

Bigoted pamphlet shows stupidity of some 'humans'

One day during the break between spring and summer classes I came to work, grabbed a Diet Coke and sat down to sort through a week's worth of mail. After reading numerous press releases and throwing away all of the junk mail I opened an ordinary-looking manila envelope stamped by the post office in Victoria with no return address.

In it was possibly the most disgusting, horrifying, repulsive, racist publication I have ever seen or read. Upon my first glance at the pamphlet, I thought it was sent as a joke. But, as I read I realized it wasn't a prank. This was a 32-page magazine/pamphlet that literally made me sick to my stomach and want to vomit. This could not be classified as writing, nor could it be classified as anything journalistic in any sense.

It was titled "Negro Watch."
I won't go into too much detail about what it had in it — I will merely give you a few examples. On one page there was a box with skull and crossbones symbols in it. It read in big letters, "HEALTH WARNING! AVOID" and a list followed:

"All contact with Negroes as much as possible!
All contact with other non-Whites!



Monique Threadgill
Editor

All contact with interracial couples!
Low moral Whites who are suspected of engaging in interracial sex or socialize with Negroes or other non-Whites.

Interracial sex — it can and does spread AIDS!
On other pages there were unfounded and utterly degrading stories that spouted off misleading and false statistics for crime rates according to race in places such as "Jew York City." Other stories were about supporting abolition of the Martin Luther King holiday, an interracial teen couple murdering elderly whites and a story written by a "pastor" about the biological inferiorities of blacks.

Also included in this piece of trash was a graphic depicting areas highly

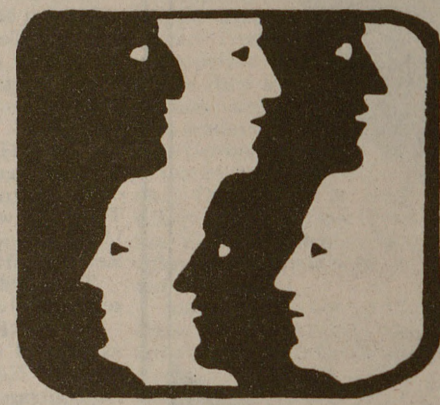
populated with African Americans which was supposed to help whites "KNOW WHERE THE NEGROES ARE!" and numerous advertisements that had parts quite obviously superimposed with malicious statements and pictures about blacks.

In the back there were advertisements for the Ku Klux Klan, whose address matched that of the publisher's and other groups. However, there also was a disclaimer notice stating that "The ads placed herein are a courtesy to these organizations without their prior knowledge or consent. We were in no way reimbursed for the ads, and it does not necessarily mean that they are in agreement with the content of NEGRO WATCH."

Certainly organizations that the Klan impermissively included, advertisers that had their ads taken from respectable publications and altered, and people that had quotes taken out of context or simply fabricated by the writers, would be angry. But I doubt they even know or can do anything about it.

I have no idea how in the world The Battalion got on their mailing list and I don't ever want this trash sent here

again. The publisher's address in Waco is listed so that people can write to subscribe, but after calling information in both Waco and Victoria I found that there is no phone listing for anything



even remotely familiar to the name of the publisher, The Freikorpsmann Presse, or the name of the publication.

I called the post office here and was told they had no way of preventing the KKK from sending anything to us. So, my next option was to write the Freikorpsmann Presse a letter telling

them to remove us from their mailing list. I did that immediately and received any response from them.

It frightens me to think that the people left in this world that have sick, uneducated, immoral and downright disgraceful beliefs. It makes me extremely mad that they can impose their perverted thoughts on me, our newspapers anyone for that matter.

They should realize that by unreasonably attacking minorities of any race, publishing this and it out to people who may not want they are only making their own stupidity and beliefs blatantly obvious to everyone. Any person that has a "superior brain" (or any brain at all) should welcome all racial groups to look on the changes that are taking place in our country as a chance to use their knowledge and experience to create new cultures and ways of life.

Yes, I believe all men are created equal, but somehow I think that those that contribute to such disgusting inhumane things like this pamphlet cannot possibly be looked upon as anything but a disgrace to the profession of journalism major.

Racial tension product of personal prejudice

Today is flag day! Rather than expostulate on the right to burn the flag though, I prefer to discuss a particular topic that can, at times, make life under our flag a little rough.

The topic is racial tension.
In regard to this issue, a lot of people follow John Wayne's advice: "Talk low, talk slow and don't say too much." Unfortunately, this attitude will do little to ease racial tensions at A&M or anywhere else.

Some whisper that black student groups, blonde student groups and birthmark student groups are not legitimate organizations. The argument goes that such groups accomplish nothing; that they only intensify racial divisions and *de facto* segregation.

But these whisperers are sweeping something under the carpet: the *raison d'être* for such groups' existence — racism. (Some claim it is pride for a heritage and in a few cases, I agree.)

When minorities arrive at Texas A&M, many of them experience an Aggie shock. For several of them, the American status of "minority" is driven home for the first time. These students came from high schools where they were part of a majority.

Furthermore, insensitivities on the part of the crayon majority intensify minority discomfort with A&M. Most minority students, if not all, have at one time or another been involuntarily "introduced" to racism.

