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# AGGIELIFE

## I hate to see you go...

Students discover breaking up is easy to do

BY JEFF WOLFSHOHL  
The Battalion

The semester is ending — time to give the ax to the old life partner. Because of its harsh nature, breaking up is not an easy process. People need all the help they can get, especially when a person finds it hard to take initiative.

Relationships are fun, but every good ride must come to an end. Whether the breakup is slow and painful or just a flesh wound is up to the break-upper and the break-pees.

Loretta Muenchow, a senior dairy science major, said the semester's end can help couples to reach the end of a relationship which does not need to continue.

"It's more of an opportunity, because you can use the [winter] break as an excuse to end the relationship," she said.

Sometimes it is difficult for a person in a relationship to bring up a pet peeve that has been ignored for a long time.

Kasie Callaway, a freshman general studies major, said one of her friends used the winter break as an excuse to be away from her boyfriend.

"They said they wanted to explore [other options] over the break," she said. "The guy found someone else that treated him better, but the girl didn't find anyone."

Sometimes there are better things to be had by starting anew. Muenchow said breaking up is easy to do when one's beau is not giving him or her the attention they deserve.

"It can be positive if the person is not treating you right, and you can express who you are," she said. "If you get out of it, you might be happier, because they could be holding you back [from other opportunities]."

Callaway said her friend's relationship became a comfort relationship which appeared better on the surface than it actually was. She said a person can become blind to a relationship's problems and set their dating life on cruise control.

"Comfort relationships are an easy way out [in dating], because you don't want to hurt that person," she said.

Callaway said when a comfort relationship survives for the sole reason of maintaining the status quo, it could be time to cut the cord. She said there is a good life to be lived.

"If you can honestly say you are comfortable seeing your boyfriend or girlfriend with another person, you should break up," she said. "It is time to date someone else."

Friends and their opinions of potential partners and potential dumpies deserve an all-ears audience.

Danny Rigamonti, a sophomore biology major, said the convergence of thoughts can serve as a reminder to break a relationship off.

"If all of your friends are saying this person sucks, then it's a pretty good hint at what you should do," he said.

Muenchow said a trusted friend's perspective can be helpful.

"[Friends] are good to listen to, because they have an outside view and opinion, so they can analyze the situation better," she said.

Muenchow said friends do not have their own emotions at stake in a relationship. That is important, she said, because their views are more objective than that of the person in the relationship.

Relationship problems can be as common as E-Walk sweatshirts around campus.

Brandy Hunt, a junior elementary education major, said communication issues ended a relationship of one of her friends.

"They weren't talking and ended up breaking up because of it," she said. "And they were together for a long time."

Hunt said the mental aspect of relationships is underrated by many people.

"You have to communicate to be together," she said. "The physical part is not what it's all about."



ROBERT HYNCEK/THE BATTALION

Despite communication efforts, sometimes a relationship simply is tired and needs to be discontinued.

Rigamonti said changes in people can lead to doom to a relationship.

"Change in each individual — sometimes more radical [in some] than in others — can change the relationship," he said. "Sometimes change is not the same."

When one person in a relationship changes, issues come about that are left to the other to address.

Callaway said mistakes are made and the possibility of a blissful breakup is lost when people fail to address a troubled past and present.

"[Miscommunication] not fair to the other person, because they may not know how you feel, and they could be looking at this to happen," she said.

Callaway said courage is important in ending a relationship.

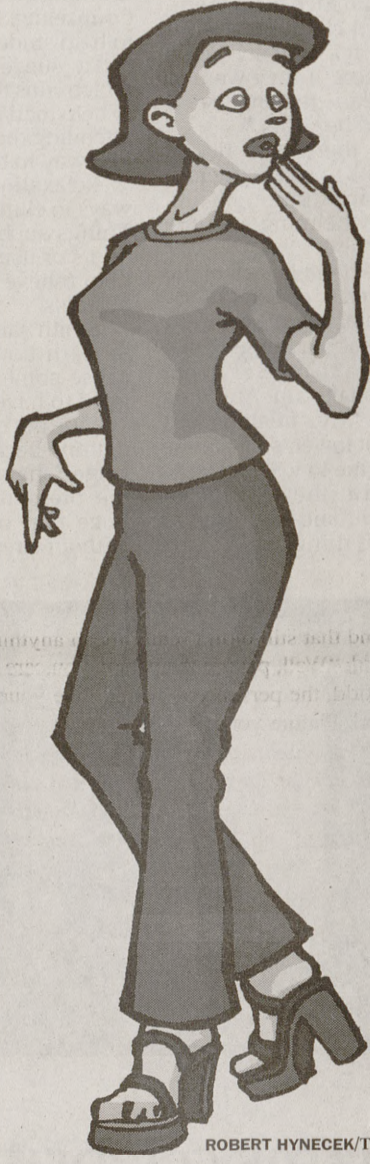
"[Even] if you are not willing to take the initiative to get out of a comfort-zone relationship then it's [still] not right to stay in the relationship," she said.

For those on the verge of stepping up to the plate, Callaway said, the semester's end is a very advantageous time.

"A [winter] break when you don't have to be in school is a lot better time to break up than now, especially during finals," she said.

Rigamonti said with the semester coming to a close, this time of year can be seen as a good time of closure for more than just academics.

"It [the semester] is seen as an ending period, so perhaps it can help you take stock of other things that should end as well," he said.



ROBERT HYNCEK/THE BATTALION

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

#### Jodi Foster to star in film biography

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jodie Foster plans to produce and star in a biography of Leni Riefenstahl, the German filmmaker acclaimed for her work but accused of glorifying Nazism in her 1934 documentary, *Triumph of the Will*.

"There is no other woman in the 20th Century who has been so admired and vilified simultaneously," Foster said Tuesday. "She was perhaps one of the greatest filmmakers of all time, and yet her name will forever be linked to the horror of Nazi Germany."

Ron Nyswaner, nominated for an Academy Award for *Philadelphia*, will write the script.

#### Allen speaks out on his character

NEW YORK (AP) — Woody Allen says he's nothing like his on-screen persona, and he seems mystified that people think otherwise.

"Why don't they do that with Charlie Chaplin? Is it only because he dressed up in a derby

hat and tramp's pants? It's the persona he created," Allen said Tuesday's *USA Today*.

"And I'm not my persona. I sit at home drinking liquor and writing my block. I don't have a relationship with my sister. I didn't kidnap my kid. I didn't grow up on Coney Island, and my father's work bumper cars. But people think it's true."

## LAW TALK from STCL

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Umoja (Unity) Kujichagalia (Self-Determination)

Ujamaa (Cooperative economics) Nia (Purpose)

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