

THE PRIMARY SOURCE



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THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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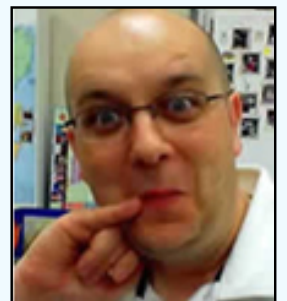
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From the Editor

Roll It Over

Welcome to the very first Web-exclusive issue of *The Primary Source*. While this issue may not provide you with reading over a Dewick meal (unless you print it out), we hope that this small sampling of articles and humor pieces will tide you over in your thirst for all things *Source*. You may ask: why is the *Source* publishing online? Simply put, it is because paper costs money.

Like other TCU student groups, the *Source* is funded through the Student Activities Fee as managed by the TCU Treasury Office. As it is currently budgeting season, many students may now find themselves suddenly familiar with the Treasury. An office that otherwise gains little of the glamour and attention often given to the TCU president and other senate politicians, the workings of the treasury are ultimately responsible for the vast majority of student events on this campus. Despite occasional errors, recent treasurers have brought unprecedented organization and professionalism to the office. (The *Source* especially salutes the non-Keynesians among them.) However, the budgetary system used by the TCU still suffers from flaws that could be improved.

The lack of rollover accounts for individual groups acts as a detriment to fiscal responsibility within that group. As it stands now, each year a group is given a set fraction of the money collected by the student activities fee. At the end of the year, the Treasury collects any money not spent by the group, and it is added to the budget to be redistributed the following year.

Specifically, it becomes part of the "surplus." This system discourages fiscal responsibility in two ways. First, groups often frantically spend their money at the end of each year-resulting in purchases that are less than well thought out. Secondly, the current system discourages groups from undertaking long term fundraising. When any unspent money will go back to the treasury at the end of the year, groups will be less than enthusiastic about putting in their time to raise funds specifically for the group they care about.

A potential solution to this problem would be to allow groups to maintain separate accounts for fundraising purposes that roll over from year to year. Large groups such as LCS could use such an account to manage long-term capital investments, like a new van. Other groups could use such an account for events that are less than annual, like a trip taken every other year. While it is not necessary to upset the fundamental budgeting process of the TCU, rollover accounts would encourage groups to take ownership of their money. The *Source* had to sacrifice one on-dead-tree issue this year because we are forced to budget one year at a time. So too are other groups confined by the current budgeting system. Rollover accounts would help to address this problem, and so would ultimately promote that ever-elusive goal of the TCU treasury: fiscal responsibility.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Dangremond". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



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Commentary

Berkeley Mestizos: Half European, Completely Racist

MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán), a radical student group from UC Berkeley, has recently attacked *The California Patriot*, the school's conservative publication. The



group has been harassing and even giving death threats to the staff of the *Patriot* over an article in their recent issue. The article focused on MEChA, a nation-wide organization that deals with issues pertaining to the struggle of Mexican-Americans. It also condemned MEChA's mission statement, which talks of overthrowing whites and makes heavy use of the racial epithet *gringo*. After the article's release, MEChA members encircled and verbally threatened members of the *Patriot*. An unidentified party broke into the *Patriot*'s office a day later and stole 3,000 issues, a loss estimated at \$1,600. This is not the first time the magazine has been stolen; two thefts were reported in the last year. Other offended student groups burned issues in public.

The main point of the *Patriot*'s article titled "MEChA: Student Funded Bigotry and Hate" was that MEChA is being funded by the University in spite of their racist and treasonous views, while the *Patriot* does not accept university funding. MEChA's goals are laid out in their own sort of declaration of independence, El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán. It is a great read for anyone interested in racist propaganda or overthrowing America. It asks all Mexican-Americans to unite against the white European oppressors, referred to as *gringos* and *gabachos* (which, after some research, was found to mean "French mountain men.") The document also encourages nationalism as the key to cultural, social, and political independence. Apparently, they want to create a new political party based solely on skin color and to marginalize those of other races. Like all misguided activist groups, MEChA is also hypocritical, calling for liberation from racism while their declaration is full of racist ideas and slurs. The members identify themselves as *mestizo* (multiracial) while defying the white European-thus

denying part of their own heritage.

