

Fountain protest complaint

Editor:

We enjoy, here in these United States of America, the right of freedom of expression. I enjoy that freedom, and exercise it. I would not have this precious responsibility abridged. But this afternoon I was confronted with the usurpation of that responsibility, and the squandering of that right, in a demonstration by some "Palestinians" on our hallowed MSC grounds: they were there by permit from the MSC Concessions Committee.

I was accosted by some of the most obscene signs I have ever laid eyes on. These "Palestinians" had written that Reagan was the same as Hitler; that Begin was the same as Hitler; that the United States was responsible for the carnage in Beirut; that the Israeli people are the same as the Germans who decimated the Jews under the Holocaust ...

The best that can be said for these wild accusations is that they are inaccurate. The most that can be said about these statements is that they are inflammatory. The least that can be said for these statements is that they are in poor taste. Inaccurate, inflammatory statements promulgated in poor taste are grist for the mill lawyers tread, and as they say in the trade: "These are litigious times". Those statements are untrue, patently untrue, and they were written large in our Rudder plaza. I imagine there is enough support on this campus to file a

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class action suit against, not only or specifically these "Palestinians", but any group of firebrands that wish to drag this country of ours into their internecine misconduct. The Iranian students staged just such an assinine demonstration, and got away with it. It needs to stop. A lawsuit that would result in the revocation of passports and visas would get these pampered ppositives out of here and back on the front lines where they can do their friends and neighbors some good.

I don't want to deport everybody. I revel in the international climate this campus has attracted. I exult in the potential for understanding afforded in such an international gathering. But the word destroy is inconsonant with understanding.

It is illegal to incite the overthrow of this government, regardless of national origin. The word destroy incites to just this sort of thing. Those "Palestinians" were shouting long and loud the absolute necessity to destroy the Zionist. And written on those large placards that group was holding up for our perusal was the identity of our government, its leaders,

and our people with the zionist. The Concessions Committee assure me, when I called them to exert them more conscientious appraisal of material they permit, that this group under permit for a silent demonstration. They exceeded their permit. They also left themselves open to the consequences of behaving illegally in a public place. We have a system in these United States of America, albeit imperfect, is the envy of all the world. It has been the best system for the last two hundred years. By our unceasing protection, exercise of this system, it will remain quintessential forever. But only so long as we concertedly, honestly guard it. We must use our system to protect our system. Cancer is not recognised as a vader by the body's immune system, tolerating the existence of cancer, body dies.

Let's agree to disagree on the issue that confront us. Let's behave diplomatically toward the various races we have here. By all means, let us be polite to another. We cannot revile another and expect a smile in return. We have only one man in our history who had the ability to love his enemies, and we have him for that. It is not necessarily incumbent on us that we continue that haviour.

R.S. Ether...
1505 S. Dea...

The human comedy - unwanted children

by Art Buchwald

The lady came in to see Senator Jesse Beenbag the other day. She was carrying a baby in her arms.

Beenbag immediately called in the Senate photographer to have his picture taken with it.

"It's mighty kind of you to stop by," the senator said, trying to usher her out of his office after the picture taking.

"I didn't come to have my picture taken," the woman said.

"Then why are you here?"

"You're leading the fight against abortion, and I thought you could help me with this unwanted baby."

"You mean you don't want this baby?"

"No, sir. I have five more at home and I can't afford to feed them. I figured since you are so interested in human life, you could tell me where I could get some help to raise this one."

"My interest in human life starts at conception and ends with the fetus. Once the baby is born, you're on your own."

"That's what I was afraid of. How come if the Reagan government is so concerned about preventing people from having abortions, they keep cutting back on all the services for unwanted children?"

"The government cannot afford to take care of children after they're born. We can't fund every screwball social program for unwanted children, or we'll never have a balanced budget."

"So what do I do with the kid?"

"Madam, I have no idea what you should do with your child. But if you think the anti-abortion forces are going to support it from the cradle to the grave, you're sadly mistaken. The federal government has to get out of the child-rearing business."

"Since you're so concerned about the value of human life, why don't you take the kid?"

"What would I do with a child?"

"That's the question I keep asking myself."

"Have you gone to the local child services office?"

"They closed it because the government cut off all their funds. The local charities have no money, and all the food programs are going out of business."