But when thrown into a new environment, like A&M, encounters with a "little slip" or, let alone, intentional racism, can be enormously discomfiting and offensive to them.

Although some minority organizations unite because of cultural differences (primarily those composed of students born outside the U.S.), most minority social and service groups unite as a direct or indirect response to discrimination.

In these groups they can feel secure from the racial attacks they have encountered.

Consequently, for those that profess concern regarding voluntary social segregation of blacks, hispanics or



Jon Beeler
Columnist

orientals, let me make two suggestions.

• One: Worry more about the comparatively involuntary segregation of blacks in the slums of Houston and hispanics in the slums of San Antonio.

• Two: Do something about it.

There are two immediate methods by which you and I can help reduce racial division in America. The first and easiest is to just say NO (I'm sorry to steal your idea Mrs. Reagan) to racism.

This is much simpler than saying no to drugs because there is no physical dependency involved.

Next time you hear someone make a racist comment, let them know you are offended. You might even go so far as to politely ask them to keep their racist thoughts to themselves.

A second solution (realizing none are absolute) is to actively recruit minorities in the political parties. The Democrats have been most active in the recent past, but Republicans are quickly making headway.

Frank Lewis is a local example. He is a black American running for Brazos County Commissioner of Precinct 4 (includes the north side of campus and Northgate) as a Republican.

With successful minorities leading our local, state and national governments, minority children will have someone to admire and emulate as they mature. They will not feel like outsiders because then they will be inside the system.

My message for those who bicker about minority awareness organizations is start doing something useful.

Stop bickering about these groups and start doing something about the discrimination which directly or indirectly causes their formation.

Jon Beeler is a junior nuclear engineering major.

Society is based on ethical code

EDITOR:
The article concerning homosexuality by C.E. Harris misrepresented the basic idea behind the natural law theory of ethics. Natural law rests on an ideal of human nature: that of a fully developed human being. It would not necessarily condemn homosexuality as "immoral," if by "immoral," reprehensible or damaging to others is meant. To be "immoral" from a natural law point of view means that the person or action somehow falls short of this ideal. For example, masturbation is "wrong" because it encourages egoism.

Similarly, the natural law theory holds that the sexual act should be considered basically procreative (that it should not be degraded to a means for entertainment). The difficulty lies not in the question of whether or not homosexuality is "right" or "wrong." Our society is not based on religious values or deeply held moral values, but on a code of ethics which is essentially neutral with regard to those questions. Remember, it accords "rights" to entities

such as corporations, which are known to commit outrageous crimes against the environment and against persons, without abolishing these corporate entities.

Much ink is spilled on such subjects as the rights of homosexuals when it is clear that, as citizens, their rights are not to be infringed upon or restricted any more than the rights of other citizens. It is important for Americans to remember that, civil society, a society based on moral foundations, is a great achievement and should be carefully guarded.

Michael Kraft, Ph.D.

Have an opinion? Express it!

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words in length. The editorial board reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to retain the author's intent. There is no guarantee that letters submitted will be printed. Each letter must be signed and must include the classification, address, telephone number of the writer. All letters may be brought to 216 Reed McDonald or sent to Campus Mail Stop 1111.

A&M bureaucracy should help students

Not too long ago I was involved in a very lengthy, costly and discouraging battle with what seemed like the entire administrative system here on campus. I was a victim of sexual discrimination in its most blatant form with my personal and legal rights having been violated.

I had to stand up for myself and make a point for those who had been in similar situations. Fortunately, I knew who I had to talk to in order to obtain just retribution for this injustice.

However, in an attempt to get someone's attention and support, I found myself baffled by the bureaucracy within the departments I dealt with and the people who staffed them. Ironically, these departments were created for the purpose of helping students and employees with their problems. Instead, I came to find out that I would just be turned away while rapidly becoming more and more frustrated.

I had meetings with some of the most prominent and influential people in our University system and I got the royal run-around with every conference. I was pushed aside, passed on and referred to a total of seven different people whose jobs were to become aware of and to prevent those types of incidences that mistreat students and employees. Not one person would take



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Columnist

the responsibility for making a solid, positive decision regarding my dilemma.

I have given my time, money and a lot of effort to Texas A&M. Accordingly, I expect and deserve the services and attention that go along with that effort. The administration and staff are here because of the students. But I have come to find out that some people might not share that sentiment with me.

I understand that many people can only act on what is within their job capabilities even if they wish they could do more. That's unfortunate; they too are usually victims of a system that appears to be neither geared toward advancement nor wholeheartedly concerned with the needs of its students and employees.

If those who hold positions with personnel offices really aren't concerned with the students' welfare, then maybe they should consider finding employment elsewhere where they could be necessary as well as productive. I know that I'm not the person who has ever had my rights ignored. I would hate to think of another person having to endure the helplessness and frustration that did.

What I am addressing here is not the apathy and lack of "affirmative action" that affected me. I am addressing apathy in general. I cannot imagine who is so successful and secure with their station in life that they do not feel obliged to help out the mistreated, neglected and discouraged around them.

People have to stand up for their rights and know the possible channels take if their rights have been violated. These channels should be made known as well as accessible to them. I think we can help to make a lot of progress toward a more compassionate society if we utilize the control we have in our positions in order to help those who might need the knowledge and help we can provide.

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