These events at Berkeley mirror those at Tufts, proving that the abolition of free speech is popular from coast to coast. This story is particularly sad as Berkeley was home to the free speech movement during the Sixties; now it is home to yet another example of radicals believing that their cause places them above the law.

Gross, Man

This past Wednesday, envelope tycoon Steve Grossman came to Tufts University to speak on citizenship and leadership. Grossman has made frequent visits to the Tufts campus for speaking engagements and, no doubt, quick trips to Aidekman, where his wife, Barbara, teaches drama. This trip, however, was motivated by more than just an opportunity to hook up with the old ball and chain, for Grossman is currently drumming up support for a Massachusetts gubernatorial run.



This time around, Grossman suggested that a major problem with our democracy is a lack of voter turnout. Polling the audience for suggestions resulted in many familiar ideas: online voting, telephone voting, mail-in voting. But Grossman contended that low voter turnout had less to do with accessibility and more to do with Enron: in short, that illegal donations by large corporations provoke American citizens to apathy. Grossman, like many Democratic candidates, is a wealthy Jewish businessman who knows that corporate spending can hold the most sway over politicians. Citing the Enron debacle, he explained that a main goal of his governorship would be campaign reform.

A noble endeavor to be sure, but Grossman may not be up to the challenge. While serving as the chair of the Democratic National Committee between 1996 and 1999, Grossman claims to have "unified" the party. Yet, during his chairmanship, he saw his party's President decline into immoral and illegal behavior. The Democratic Party took \$1.7 million in donations that investigators from a House committee who were probing fundraising abuses claim are either illegal or suspect. These donations occurred during Grossman's chairmanship and include \$50,000 in illegal contributions to Al Gore by Buddhist nuns and monks. Not only did Grossman preside over

illegal activity, he aggravated the Democrats' troubles by converting many "soft money" donations to "hard money" without donators' knowledge during the 1996 Clinton-Gore campaign. This caused some honest contributors to face legal consequences for being over the "hard money" limit.

Therefore, the answer to apathy in Massachusetts is not another liberal hypocrite inclined to shady business deals, but an honest candidate willing and able to eliminate such illegal activity. Do not be fooled by his connections to Tufts-Steve Grossman is not the man for the job.



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From the Elephant's Mouth

► **Esrtwhile sometime-Sourcer**

Michael Ferenczy takes the Wendell Phillips prize, and a Daily editorial comments: "Ferenczy will be best served taking a lesson from that publication - if his delivery can manage to **stir up as many emotions as the Source**, seniors will be treated to a pleasant surprise." But how will Mike work a picture of a headless woman in a tank top into his speech?



► In other is-he-or-isn't-he news, **erstwhile sometime-Sourcer**

Jonathan Perle finally achieved his goal of bringing conservative funnyman and prolific author **P.J.**

O'Rourke to campus two weeks ago. Actual incident: when Perle began to ask a question after the lecture, P.J. took up his gin and tonic and said, "**I'm just going to make a drink while you talk, Jonathan.**" We couldn't agree more... When asked how he became a smash-the-state leftist in college, O'Rourke responded, "I looked at the two political groups on campus, and asked myself the question: 'Which girls are more likely to **do it**?'"

► An engineer, she's not: In a Viewpoint, sophomore **Emily Good** calls genetic engineering "an extreme example of patriarchy," assured that engineers do their jobs "**because they cannot give birth themselves.**" Who wants to bet Emily doesn't know a double helix from a double major in Peace and Justice Studies and Women's Studies?

► In a Viewpoint criticizing Chris Kohler's review of *The Vagina Monologues*, **freshpersyn John Dulac** bemoans "female inequity, sexual disparity and discrimination, and social vagueness" but, as expected, fails to

explain how **frank, earnest discussions of pubic hair** even begin to solve any of that... On the same page, senior Ted Shevlin complains that the safety shuttle's exhaust is an ecological "abomination." The *Source* would like to take this opportunity to restate our official position that we do not care if the shuttle runs on *newborn kittens* so long as it gets us to Davis in under half a God damned hour.

▶ *The Elephant* never forgets.



