

PERSPECTIVES

Ignoring hunger

Let's talk about what didn't happen on the CUB mall Tuesday (Nov. 14.) There wasn't a 100percent turnout, a 75-percent, a 50-percent, 10percent, 5-percent, nor a 1-percent turnout of persons in the Pullman community for either of the Hunger Awareness vigils.

There was, however, a whopping total of 35 persons at both vigils (some persons making repeat appearances) who gave their time to show concern for those starving around the world.

All right, so donations at the table in the CUB far exceeded expectations (more than \$400) and persons stopped by to discuss the issue in addition to fasting or going to view films which were shown all day. But these persons were the exceptions, not the rule.

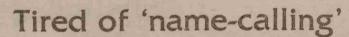
Most in this community didn't show up for any of the activities, fast, or by any other action show that they are aware of the situation facing third world countries. In fact, if Tuesday is any indication, most citizens don't give a tinker's dam about the kind of desperation these countries are facing.

So what's the problem? Why is it that a situation so horrible as world hunger fails to rouse the masses (or even a sizable crowd) in an effort to eliminate it. Don't we care about other human beings enough to concern ourselves with their painful extermination through starvation? Are we going to go our merry way all our lives shrugging off the "have-not's" problems in this world?

Go ahead and try, because starvation is one problem that won't evaporate. By future predictions and past realities, it appears it will get worse.

So what did I expect on Washington State's Hunger Awareness Day? An exhibit of concern by more than a small percentage of the community? Yes - that's exactly what I had hoped for.

- mary stohr



I have just read Mr. Angell's editorial and the corresponding letter from Bruce Cameron Smith (both critical of Gay nonfunding) and my initial reaction is anger followed by disgust.

I am not so angry because of the views Mr. Angell holds but because he seems to think that only his views and ideologies are the correct ones.

Also, I am a bit tired of people who, when someone disagrees with them, resort to name-calling. Mr. Angell, if you knew your history you would know that name-calling was one of Adolf's favorite ploys

If anyone is acting like a member of some foul organization, I'm afraid that after reading your editorial I would be inclined to think it was you.

My disgust stems from the fact that you, Mr. Angell, seem to lack any knowledge of our political processes. The fact is that in our Jeffersonian Democratic system the majority rules, so Mr. Angell if the majority votes not to fund the Gays then the Gays do not get funded.

They can try again next year and if the assembly votes to fund them then they will receive their

Mr. Angell, I am sure that you are trying to do your best and I understand your righteous indignation towards what you feel is a social injustice.

However, I must remind you that these are your views and while you have a right to hold them you must realize that other people have a right to their beliefs, and if your beliefs are in the minority then you must accept the rule of the majority until you become the majority.

Mr. Angell, you and others like you must grow up enough to realize that because people disagree with you it does not make them Nazis, Commies, Pinkos or any other name you may wish to call them. If people disagree with you then all it means is that they disagree with you.

of my favorite views and that is that in a debate carried on by educated people neither side should resort to name-calling. The instant one side sinks to that level they lose and, Mr. Angell, vou have been losing for an entire semester.

- james beeman



-To the editor-Constituents ignored by reps

The issue is at hand once again—should the Homosexual Awareness Committee receive financial support from this university's students? And once again we students are putting our trust in the ASWSU Assembly, that they will honestly, and completely represent the majority of their constituents on this

It is my opinion that if the last vote on this issue is at all indicative of the assembly's future voting, the majority of assembly member's constituents will not be represented. For even though the last vote rejected funding of the HAC it showed overwhelmingly that many of the assembly members were willing to say, "I don't give a damn about what my constituents think!

Thus, we saw the HAC receive seven out of 16 votes. The assembly members voting in favor of the HAC were Jay Matsen, Larry Beck, Dan Pierce, Karen Sticklin, Ginger Williams, Colleen Johnson, and Kim Deering.

This may sound harsh, but I know for a fact that my representative, number four on the above list, told me that even if she knew for certain that the majority of her constituents were against funding the HAC (she has told me before she is

either in favor of the HAC still or she would abstain altogether.

With such an admission so clearly, and on what grounds does she feel she obtained her position? I firmly believe that she needs to realize, as do the other six above members, that she was not elected for her amazing wisdom, her discerning powers, or her intellectual prowess. She was elected to represent the majority of her constituents, and for that alone was she elected.

-robert booth

by Garry Trudeau

DOONESBURY









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