GGIELIFE Page 5 • Thursday, October 7, 1999 Potty Mouth Vulgarity loses impact when it is a common occurrence

BY JEFF WOLFSHOHL The Battalion

ittle Mary went to the movies and saw an R-rated flick with her mother. Her mother wantsee the movie but was not able ind a babysitter. She decided to nyway and brought Mary along. lary, now an Aggie girl, has foren the movie but remembers the fanity, sometimes to a fault.

lisa Foster, a sophomore Engmajor, said there is a big difnce between hearing curse rds in movies and experiencing real life.

t jumps out at you when people know do it," Foster said. "I k it's unneccesary and someone express themselves in other s. I usually have to be pretty anor have hurt myself in some way reach that point].

Foster said pre-adolescents use garity more often than others. "They do it because it is forbidand to be cool," Foster said. "So

like it's a freedom thing. Being accepted is something est people want, even if it means dermining parents and mistreatent of siblings

"My brother doesn't listen to me hen I tell him to stop," Foster said. ursing is something that you are d not to do by your parents.'

Zeke Henely, a junior computer ence major, said he finds himself rsing when he is alone.

"I was upset at the recent [A&M] otball game, and when I was by self, I said the [curse] words out ud," he said.

Henely said society is much less ware of the vulgarity than in earer decades:

'In the culture now, it is common say a curse word," Henely said. n the theater, it is expected that ere will be cursing.

Henely, a former member of the os of Cadets, said all universities alike in the use of vulgar lange, and he has experienced the arity first-hand.

A&M is not a special place, [and] hink there might be more cussing out here because of the Corps," Henely said. "There is a lot of pres-sure on the Corps and school.

"Lower groups and incoming people that are going into [the Corps] will hear cursing.

Henely said that even though society has changed, there are still some situations where profanity is inadvisable.

'If everyone is an adult it's fine, but when there are kids, they should avoid cursing," Henely said. "Kids don't need to be hearing that stuff."

Henely said his friends might spend much of a conversation cursing.

"It doesn't phase me when I'm with my friends and they cuss, even with the ones that do it all the time," he said.

Henely said he, like many typi-cal college students, has become desensitized to foul language because of his experiences

"I've spent four years in the Army and understand [the intensity]," Henely said. "I've seen and heard it all.

Though it might seem to peo-ple that society has become de-sensitized, some do not agree with the trend.

Tierney Bruce, a senior electrical engineering major, said A&M is a reasonable campus when it comes to profanity.

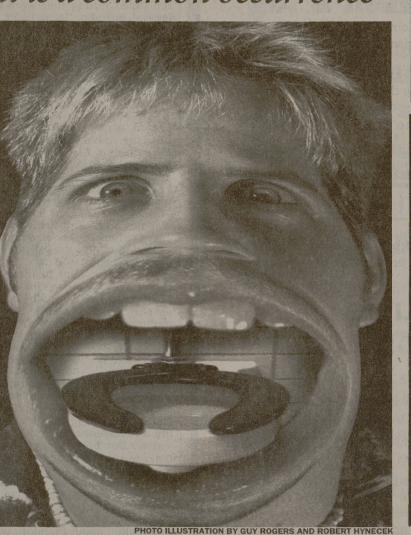
"Educated people don't tend to cuss as much," she said. "It's not a part of their everyday speech. They find other words to describe their feelings.

Bruce said she thinks resorting to profanity is only necessary in extreme situations.

"If you ran into something with your car or broke something valuable, then I can see someone curs-Bruce said. ing,'

Bruce said that while watching prime-time TV recently, she was unsettled by the vulgar programming dialogue.

"I was watching some show, and they said the word 'b—d,'" Bruce said. "I thought it was inappropriate because a lot of families are watching television at that time."



Abi Glenn, a senior English major, said swearing will never go away and any change toward less profanity will be the result of personal effort.

"I think change is really made individually, and that's the only way to avoid it [profanity]," Glenn said.

Glenn said her constraint and self control not to curse are mainly tested the most in situations with her boyfriend.

when he is condescending or selfish, because I want to put him in his place," Glenn said. "I try to take a deep breath and calm down in-

stead of griping. Glenn said that being vulgar is a communication factor that can make a problem worse.

"Expressing my rage would not help the situation with my boyfriend," Glenn said. "I might slam the door instead.

Bruce said that though excessive profanity is a problem, profanity is sometimes inevitable.

For many people, it's an involuntary reaction to something bad," Bruce said. "But with a conscious effort, you can work at avoiding it and stopping.

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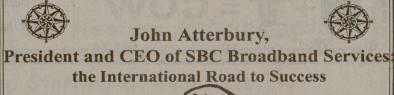
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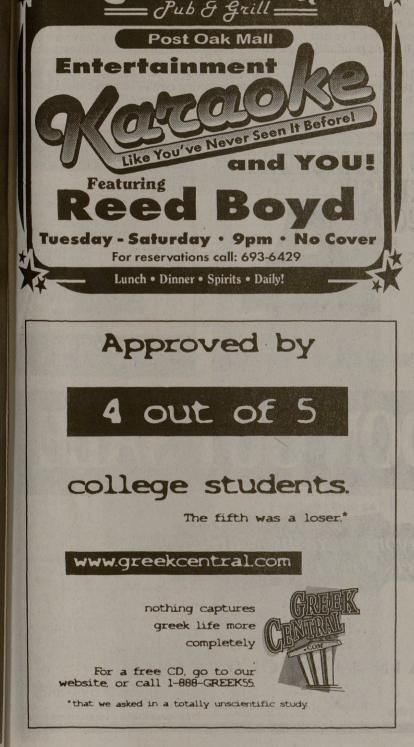
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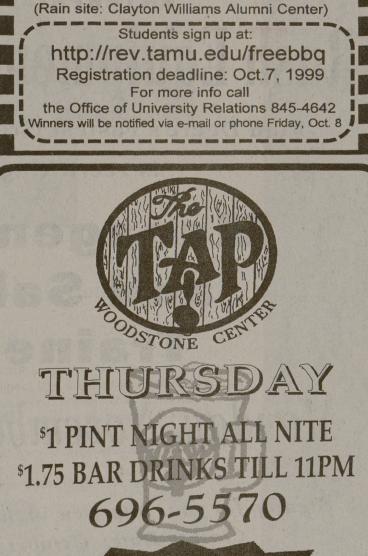


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I am tempted to curse at him







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