumbling federal government do not directly affect us.

The actions of an inept and unsavory Lougheed (now god forbid: Getty) government do not directly affect us.

I hope this brief list has clarified matters somewhat. Imagine the audacity of Mr. Draper - wanting to discuss irrelevant issues such as those listed, when we have truly important and "direct" issues to discuss. We must not clutter the agenda with topics such as South Africa, when vital issues like the length of parking pass lines, S.U. bookstore hours, and what type of pizza to have for dinner must be discussed.

Thank you, Mr. Maxwell, for putting us back on the correct path from which Mr. Draper had so carelessly strayed.

We must discuss only those issues which in addition to being direct, are clear, distinct and concrete. Symbolic acts and discussion have no place in Students' Council. Remember Mahatma Gandhi.

In closing, one word of warning, Mr. Maxwell - do not wander too far from the university grounds - you might find other "less direct" issues affecting you. And they might not be pretty.

With eyes firmly shut,
Robert Girvan
Arts III

Spender clarification

To the editor:

Media often makes much of catch phrases - often neglecting to explain or present them in their context of origin. This is one possible explanation for the defensive protests to Dale Spender's recent lectures at the U of A. Yes, she does wear a lot of purple, but her wardrobe was never once a topic in her lectures. As is the case for most public women figures, however, her attire was subject to criticism (mostly from men).

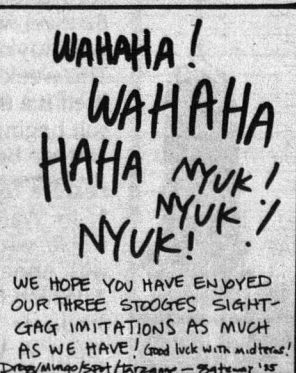
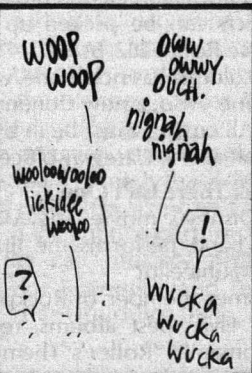
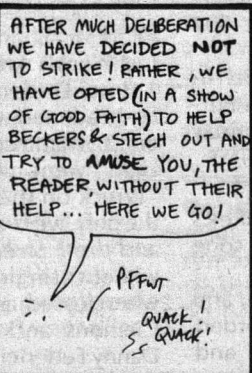
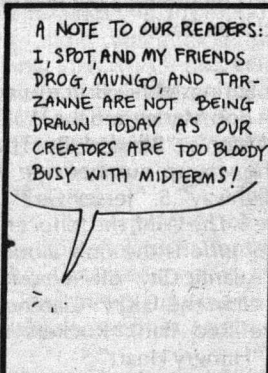
Her suggestion that women should be rude to three men a day was likewise distorted by the media. Spender's contention is that most women choose to acquiesce to men's interruptions or challenges rather than to be perceived as "rude" by asserting the legitimacy of their claim to an equal voice.

This woman talked about the realities of women's lives; what she had to say was emphatically received by women who came from all over Edmonton to attend her campus lectures. Unfortunately, the traditional (read: male), hierarchical structures of academia do not acknowledge this valuable experience of sharing to be a legitimate learning process. Spender's response is that co-operative learning is, perhaps, the only legitimate form of learning and that women have been denied co-operation in "official" systems of knowledge for too long.

Literature, sexuality, communication and language, and intellectualism were her main topics; all of which were largely ignored by the media and by overbearing male critics who wish to dwell on trivialities.

Siobhan Avery,
Bernice Pelletier
for the U of A Women's Centre Collective

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Beckers and Stech

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OCT. 30 7:00 p.m.
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What Can Women Do About Pornography?
Alternatives — Panel Discussion

NOV. 6
4:30 - 8:00 P.M.
BACKROOM OF POWER PLANT

Positive Images of Women — Celebration, Wine & Cheese Social, Photo Display, Discussion,
Also presented with help from P.A.S.A.G.

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