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2002: A Socialist Odyssey by Andrew Gibbs

Battles over human rights have raged across the land since the dawn of time. After millennia of bickering, however, no clear consensus exists. Human beings have (or should have) a right to freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and to own and bear arms, but what else should fall under the umbrella of natural rights? Do humans have a right to meaningful employment, a right to education, a right to healthcare?



...is it evil healthcare?

Both groups consist of things that people deem essential, but there is an important distinction to make. The former group consists of inalienable rights conferred to individuals upon birth. The latter consists of things that humans have a right to *pursue*, but should not be guaranteed by virtue of simply being born. Many people, however, disagree with this premise and are adamantly fighting for nationalized healthcare. Alas, these crusaders of human rights are misled by their own good intentions and are proposing a system that would ensure miserable health care for all. Moral arguments aside, there exist numerous practical considerations that render nationalized health care highly undesirable.

The problem with healthcare, or with any financial system for that matter, is that it exists as an entity with finite resources and potentially infinite needs. As such, efficiency must serve as a driving principle behind all operations. Every resource expended in a suboptimal way represents medical care that someone else may have needed and now cannot receive. History has shown time and time again that governments are vastly inferior to markets as far as efficient allocation of resources is concerned, yet progressives are willing as ever to ignore the lessons of the past. They argue that about a quarter of medical costs are burned on administrative expenses and that somehow

nationalization will reduce this waste. Of course, anyone who has witnessed an actual government bureaucracy would be highly skeptical of this claim, but assume for the moment that this dubious claim is true. Now one has an all-you-can-eat buffet of medical care where, in theory, everyone's every want is satisfied. Every hiccup, fart, and cough gets checked out without any thought as to the cost. Furthermore, why take preventative health measures when one knows that the medical costs will be covered later? Don't waste time putting a jacket on, the penicillin is free! Sound absurd? The Rand Corporation did a study back in 1976 that found the expenditure of consumers receiving free health care to exceed by 45 percent the expenditures of a group of consumers who paid 95 percent of their medical expenses below a catastrophic level. Furthermore, the overall health of the two groups was the same. What more evidence do progressives need?

It's not about money, they argue. It's about providing people with healthcare. Yet, one can't get blood from stones. Somehow one must balance the finances. Confiscatory tax rates are often cited as a means to make ends meet, but even such drastic measures prove inadequate in the end. Tax rates in socialism-happy Europe and Canada are nothing short of oppressive, yet these regions still must resort to dramatic reductions in quality of care to balance the books. These reductions often manifest themselves in a dearth of high-tech equipment and correspondingly long waiting periods. Canada, to pick on the United States' nearest socialist neighbor, has a lag time of about five weeks between being referred by a general practitioner and actually seeing the specialist. As for an example of equipment shortages, Canada has a population of about six times that of Washington State, yet they have fewer MRI units. Not satisfied yet? Canada also has one seventh as many radiation therapy units for cancer patients as does the US, on a per capita basis. The examples are endless. Of course, in all fairness Canada isn't the only place with shoddy socialized medicine. Need a heart X-Ray in Sweden? Be prepared for an eleven-month wait. Over 55 and need kidney dialysis in England? Sorry, access denied.

Now assume for the moment that a utopian national health care service has sprung into existence. After some thought, it becomes apparent that making such a system fair requires a little bit of behavioral regulation. No longer is it merely a good practice to eat well and exercise regularly, but one's patriotic duty. Eating those French fries, sipping that beer, or smoking that cigarette could cost Tiny Tim his cancer treatment. Get ready for federally mandated dress codes too. It will be a federal crime to wear shorts in the wrong temperature range, and failure to put on a jacket below some arbitrary cut-off will result in a hefty fine. Every cut or scratch will require a surgical scrub, as well as government approved ointment and bandages. George

Orwell must be turning over in his grave.

