

Listen Up

Intolerance, Bigotry Cited as Unnecessary Elements

Editor:
In a discussion of whether A&M should have a gay liberation society or not, Biblical quotations are irrelevant. By the wisdom of our Founding Fathers, we have separation of church and state in our country. TAMU is a state-supported school, and policies concerning the school should not be considered in the light of religious convictions. In the quotation referenced by Messrs. Williamson and Use, I Corinthians 6:9-10, drunkards are mentioned as well as homosexuals. I wonder if Messrs. Williamson and Use openly condemn drinking by Corps members and other TAMU students.

If something such as gay liberation is not to be allowed some valid reason must be given for this exclusion. What grounds other than religion can be used for this exclusion? Abnormality? I think not. As a psychology graduate student, I think I can safely say that there is virtually no behavior that is in and of itself abnormal. As a believer in liberty, I think it must be demonstrated that a behavior is directly harmful to others before it can justifiably be deemed undesirable and hence excluded from society. Homosexuality directly harms no one. In fact, more often than not it is society that hurts the homosexual.

Just as homosexuality is not in and of itself undesirable, neither are conservatism or liberalism.

Unfortunately for conservatism it all too often stagnates and when it stagnates, intolerance and bigotry are bred. Mr. Williamson and Mr. Use, do we really need more intolerance and bigotry? Isn't there enough in the world already? Shouldn't the Corps be an example of tolerance of the freedom of choice, that freedom our armed services are bound to defend?

Douglas E.E. Mould
★ ★ ★
Editor:
Hopefully, the students at this university have been reading this paper lately. Several very pertinent points have been brought to light by Battalion Editor Mike Rice and N. Medina.

We are, first and foremost, an educational institution. This does not, however, appear to be the case with those who are staunch traditionalists. Preservation of tradition seems to be the main purpose for being here for many, and the word "change" seems to hold certain treasonable qualities which are not to be tolerated. Granted, change for change's sake is totally unacceptable, but accepting tradition for tradition's sake is equally wrong.

Certainly, there is a place for honorable and revered traditions, but when violent action is asserted to perpetuate their existence, their necessity becomes questionable.

It is also regrettable that students at TAMU cannot take a joke.

The Rice band's halftime show was meant only in jest; however, some of the Aggies present chose to take themselves, and their traditions, too seriously. We are not a holy institution, nor are our traditions religiously sacred, and nothing is too sacred, or hallowed, to have fun poked at it, (especially Texas A&M, already the butt of hundreds of "Aggie jokes").

The Rice band has every right to perform any halftime show they please, as long as they do not infringe upon anyone's rights. Needless to say, our rights were not encroached upon, and the attack on the band was totally uncalled for, while the behavior of irate Aggies, and former Aggies, was quite poor. What seems to have aggravated the situation even more is the fact that A&M was losing. This, unfortunately, is very little justification for our attack on the "Mob".

It would have been best to simply laugh it off as a joke; and it might be good to remember at the Texas A&M-Rice basketball games that "might does not make right"—and neither does tradition.
John R. Temperilli '76
★ ★ ★

Editor:
Re: Robert W. Dally's in "Listen Up" Dec. 11 Mr. Dally, I am appalled by your narrow thinking. You seem to have forgotten that we live in a society that supposedly allows a free exchange of ideas. We also live in rapidly changing

times. Criticism of the "system" is necessary to facilitate reasonable change, and if the university does not change as society changes, it will become an obsolete institution. You have said you have matured since being in the Corps, but if you cannot tolerate change or criticism of the status quo, you still have a long way to go.

I personally support traditions where they contribute to the friendly spirit of A&M. One of the main things that impressed me about A&M was that it was a friendly school with rich, meaningful traditions. However, some students seem to have used traditions as an excuse to vent hostile feelings. I hate to think that violence, hostility, intolerance, and coercion should be included among the traditions of A&M. Your letter indicates as much to me.

Friendliness and a tolerant attitude toward differences of opinion is much more becoming to a great university like A&M.
Ricci Wilson '76
★ ★ ★

Editor:
The Texas Aggies have played Houston Baptist College and South West Texas State University at G. Rollie White in two good basketball games. The first game had an attendance of 5,000 plus while second game had only 3,000 plus spectators. The Coliseum should be packed full of Aggies supporting their team. The basketball team needs your support. Come to the next game and yell for the Aggies.
Kathy McGowan
★ ★ ★

Editor:
In reference to your comments quoted in the Daily Texan and the Battalion, thanks for your valiant efforts to make Texas A&M first among progressive, liberal universities in all ways. Our campus is growing, our academic stature is constantly improving, and now your crusading, like a cancerous

growth which eventually kills itself through its own rampant progression, will bring us charging out of the "dark ages", strong and ever growing, devouring everything in sight, stopping for nothing, with no regard for those in its path.

