Letters

Etiquette quiz

Recently, I received two calls harassing me for my letter

"Greek lifestyles."
Greekies, must vo

Greekies, must you prove me right? If I would write the first letter about your behavior, why wouldn't I comment on this too?

Since you're incapable of doing it yourselves, I'll provide you an etiquette quiz. Thus, the proper course of action will be utilized when someone paddles you in print.

- 1. Dealing with negative letters?
- a. Ignore the writer, knowing that they're a fucking narrowminded son-of-a-bitch.
- b. Drink beer and throw the empties out the broken windows of your house.
- c. Call and harass them for the answer.
- 2. When you decide on answer C, the next step is?
- a. Call the writer a fucking narrow-minded son-of-a-bitch and threaten to break his face.
- b. Drink beer and throw the empties out the broken windows of your house.
- c. Call and harass them for the answer.
- 3. After choosing C again, you?
- a. Ask for the address between gulps of beer so that you can break the face of the fucking narrow-minded son-of-a-bitch.
- b. Have the guys in your house drink beer and throw the empties into the street.
- c. Decide that you drank too many beers and call and harass the person.

I'm sorry if this test was biased or too hard to answer. Most words were under two syllables. Don't harass people. It's uncool (oh no) and proves the charges I leveled against the Greeks.

Blake Louis Sliter Political Science

Abhorrence

It is appalling that the current administration of this country knows no restraint in promoting a negative international image of the United States; the image of a society of elitist, warmongering malcontents who are willing to provoke and resort to violence anytime it serves even a limited self-interest.

Thus far it has graced us with distribution of CIA pamphlets to Nicaraguan "freedom fighters" advising the best methods for abduction and "interrogation" of civilians. It has involved us in air piracy with the forcing down of an unarmed Egyptian airliner in Italy by U.S. fighter planes.

It has steadfastly refused to negotiate realistic arms control, despite pleas of willingness by the Soviets, and abandoned diplomacy entirely by scheduling nuclear tests in the face of their voluntary unilateral test ban.

Now, with the bombing of Libya, we are treated to a direct act of war by the United States against a country which cannot possibly pose any serious direct threat to national security, despite Khadafy's ravings. If Congress has any conscience at all, it will immediately relieve Ronald Reagan of all presidential duties pending the outcome of impeachment proceedings for this latest outrage.

All my life I have found some points of disagreement with government policy, but not until the Reagan administration have I been so thoroughly disgusted as to actually feel ashamed to be an American.

Hiawatha Graduate, Music

Inexcusable

Concerning the Libyan bombings:

Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style. Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300, EMU.

President Reagan's "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" philosophy will merely gain for us a nation of sightless people who cannot communicate. There are other options which can be exercised; to answer madness with further madness is inexcusable.

> Christine Wilson English/Journalism

Religious myths

Some candid reflections on the human condition and death: The conceptual intelligence of human beings has enabled us to apprehend our condition as finitemortal. But we have difficulty accepting this limited existence. And so the idea of death — our impulse to deny it — has become a motivational force in human history.

In the efforts of the human animal to overcome the irrepressible anxiety regarding death as our final destiny. various mythologies have been devised. For example, there are the religious cosmologies which feature an heroic sayior with supernatural powers, who rises from the dead and demonstrates the possibility of our "extension into eternity." Out of these myths (nurtured by the irrational faith of religious encapsulation), a belief in immortality is implanted. With this illusory belief, many then manage to avoid facing our apparent puniness in an ambiguous, disinterested cosmos.

In short, to see the human predicament as it really seems to be, and to grapple with the problem of meaning in the context of our organism impotence and death, can be psychologically overwhelming. Hence, the "leap of faith" belief in God stratagem as a taming of the terror of the unknown.

But in the interest of honesty and intellectual maturity, do we need to be protected from reality by these culturally-ingrained fantasies?

Humankind can achieve "functional transcendence" by becoming responsibly engaged with constructive endeavors in the secular here and now — while continuing to remain open to fresh scientific evidence relative to the unknown.

Ronald J. Rousseve Professor Counseling Psychology

PASSOVER SEDER

Come join us Thursday, April 24, at 5 pm, at the Koinonia Center (across from PLC). There will be a \$4.00 admission fee.

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