

Defining 'minority'

by David McCorkhill

The funding of other minority groups is really unrelated to the funding of Gay Awareness. Every case should be considered on its own merits.

Yet the argument often arises both pro and con:

Some people have elaborate definitions of "minority" which either include or exclude gays. But to use these definitions in an argument to prove the desirability of funding a minority organization is to assume your result before you begin your argument.

The question is actually an independent one in each case: Is the group performing a useful function? Are the members of the minority involved being discriminated against? Is the discrimination that is taking place unwarranted? How much of our society is affected by the discrimination? Can this group work to alleviate the problems (if any) involved in this particular kind of discrimination?

I was willing to restrict my discussion to these questions until I heard from a black who claimed that the gays shouldn't be funded because they have the option of changing, while racial minorities are stuck with what they've got.

I can't imagine a more ridiculous train of logic.

Race is not something one should want to change; it is something to be proud of.

If somebody invented a bacteriophage which selectively altered genetic material to turn all nonwhite minorities into caucasians, it wouldn't change the fact that Chicanos are a minority or that the Black Student Union deserves funding. The important thing is that they are minorities who have been and are being discriminated against.

Using this criterion, gays probably qualify for more funds than most other minorities. But there are fewer gays and they have fewer uses for the money.

It makes one wonder about funding BSU when some blacks have forgotten it is there to combat discrimination. On the other hand, it would seem to justify BSU funding if some blacks think it would be good to change the color of their skin.

The last word

by David McCorkhill

I knew it! I knew it! That b-----d McCorkhill is trying to get in the last word on everything. He knows there isn't time for anybody to get back at him in a letter before the end of the year.

He's going to let everybody have it for all the letters they've written. Like the ones he didn't print attacking his use of the editorial "we." He didn't write all of his editorials in the first person plural, but sometimes he stuck to that old journalistic tradition.

And then there was that letter which suggested that opinions are not appropriate subject matter for the editorial page. (Or maybe it said that moral questions should be left out of the discussion of issues where morality enters in.) That writer had claimed that his use of the editorial "we" was an indication of his opinion that he was divinely inspired. But he will probably pretend to believe that moral questions are the same for everybody and that moral arguments are important in deciding moral questions if we are to have a moral society.

The low-down back-stabber. And he didn't even give them a chance to reply. There isn't enough time left.

And then he'll probably make excuses for all his mistakes (saying that he wasn't even trying to be on the right side all the time—he just wanted people to start thinking about some of the other aspects of the problems we face). He will probably point out the complexities of the world around us and the simplicity of some of the proposed solutions and say we have to look at those problems more closely.

Oh, well, I guess there's nothing we can do to stop him.



"HOW DO YOU SPELL 'PHALANGISTS'?"

Readers question WSU sexual fears

To the editor:

Having watched the Gay Awareness funding issue develop from September, we feel this university is a good cross section of American sexual phobias. When we were young, our folks laid heavy trips on sex. The church did the same, and in high school our chums who had succumbed to the "socialization of the American kid" began to lay the same trips on us. Yet we are surrounded by hypocrisy. Sex is normal, natural and healthy, contrary to our training.

Nothing (apparently) strikes so much fear in Americans as sex, whether it be pre-marital, extra-marital, chastity, bisexuality or homosexuality. Why is this?

My God created sexual beings and made it's expression beautiful. Why should sex between consenting members of the same gender cause such a fervor? The number of outlets for expression of our heterosexuality are numerous but what of those for bisexuals or gays? Is this campus so unaware of sexuality or is it plain fear? To echo Yvonne Roberts, "What are you so afraid of?" Who are you to force your "christian" morals on anyone? Is your precious heterosexuality so shaky?

A purpose of this group is to attain and protect the civil, inalienable rights of PEOPLE. That includes you too. Deny these and you'll have to answer to the Blacks, Chicanos and Women.

The only campuses we have visited that are so paranoid of sex are church related and the people there are very shallow and narrow. May God prevent that from happening in Pullman. Welcome to the real world.

Steven Pope
Tomi Hubell
Robert Coken

Gay 'options' solution suggested

To the editor:

To avoid another semester of Gay Funding articles in next year's newspaper might I suggest you publish this letter. We had a \$2 optional fee discussed

for the funding of WASHPIRG, why not for Gay Awareness. This way the "straights" keep their money and the "gays" get theirs. Therefore, the gay people have money to do what they will, and the straights won't bitch

because their money is being used, because it won't be their money!! Then everybody is happy and this space can be used for something more important to the campus.

James Spears

Grade 'B'

the write to life

by David McCorkhill

We are about to be led to slaughter. There has been a terrific hullabaloo about grade inflation the past few months and it seems like a subtle hint has been thrust at our faculty. The panic is now here and its sinister effect will sadly follow.

Since jobs at WSU are getting to be tough to hold, beware of the young professor. He has nothing to lose by making sure there are plenty of D's and F's to go around. Wear steel tipped shoes so some up and coming professional doesn't mash your toes while climbing to the head of his department.

The price of anything you need to buy has gone up in the past several years so why shouldn't your ability to get them increase too. Just try to get a subsistence level job with a 2.5 average. You are better off joining the teamsters union, although they look for people that can love Jimmy Hoffa.

There is one grading system proposed by a TA called the Craps method. This method is carried out by shaving the numbers 1-6 off of a die. The numbers are then replaced by the letters; A, B, C, D, F and I. When this step is done, the dice

are rolled. The Craps method could be the grading system of the future because it will give a completely even curve.

Economists tell us not to worry about a national debt that could fill the Grand Canyon with nickels if it were payed off that way. The results of grade inflation are just as undamaging as the national debt. When a person with high grades enters the job market, he can hope to get a position that pays a wage compatible with his grade point. Once the young person gets the hang of his job, nobody suffers. Indeed, there is a little more wealth on the open market to keep our economy going.

The uproar over grade inflation is a bunch of nonsense and many people realize it. If they really wanted to do something about steep grades they would lower the Lewiston Hill by a thousand feet or so. However, there are some turkeys that have to fight a crisis every so often just to keep their obstinance in shape. Should your professors during finals week walk into the classroom wearing an old Jerry Ford "Whip Inflation Now" button and a smirk; be prepared for the worst. These nuts might bring back the "Grade Depression."

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