However, if cancer is detected early enough it can be cut out and discarded, possibly allowing the body to become strong and alive once again. For the sake of TAMU, I hope someone finds a keen-edged scalpel quick.
Dave Fette '74
★ ★ ★

Editor:
Recent figures released by the Environmental Protection Agency indicate the general trend for mileage of 1974 automobiles as a function of vehicle weight. For example, a 2,250 lb. vehicle can expect 22mpg, a 3,000 lb. vehicle 15 mpg, a 4,000 lb. vehicle 10.5 mpg, and a 5,000 lb. vehicle 9 mpg. Any serious fuel conservation legisla-

Holiday Parking Lot Announced

Private automobiles that will be left on campus over the Christmas break should be placed in Parking Lot 9 asked University Police Chief O. L. Luther. Motorcycles should be parked in this area also.

By concentrating vehicles in the same area Luther said his department can offer a greater degree of security and protection to the vehicles.

Luther recommended that students who plan to leave their bicycles on campus during the holidays place them in their dormitory rooms.

He added that all University-owned vehicles should be parked in Parking Lot 9 when not in use between Friday and January 2.

ion should penalize the driver of a low mileage vehicle. I for one look forward with glee to the day when my motorcycle and I receive the same gasoline ration as the driver of a decadent, gasoline guzzling, Cadillac land yacht.
Mark Lenz '73
★ ★ ★

Editor:
I would like to express my sincere regards concerning a recent addition to the administration of your university.

I am referring to newly appointed Vice President of Student Services, Dr. John J. Koldus, III. I am a doctoral student at East Texas State University and have known Dr. Koldus since 1966. My contact with him in many capacities and on numerous occasions qualify me to make an adequate assessment of his qualities. I have known Dr. Koldus in his official capacity as an administrator. I have also known him as the supervisor of my practicum experience. I have sat with him often as a member of the student leadership group which he sponsored. I have also had the privilege of a personal contact with him that transcended our official relationships.

I have come to appreciate the virtues of this man. Dr. Koldus combines the qualities of an efficient administrator with those of a warm humanitarian. While at ETSU he formulated and supervised complicated programs, but

Refrigerators Due

Refrigerator distributor Larry Dooley announced that students wishing to return units may do so Thursday between 7:30 and 9 p. m. at the basement of the old hospital.

Dooley noted that there will be a charge for machines not returned on time or if he has to pick them up.

he never lost sight of the needs of the individual student.

I have been assisted greatly by this man. As an international student, I have found him sensitive to my culture and eager to serve as a cultural translator. At times he has advised me, at other times he has interpreted me to others and others to me, and often he has understood me when others found it too difficult. To this man I own much of the progress I have been able to make and much of what I hope to accomplish in the future.

Men such as Dr. Koldus are rare, but they are desperately needed especially in the field of education. Texas A&M University is extremely fortunate to have this man in its administration.

Bahram Nouyan
Commerce

Boyett Fire Destroys House

A dog was the only casualty of a general alarm fire at 402 Boyett Tuesday afternoon.

The fire was extinguished at about 6:45 p. m. by the College Station Fire Department.

Chief Douglas Landua said that three fire trucks were used and that the house was totally destroyed. No one was injured in the fire that began in a locked apartment.

Ali Chowdhury was one of the ten tenants of the house present when the fire broke out. He managed to get a few of his clothes out but everything else was lost.

Mr. and Mrs. Bardin H. Nelson, a professor in the Sociology Department is the owner of the house. He was called away from his home where he was having a party to witness the fire.



Batt Commentary True Men

While many students having been debating the pros and cons of the ingredients that make a "True Ag," we have found about five people that truly fit into this category.

Through the efforts of these people, the lives of two construction workers were probably saved Thursday and thanks should be heaped upon these fine humanitarians.

The Harris County men received severe burns that morning when a welding spark caused an explosion and fire in a fuel line being installed on campus.

They were taken to St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan before being transferred to a burns hospital in the Houston area.

We have only found out the names of two individuals who helped put out the blazes on the bodies of the two men. These two life-savers are Edmund Feldman and Charles Blackwell, both workers in the dining facility. They were aided by three students in their efforts, which included knocking the men down on the ground to smother the fire risking burning themselves.

Blackwell gives credit to the student who was thoughtful enough to run to Sbis and grab a fire extinguisher which was emptied by the first-aiders in their efforts on one of the men. Feldman used his own coat to smother the blaze on the other man. For one burned man, 45 per cent of his skin was burned, while the other had about 75 per cent of his body burned. In either case, the pain was excruciating.

We know that the burned men will be eternally grateful for the efforts and life-saving attempts by all involved. Additionally, we are proud to know that there are people at TAMU who will help.

They may or may not have been students here, but all involved should be labeled "True Ags," if there are such people. All of us should have a lesson to learn from this, too: actions always speak louder than words.

The Battalion

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Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed and show the address of the writer.

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Looking For A Christmas Gift For The Man Of The House?
GIVE HIM A GOLF COURSE....

Semester memberships to the newly reopened TAMU Golf Course are now available.

Play now through May for:

TAMU Faculty, Staff and Former Students	\$40.00
TAMU Students	\$21.50
Guests	\$53.50

Equipment to improve your golfer's game is available at the TAMU Golf Clubhouse. Major lines include — Wilson, Spalding, MacGregor, First Flight, Titleist — sold only through pro shops. Also windbreakers, shag bags, umbrellas, gloves, carts and balls.



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