Men are also victims

In regards to Shoshanah Oppenheim's letter (ODE, April 1), she has every right to be offended. We are all influenced by media, arts and literature.

And I have the right to be offended by the all too typical complaint, usually by women, that men are the perpetrators and women the victims in domestic and sexual abuse. I won't even pretend to suggest that I can link pornography, sexual abuse and violence against anyone.

As a therapist, I work with sexual abuse victims. And a lot of my clients are men who were abused by women. And I can state a precept that more than 40 percent of the victims of spouse abuse and domestic violence are men. It's just that society dictates that it is "unmanly" to report such crimes.

Oppenheim uses the words "women" and "female" almost a dozen times in her letter. I say women are exploited in pornographic films and literature but so are men. And many of the publishers, editors and filmmakers of pornography are women.

One has only to look at the billboard, located on Main Street in Springfield, that states: "Real Men Don't Use Porn." Again, men are depicted as the only "users" of porn.

The next time you are at your local video shop, watch who goes in and out of the adult movie section. It's not just men.

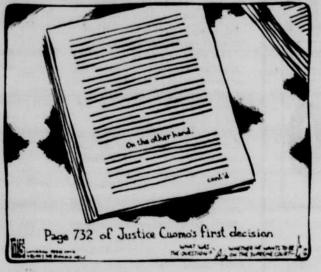
I am sick and tired of reading letters like Oppenheim's, pointing the twisted, biased judgmental finger at us males. One more reason to believe that men are the last group it is OK to single out, joke about and discriminate against. It's trendy.

Colin Campbell Alumnus

Sisson's right

Because the responses to Stephanie Sisson's column





(ODE April 5) will be numerous, I shall make mine short and easy to print. I really hope you will give me that courtesy. My feelings are concise:

Two words: Hooray Stephanie!

This is all I would like printed; it says it all.

Chad McHenry Pre-PPPM

How to use porn

What's with that billboard the Christians put up in Springfield next to the adult book store? It says, "Real Men Don't Use Porn." What do they mean by that? How does one "use" porn?

It reminds me of a scene from National Lampoon's Family Vacation. Rusty Griswald, 13, is hanging around with his cousin who has a small collection of nudie magazines. Rusty asks if he can have one.

"No." his cousin says. "I use them a lot."

"How do you 'use' a magazine?" Rusty asks.

In reply, his cousin makes a quaint yet vulgar reference to masturbation.

Is that what those foul-minded Christians are talking about? Imagine the sort of person who would have himself pictured on a huge billboard proclaiming himself a "Real Man" because he doesn't manipulate his filthy, reeking generative organs.

Scott Bishop Unemployed

Multiculturalism needed

This letter is for people who get stories mixed and have a rather cheap understanding of racial issues. I have heard the rumor that students of color are trying to force their values on other students and that they only look through a "multicultural lens."

One of the main reasons racism exists today is because it is not seen through a "multicultural lens." The lens has been painted only white, and this is not fair. If anything is being forced, it is European-American history, values and culture. It is forced on all youth from grade school onward.

People of color are put through a process of "inferiorization." This puts those who are not of European descent on a lower rung. It denies them a history. It promotes internal racism. It creates biased attitudes between the races. This process, thorugh education as well as other institutions, contributes to the racism, prejudice and discrimination that plagues our society.

This affects us all in the work place, in class, in housing opportunities, social benefits, medical care and just about everywhere in America. This process affects all colors of white, black, brown, red and yellow.

"People should be judged on merit." This is true, but what if one's merit is biased? What do you do with a system that denies people merit because of the color of their skin? Do we as human beings just accept it? Do we say we'll just let it work out naturally? Maybe so, and perhaps then we will let revolution come naturally.

Kevin Chang APASU

Japan Night success

I would like to applaud the Japan Night organizers and performers for an exceptional First Annual Japan Night. The evening was very enjoyable and educational.

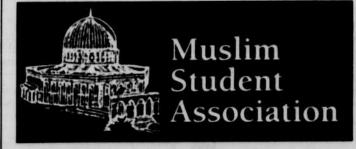
Keiko Suzuki, Japanese Student Organization president and Japan Night producer, is to be commended for her hard work in organizing this cultural evening.

The Eugene Taiko Drum Group's performance was a standout in a field of outstanding performances. University student Eric Mah's drumming was truly impressive. I congratulate them all on an exceptional Japan Night. I will be looking forward to next year's.

Omeretoo gozaimas!

Eric M. Bowen
ASUO Programs Coordinator





The Muslim Student Association invites all Muslim students to participate in Spring term activities. If interested, call or stop by the MSA office at Room 202, EMU.

Phone: 346-3789



