

Letters

Solutions exist

Dan Goulet actually calls for quarantining AIDS victims. That makes as much sense as leper and tuberculosis colonies, or not allowing people with hepatitis to work around food. Get real Dan.

Why violate people's civil rights? Remember — life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Dan, if some people want the right to spread their diseases to others then what of it? And Dan, AIDS can be stopped without your proposals before it wipes us all out.

Today over 100 types of AIDS virus are flourishing. If even one exists today, or develops, that could be passed by insects as easily as malaria (this possibility increases as the number of infected people running around increases) then what of it? Solutions exist.

Were AIDS to hop into the bug population, we could always dump enough poisons into the environment to completely eradicate all biting insects. This, of course, would seriously impact on the ecosystem and practically all birds, freshwater fish and most other non-vegetarian wildlife would perish. But hey, such is a small price to pay for sexual freedom, isn't it?

Also, as millions died, non-infected people could be paid huge amounts of money to have large families — like the Soviets do. This would keep the population levels adequate and would be welcomed by Mormons, Catholics and conservative Protestants who very rarely catch AIDS, and who prefer large families. Now that's a way to get rid of humanistic liberalism.

Lori Parkman
Elmira

Better way

I am writing out of concern for the rising cost of education at this and other college campuses around the U.S. For those of you in support of divestment, have you thought at all about the repercussion at this university? It is simple finance. If you pull your investments out of the companies doing business in South Africa, which are some of the best low-risk stocks and bonds, you will be putting the University's endowment at great risk. This could raise your tuition greatly because on the average, the return on university investments will be lower. This is because the University will be limited to more risky securities to invest in, which could lead to our money being lost to those investments.

Other than our moral gratification, I don't see how divestment will help the blacks in South Africa gain their much deserved freedom. If you don't believe me (and there is no reason why you should, I do not claim to be an expert like many who write to the Emerald), read the article "The Drive to Divest" in the recent issue of Newsweek on Campus. I was shocked to find out how little effect divestment would have on the South African economy.

I think it is very noble that this student body is trying to make a change where a wrong is being committed. There has to be a better way to bring about change in South Africa, though. I hope we find that way soon.

Michael E. Magee
Finance/Management

Misattribution

Last Thursday's Emerald included an article which dealt with University Senate action on the motion to extend the add deadline, in which a statement was misattributed to me. I did not say that students should know the content of the courses they take prior to registering. The comment was made by another senator. I believe that students can have only a marginal understanding of what a course will be like before registering, and I supported the motion to extend the drop deadline.

Robert I. Hurwitz
Music Professor

Safety first

Nobody harboring the AIDS virus (HTLV-III) should be allowed entrance into America. We should follow Saudi Arabia's example and adopt the plans now being considered by our government to ban infected individuals from immigrating to the U.S.

The U.S. Constitution mandates that government promote the general welfare of America. At the very least, laws should be passed designed to protect public health.

The majority of Americans support the idea of quarantining AIDS patients. Also, nobody with HTLV-III virus, pumping through their body should be allowed to work around food, children or in health fields. Furthermore, since homosexuals are by far the number one risk group for AIDS infection, any homosexual caught donating blood, sperm for artificial insemination or organs should be fined and/or jailed!

I couldn't care less if some might accuse me of being mean or insensitive. In truth, it's people who backed (and those stubborn enough to still back) acceptance of homosexuality, and who attack traditional morality, who are the real villains. Such people deserve as much credit for AIDS as those who indulged in lifestyles that made such epidemics inevitable.

The blood of every victim of AIDS, and the perhaps millions of future victims, is on the hands of those who helped assault traditional morality, and those who continue to stand against measures to combat the AIDS epidemic.

Michael Cross
Graduate, Political Science and History

Not mentioned

In response to Mr. Jacobs' accusation that many lesbians on campus, particularly ourselves, are sexist, we point out that nowhere in our letter was gender mentioned.

May I suggest that by making an assumption that we were singling out males, Mr. Jacobs was himself being sexist. In addition, as co-directors of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance we represent an organization made up of men as well as women. It was not merely lesbians who were addressing the issue of homophobia. Nor do our views as an organization necessarily represent those of all lesbians and gay men on campus.

The phrase "white, heterosexual, able-bodied rich kids" was followed by "not to imply that any one group of individuals is responsible for these offenses." We were not attacking nor "alienating" any one group, nor implying value judgments, but merely pointing out that other realities exist. There is much diversity on this campus that can be supported and celebrated by us all.

We wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Jacobs that we all need to work together to solve the problems of "judgmental abuses." GALA consistently supports and endorses the efforts of other organizations to end oppression on all levels. We applaud the efforts of all those who also work for an end to injustice.

Judy C. Finch
Leah Juniper
Co-Directors, Gay and Lesbian Alliance

A dollar a day

Shoot a photograph, quote a couple of people, and give your story a personal touch — that seems to be the recipe for the article about the GTF picket line (ODE, April 28).

The impression created by this report is that GTFs face a financial problem, that Chancellor William Davis is in charge of the situation, and the GTFs will make it through the next months anyway — just like Glen Mittermann, the GTF quoted, who states, "This isn't something that's going to break us. It's just one more thing in a really tight budget."

Maybe so for GTFs who are U.S. citizens, equipped with the American pioneer spirit, who can work off campus, are eligible for tax breaks and have other resources. For foreign GTFs, however, things look different. Since 1985, more than 15 percent of the monthly \$500-600 have been withheld for state and federal taxes, leaving us with about \$430-490.

That means our April paycheck will leave us with about \$280-340 to live on; after taxes, about \$150 for the tuition waiver taxation will be withheld. Next month, same procedure. And in June, once again!

Clearly, this is not "just one more thing" for us. This will break our neck, in fact. For the GTFs I know, there's simply no way to make do on that amount through spring quarter. Maybe Glen could help us out with a quick workshop on "How to survive on a dollar a day."

Gert Fehlner
GTF, German
Tuesday, May 6, 1986

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