

editorial

Soapbox socializing

It seems that *Gateway* isn't the only place where changes are occurring. Doug Elves, new forums director and RATT entertainment coordinator, made plans a short while ago to turn RATT into a coffee house, similar to the way it was in the years before it received a liquor license. His ambitions were soon shot down though, because the executive knew better than to dare take beer away from its voters especially at this time of year.

But, outrageous as this outrageous suggestion may seem (sic) it does have some sort of reason behind it. As Elves explains, most entertainers don't like playing in pubs - due to the noise level and short attention span. Piped music is the only alternative but a university campus with the archetypal coffee-house is definitely a step behind the sixties. After all, what better place is there to enjoy live entertainment, intelligent conversation, and soap-box activist speeches? And there's always that old student standby - beer.

We already have the beer but entertainment is noticeably lacking. One alternative is to leave RATT the way it is and implement the coffee-house in the Bear Pit. With a little money and management it could become a focal point for after-hours socializing, and fill a sorely neglected gap in university life in the seventies.

Establishment of a coffee-house may even become a promise in the upcoming SU elections, especially if we ever get rid of HUB. With that blemish washed from the hands of the students union they should be free to devote a bit more attention (and a lot more money) to student services. In fact, once relieved of the disaster that is HUB, money should flow through SU offices faster than crap through a goose.

Let's just make sure some of it gets back to us in the form of tangibles - consider your vote carefully. For a change.

Kim St. Clair

Admit your compulsions by kissing your father

In a recent class on the sociology of sexuality at which members of the Gay Alliance Toward Equality were the guest speakers, I made what appeared to be an attack on bisexuality. By way of an apology, I would like to explain what was meant by that statement.

At first glance, the word "bisexual" appears to be self-explanatory, a bisexual person is one who has engaged in sexual acts with both sexes. It is not as simple as it might appear.

If the person has had one or two bisexual experiences, can we say that person is a "bisexual"? What if these experiences were engaged in many years ago? Would that qualify one to be classified as a bisexual? If a person is strictly heterosexual, but from time to time has erotic sexual thoughts about the same sex, does that make one a bisexual?

Many men have felt the desire to throw their arms around another man and perhaps even kiss him. In our present Western culture few men like to admit such thoughts and feelings, but they are there. Would simply having thoughts like these classify one as a "bisexual"? Many people think so on the assumption that unless something was going on underneath the thoughts would not be there. They accept the old saying, "Where there's smoke, there's fire."

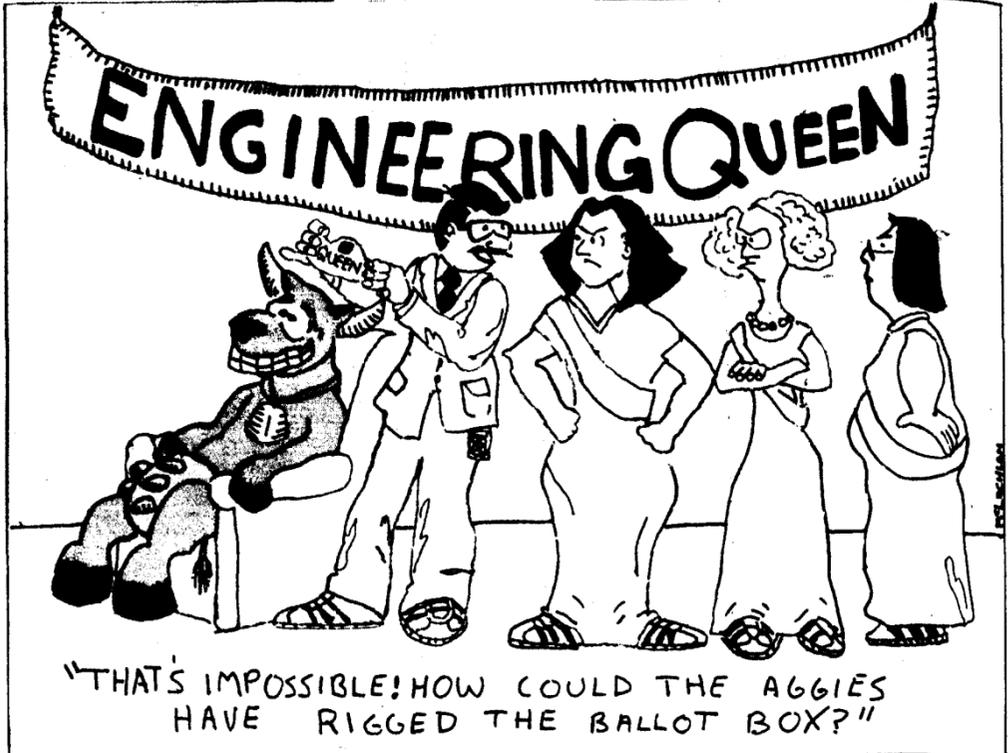
To be bisexual, I believe at least two things are necessary: (1) a repeated pattern of overt sexual acts with both sexes; and

READER COMMENT

(2) an active enjoyment of both sexes during the sexual acts. Thus, a bisexual is a person who engages in and enjoys sexual acts with members of both sexes.

