

LETTERS

CKDU-FM can do more for you

To the editor,

Halifax needs another FM station! There are gaps in the present FM networks that could be filled by the variety of programming which CKDU can provide. There is a large audience in Metro which is weary of the alternatives available for FM listening. We have one station which is nothing but Top 40 AM radio masquerading as FM. And the CBC, well the CBC is the CBC, a paradox in the sense of being interesting but dull. For all the urbane cowboys in town, we've got CHFX. The newcomer on the horizon is CHNS FM, who promises to present a progressive rock format. Let's hope it's not another Top 40, rock jock, what's happening, baby?

The effective role which CKDU can play in the student community of Dalhousie is at present far below its potential. Under the present broadcasting range of the SUB and the residences, CKDU reaches only a portion of the student body, and oftentimes is nothing more than background noise because of poor quality equipment. A broadcasting

facility with a city wide range would reach the entire student community at home and in the automobile. University news and important issues would be brought to the university community with much greater effect than the present mediums of print, which are limited due to space and frequency of publication. Besides, for the most part, these publications only receive cursory glances from their readers. Apathy reigns, as usual, but perhaps if the community had a high quality listening medium, the student body would be much more aware of important issues affecting them, and consequently give more of a damn. Nothing finds solutions to problems better than solidarity.

We all know that in order to operate, an organization of any size gets caught up in the bureaucracy of red tape and finances. Unfortunately, many policies and facilities which are badly needed in a community get put off because they are considered "not feasible at the present time". Let's not make the mistake that our governments tend to

be experts at, and put off, a badly needed facility until ten years down the road when it will cost five times as much. CKDU FM, Cultural and Community Radio. Sort of has a nice ring to it.

James Swansburg

Dear Editor,

As a representative of Dharmadhatu, a buddhist meditation centre, I would like to voice our support for CKDU Radio Station in general; and in particular that it becomes a regularly broadcasted FM station. It is clear that CKDU is unique in the scope of its editorial interests and fairness in airing programs on a wide range of important, but not often covered, subjects.

At present, very few people have the opportunity to hear these broadcasts. I feel this is unfortunate because there are no doubt many people in the Halifax and Dartmouth areas who would enjoy and benefit greatly from access to this important community asset. We certainly hope that CKDU will soon be available to everyone who is interested.

Sincerely,
James Sacamano, M.D.

Single parents are in a unique situation

Dear Editor,

Recall, if you would, an article that appeared in the January 22 issue of the *Gazette*, in which author Greg Dennis reported the Halifax Student Housing Society had recently voted down a motion to allow single parents "easier access to living accommodations at Dalhousie's Peter Green Hall." Mr. Roland Hill, manager of Peter Green Hall, allegedly stated that he was not in favour of single parents (in regard to the motion mentioned above) because "single parents were a financial risk and their children obstreperous." Upon reading Mr. Hill's comment I immediately ran for my dictionary. With book-in-hand I began reading what Mr. Hill had described my child as being—

1. resisting control in a noisy and difficult manner; unruly
2. noisy, clamorous, or boisterous (Random House Dictionary of the English language, 1971).

As a single parent I resent being categorized as a "financial risk" and my daughter couldn't be more undeserving of being labelled "obstreperous." Mr. Hill's statement was very unfounded, particularly with respect to single parents who attend university. Instead of suggesting that they are irresponsible, not only to their financial obligations, but to their children as well (i.e. correctly assuming that Mr. Hill has implied that the "delinquency" of children from single parent families are a direct result of the lack of proper "upbringing"), he should recognize that single parents who make the decision to attend university and

follow it through to the end possess a tremendous amount of courage, conviction, and above all, perseverance.

Any student can sympathize with another student's problems, parents can sympathize with other parents, and so, many of us can identify with some of the numerous things that single parent students experience. I know that I can. I'm a twenty year old single parent of a three year old child in my third year of university. I've worked hard and long to be the best parent I can be and to continue to work towards my career without compromising my daughter. I refuse to let ignorant statements like Mr. Hill's go unnoticed. It was a direct statement made about myself and my daughter and I demand an apology.

How could anyone say such a thing I asked myself. Your ignorance is my only answer, Mr. Hill! If you were truly knowledgeable about single parents—their lives, their struggles, their hopes and dreams—you wouldn't make such a remark. I tell not only

you Mr. Hill, but all the people who take the time to read this article—no one is ever justified in grouping people into a category and making very generalized comments about them. There is no "typical" example. We are each unique; are not single parents just as unique?

It infuriates me that such a statement was even made, but the real tragedy is that it is narrow-minded people like Mr. Hill who perpetuate the stereotyping that single parents often fall victim to. Our children are unwitting victims now, but they become tomorrow's victims. I hope for my child's generation that people will take each individual on his / her merits, whether he / she be married or single, male or female, black or white, handicapped, a college graduate or a high school dropout. I argue this not only for single parents, but for anyone who feels that he / she is not being treated fairly by being "packaged" in very general categories.

Ms. Theresa MacDonald

CLASSIFIED

Lady's rope chain bracelet LOST on campus (between the Geology offices at the Dunn bldg. and the Life Sciences Centre), on Tuesday, February 17th, between 3:15 and 3:45 p.m. **Sentimental value.** Reward. Please call Security at 424-6400 or 424-2096 between 9:00-5:00. Thank you!

RAPE VICTIM

Sharing your experience can be of constructive value to sister rape victims. A Dalhousie graduate is researching, for her book, the aftermath of rape. She would like to speak with you, over the phone, confidentially.

—ask for Cathy 424-2287 before 5:00 p.m.

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