"Then get a job," Beenbag said impatiently.

"I'm trying to. But even if I found one I couldn't afford the day-care center. I decided to come to you as a last resort because of your interest in a baby's right to life."

"You came to the wrong person," Beenbag said angrily. "My bill makes it a federal crime NOT to have a baby. But it doesn't provide continuing services for people who have one. Why is your kid crying?"

"I guess he's hungry," the lady said. "Unwanted children cry a lot."

"You're not going to change my stand on abortions just because your baby is crying," Beenbag warned. "Were you sent by the Planned Parenthood people?"

"No, it was my idea. I saw you on television a while back saying it was a mortal sin for a pregnant woman to abort, so I had my baby. Since you were so adamant on the subject I thought you or President Reagan might have some ideas as to what I do now."

"Madam, I'm a very busy person. I'm trying to get prayers back in school, protect the tobacco industry and fight the hand-gun control lobby. I don't have time to worry about your child's welfare."

The lady put the baby on Beenbag's desk.

"What are you doing?" Beenbag screamed.

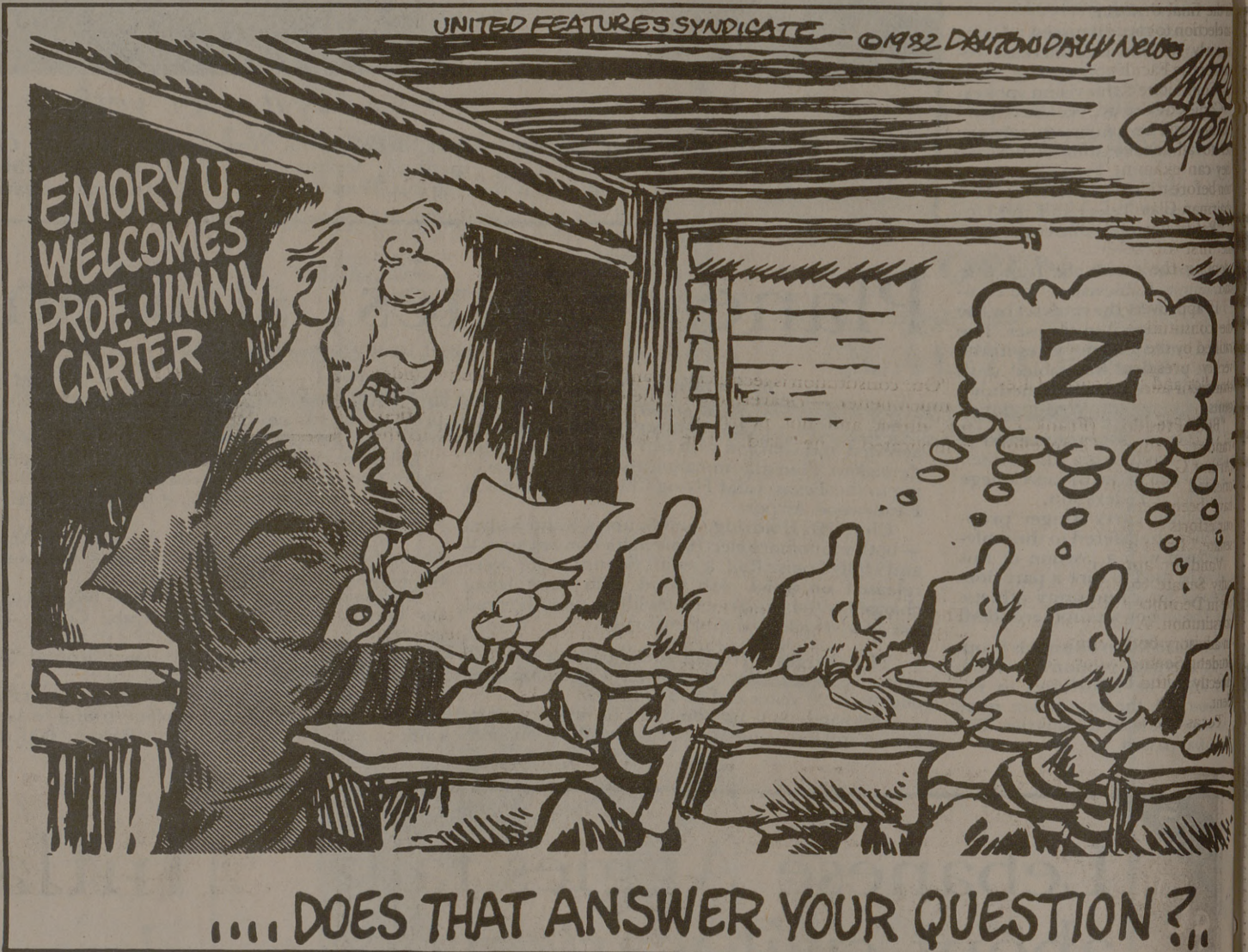
"I'm changing his diapers. You don't have a large hankerchief to spare, do you?"