Everything else aside, national health care is insidious if just for the reason that it results in the slavery of doctors. Progressives hold it the obligation of the doctor to serve, and the entitlement of the patient to receive. No longer are doctors able to conduct business as everyone else in the country does, but rather they find themselves required to either render services on the narrowly defined terms of the government, or to forfeit their practices. This is not earning a living, but rather existing in indentured servitude. The end result will be that talented medical professionals will cease to practice here, or will begin to practice on the black market. Bright, young individuals will lose interest in the medical field as they see it atrophy. Furthermore, nationalization of healthcare would serve as a harbinger for progressively more communistic tendencies. How does one draw arbitrary lines in the sand as to what is to be deemed essential? Perhaps a nationalized housing program would be next. Transportation is pretty important, too, so perhaps the complete nationalization of transportation is imminent. The proverbial slippery slope of nationalization would result in a snowballing of government programs: nationalized clothing, telephone service, internet access, education, etc. There's no such thing as a little bit of communism.

Of course, this is not to say that health care does not require the attention of the nation. The fact that tens of millions of Americans go uninsured is quite disturbing. The answer, however, is not more government but less. Health care has been a mess since World War II when the government instituted wage and price controls to mask rampant inflation. To circumvent these restrictions, employers offered health care benefits as a way to entice employees. The idea caught on when Congress declared health care benefits to be non-taxable, as it is cheaper for both the employer and employee to pay medical costs with pre-tax dollars. The government, however, has issued mandate after mandate on what is required to be covered under insurance. This has resulted in ballooning insurance costs, and meanwhile the employee has become utterly indifferent to the cost of care. As such, many employers have been forced to drop health insurance as a benefit. A chief cause for all this mess stems from the perversion of what insurance really should be. Just about any other form of insurance is used to cover extremely unlikely events of catastrophic proportions. In the case of healthcare, however, insurance covers not just catastrophes, but also regular maintenance. David Boaz likens this to "using automobile insurance for gas and tune-ups" and rightfully so.

The real culprit behind the whole mess is the United States' current taxation system. One solution with particular merit is the institution of tax-free

Medical Savings Accounts. Individuals would be able to deposit pre-tax income into an MSA and subsequently pay for medical expenses out of the account. This, of course, should also be augmented with a catastrophic policy with a moderately expensive deductible to guard against protracted illness and severe injury. Such a system would promote individual accountability and fiscal responsibility. Best of all, the implicit responsibility would naturally encourage good lifestyle choices, as the consumer would take to heart the adage that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Perhaps the most dangerous notion in modern society is that bigger government can effectively serve as a panacea for any problem. The current health care crisis does indeed demand the attention of the nation, but nationalization will serve only to further exacerbate the situation. Contrary to popular belief, opponents of nationalized healthcare want universal healthcare too. The difference, however, is their faith in the superiority of market economies over government intervention. Time and time again, capitalism has proven to be the most efficient system for resource allocation. Should Americans fail to realize this and implement national healthcare, they will soon realize that the cure is worse than the disease.



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Normalize This by Christian Miller

A few weeks ago, the New York Times published an interview with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah in which he outlined his proposal for achieving a cessation of conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. In the proposal, the Saudi leader offered normalization of trade and recognition of the state of Israel by the Arab league - in exchange for Israeli



Prince Abdullah's plan is impractical.

withdrawal from all territories occupied since the Six-Day War of 1967. What does all that mean? Arabs everywhere will recognize the sovereignty of Israeli, and Israel will return lands to all nations harmed in the 1967 war. Sounds like a plausible stepping stone towards the shores of peace for Mr. Sharon and Mr. Arafat. And, in light of ever increasing casualties and violence between Palestinians and Israelis, the proposal is being met with sincerity by a number of third parties. Yet, despite the motives prompting this proposal, it remains far from practical.

Take a step back to 1981, as CNN pointed out, when Crown Prince Fahd was proposing a "simple idea: Israel would withdraw from the lands it occupied in the Six-Day War in 1967, and, in return, its Arab neighbors would make peace with the Jewish state." Just as Prince Abdullah's proposal sounds too good to be true today, so too did Prince Fahd's. Nations like Iraq, Syria and Libya refused to accept the deal then, and similarly Syria and Libya are taking the same stance against this revised proposal. How then can Saudi Arabia promise recognition by the Arab league when members are refusing the proposal in the first place? Unfortunately, redrawing territorial borders on maps is easier than reconciling religious and ethnic pride over losing to the Israelis.