It is possible for a person to have sex with both male and female partners and yet be basically homosexual. When this is the case, one side of his sexual life is being used for a cover-up. Many people who are gay claim that the bisexual is basically homosexual, but merely covering up his homosexuality by saying he is interested in members of the opposite sex and even going so far as having sex with them. They claim that when the person can admit and face his basic homosexual orientation, he will give up his bisexuality and "come out" into the homosexual world. When this is true, it is often very difficult for the basically homosexual person to face it, because he has erected a superstructure to cover up his homosexuality, and the abandoning of this superstructure brings about a short-circuiting of his entire life.

There is also another broader question highlighted in the life of a bisexual. Is it possible to love two people at the same time? One man, who thinks he can, says of his wife:



letters

Plugged for beer

Last Saturday night I attended the social at Dinwoodie in SUB. After the dance I witnessed a very disturbing incident.

While my friends and I were relaxing outside the building our attention was drawn toward loud shouting coming from the main entrance of SUB. Within a few seconds two young men were seen racing from the building with stolen cases of beer under their arms. They were being hotly pursued by a rotund Barnes security guard.

The guard's frantic appeals for the robbers to stop were futile, as he raced into my full view, his actions became frightening.

He reached into his jacket and brandished a black revolver, hardly losing a stride. Then he ordered the youths to "Stop or I'll shoot!" and aimed the gun at the nearest youth's back. The horror show that I was witnessing ended when one of the robbers stopped and the guard hustled him back into the SUB.

I've been confronted with two nagging questions since I witnessed this incident, perhaps someone who reads the *Gateway* can answer them for me...

Was the gun that Barnes' security guard produced a real one, and more importantly, was he prepared to use it if one of the beer robbers hadn't stopped?

Jim MacKenzie
PD/AD Education

Disqualified?!

I wish to launch a really strong protest about my disqualification as Agriculture Queen during Engineering Week. I mean, even Bert at the Link Hardware store, after I woke him up said I was a shoe-in. At least, he made some reference to 'old leather'.

What is more, I wish to state at this time that my engagement to Massey Ferguson is off. He really got mad when he read in 'The Bridge' that I had a part-time job at the stockyards, because I didn't tell him about it. You see, I was working there part-time to raise money for a new manure spreader for Massey's birthday, and I already had \$23.50 put away. Now it looks like I'll spend that money sending copies of the Bridge to my relatives in Grenfall.

All of this has me really upset, so my marks are beginning to suffer - my Liquid Manure Processing prof has told me that unless I really crack down, I'm not going to make it through the section on Turkey Pi.

Could you people out there see about getting me reinstated as Agriculture Queen? My dad says I have Heather Cheeseman and Shelley Kostuk and all those other girls beat by a country mile. He said - "Alice, honey, with a face like yours, you'll have those Aggies hornier than Old Man Fernstein's bull."

Yee gods, doesn't he know Aggies are more interested in cows and sheep than little old me, or any other girl, for that matter?

Alice Chalmers

Ag 1

Mill grindings

It seems the grumblings of upcoming presidential candidate Brian Mason may have been brought about by a possible electoral confrontation with an old enemy from the south, John McCormack. McCormack is presently a law student here on campus but is a past-president of the U of C's Students' Union. During his term McCormack apparently had a run in with Mason (who headed the U of C Judiciary

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also experienced a deepening of what they call "love" for their partners. The true bisexual may have successfully accomplished this division in another way.

Many of those questioned approach their sexual relations with members of their own sex as sexual encounters and not as relationships. This seems to be a critical distinction in the verbalization made about bisexuality. Most discussions about the subject by those claiming to lead a bisexual life stress the necessity to relate to the "whole person" and not merely on a sexual basis. The homosexual man who is trying to also "get it on" with women will explain he is not looking for a one-night stand. He claims he does not want to hop from one bed partner to another. There always seems to be an attempt to relate on levels other than

sex. Time is important. They feel it may happen that sex is brief lasting only a time or two, but that this is only an accident along the way toward finding a lasting, fuller life with one person at a time.

In any pattern of human behavior that deviates from the statistical norm, one should ask if the deviant pattern is a true resolution or if it is merely some type of escape. In many of the bisexuals I have interviewed it has obviously been an escape or an experimentation that will come to an end when some set of circumstances change.

H. Wallis

"My loving men didn't mean I loved her any less." When a man goes to bed with a woman who is not his wife, he will often tell her he is in love with her, and our automatic assumption is that he is kidding himself. Does this have to be so? Could it be possible to love two people at the same time?

I think we have to consider seriously the possibility that this can be true. Like so many other ideas, it may depend on how we define the word "love". Poets and writers throughout the centuries have tried to define the word, but it always has a way of squirring out of any definition we attempt to pin on it. A man loves his wife, his children, his dog. I think it safe to say there are different types of love. Love does not have to be mutually exclusive. Most men have little or no problem loving their mothers and their wives at the same time. They know in their hearts that they are different kinds of love. Perhaps we can think of bisexuality in the same light.

If we equate sex with love, then we are forced to look upon bisexuality as an unresolved conflict in each and every case. It might be possible for some people to honestly regard sex as merely a game to be played with someone one enjoys and completely reserve the feelings of love for other levels. Most married couples have experienced a lessening of the sexual drive for their partners after they have been married for a number of years. They have