"Get out of my office and take that bawling kid with you," Beenbag said.

"If you support right to life," the lady said, "you have to support right-to-life functions."

"But he just did it all over the President's letter of support for my bill," Beenbag cried.

The lady smiled, and said, "Naughty boy."



Letters: Halt traditions quarreling

Editor:

I must say that all this NECESSARY petty quarreling about tradition, between the students and Alumni at Texas A&M has reached a malicious level. I think it's a toss of the coin to decide who is getting hurt the most, the students, the Alumni, or the University. Obviously, when the student body experiences a worthwhile and unique experience, there is harmony and good brotherhood between all students. When the experience is not worthwhile to MOST students there is a breakdown ... in the system.

The breakdown has been a long time coming, and I think maybe we've peaked out ... let's face the facts. Tradition is the willful handing down of stories, beliefs, customs, etc., from generation to generation, and these traditions can or may be observed by ALL or by one student, because this is his or her right to do so. Each one of us has the right to express our school spirit and to choose if he or she wants to participate in school tradition.

We are all attending Texas A&M to receive the best education our money can buy, and to experience new and old concepts, and learn how to better relate with our fellow men and woman.

Just because a segment of the student body doesn't want to participate in the traditions here, doesn't stop those that wish to do so, and only the narrow-minded could think that those not wishing to do so are BAD AGGIES, or should leave.

Sometimes traditions don't represent the views of the entire student body because of the changes that the University

went through to make it a more diverse institution, such is the case at Texas A&M today, and I believe we're at another crossroads of change.

Most of our traditions have a military history associated with them, because of our rich past when every male was in the Corps of Cadets and the Corps of Cadets Standard represented the views and standards of the ENTIRE student body. Today, a very small percent of the 36,000 students are in the Corps of Cadets, and it would be safe to assume that because of this decline, the Corps of Cadets Standard does not represent the views of the majority of the students attending Texas A&M, therefore why can't these REAL TWO PERCENTERS enjoy and cherish their events and traditions, and not dictate policy for the rest of us Aggies. We're not trying to forget our rich past, and we don't interfere in any of your choices, because they are your choices, and we have a choice, too.

Terry Coghlan
College Station

Private court system

Editor:

In response to Dick West's column of Sept. 20, in which he satirically suggests a private court system as an alternative to the federal and state courts, I would like to offer a clarification.

Being a humorist, Mr. West faces a

problem with communicating precise ideas. In order to be funny, he sometimes slur over or exaggerate some times valid points. In his recent article, I think there is an extremely crucial point worthy of further examination.

Mr. West satirizes a hypothetical private court system as an absurd and ridiculous idea. He is right. It is. What is wrong is his apparent association of this idea with private mailing systems, private penal institutions and programs for breaks for private education.

Any true free enterprise advocate recognizes that the precondition for freedom among men is an objective arbitrator, and government serves this purpose. To suggest that a major tool with which government carries out its vital functions of arbitration is to be put in non-objective and private hands is of course folly, and Mr. West is correct in identifying this.

However, not all the "incursions" into "traditionally" governmental functions (as Mr. West states) are undesirable. In fact, many governmental functions justified by tradition have absolutely no justification in view of a free economy which recognizes individual rights. Possible candidates for examination under this type of function include the postal service, social security, bail-outs for failing industries, public education, and many more.

Mr. West did illustrate an important point, and it is this: A free system requires that its members maintain an ongoing, intelligent observation of it working in order to keep it free.

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