Taking a farther step back to 1967, even redrawing borders to pre Six-Day War dates does not seem all that simple. For a nation to withdraw from territories it acquired in a war in which it was not the aggressor is unprecedented—the situation is akin to America giving back Texas to Mexico. Yes, that is right; Israel was not the aggressor in the Six-Day War, despite common sentiment. Reviewing the catalysts leading to the war, this becomes apparent. On May 14, 1967 the Egyptian president demanded withdrawal of UN troops from the buffer zone between Egypt and Israel. On May 18th Egypt moved to blockade Israel from the Straits of Tiran, hindering their access to the world via the Red Sea. Additionally, the massing of Syrian, Egyptian, and Lebanese troops along the Israeli border, coupled with statements of intent by President Nasser that "our basic objective will be the destruction of Israel" provoked the only rational response from Israel: a preemptive strike. In this light, for Israel to relinquish control of regions it has occupied in order to secure its safety would not seem like a plausible solution, especially in exchange for acceptance by the Arab League when many of those nations have previously expressed a desire to "exterminate the Zionist existence" ("Voice of the Arabs," Cairo Radio 1967).

Consequently, while Arab states may be willing to officially recognize Israel, how would this apply to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, and more importantly, to Muslim extremist groups? As the recent months have proven, Arafat has little control over the actions of militant groups within Palestinian territory, or if he does, allowing such violence to precipitate proves his incompetence in leadership and justifies Israeli responses. So, while recognizing Israel might require Arafat to follow suit and remove some of the support base for hatred towards Israel, will it really sway hard-line militants?

With this in mind, the peace proposal is commendable, though impractical, due to the demands it places on both sides. It seems likely that the only way that such a proposal could ever be ratified is if the Arab states could guarantee Israel safety from militants and future wars between other Arab states, and someone with more influence and control over Palestinians than Yasser Arafat is the one to accept it on behalf of Palestine.



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PC Video Games *by Mario and Luigi*



It has come to the attention of The Primary Source's online staff that the 'video games' we are giving to our children are merely tools of our racist, classist, sexist, homophobic, ableist, ageist, and faceist state. These 'games' prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that government should be far, far, larger than it is. To rectify the situation, we brought in a task force of experts, including Jean Kilbourne, Elton John, and Birdo, who worked with a team of designers and programmers to bring you the following action-packed and correct titles.

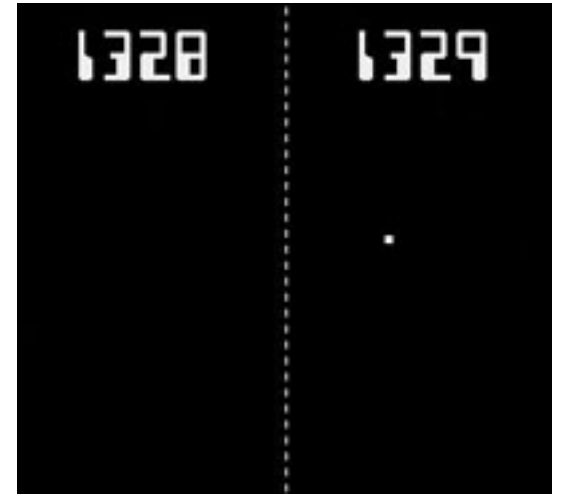
BREAKOUT of the Cycle of Poverty



Let workers control the means of destruction! Propel a tireless, hard-working activist towards the wall of inequity and force your way through to economic equality. Every brick smashed gets you another 5 pesos taken away from the ruling class and put into the pockets of the working womyn.

LGBT Pong

A rainbow of black-and-white fun! LGBT Pong plays almost identically to the original arcade hit, but the phallic "paddles" that privilege motor skills and spatial reasoning at the expense of the differently limbed have been removed. We feel the game balance has been put back into place, as most matches end in a high-scoring tie.



Super Smash The Patriarchy Sisters 2!



In this classic turnaround on the save-the-helpless-cardboard-princess theme that only serves to oppress little girls into oppression, we present SSTPS2! Not only do you take the role of a capable, competent, career-oriented lesbian, but you spend the entire game throwing things at men. When they are hit, the men-enemies say "I envy your ability to give birth" and then die in agony. Fun for all!

Vagina Fantasy

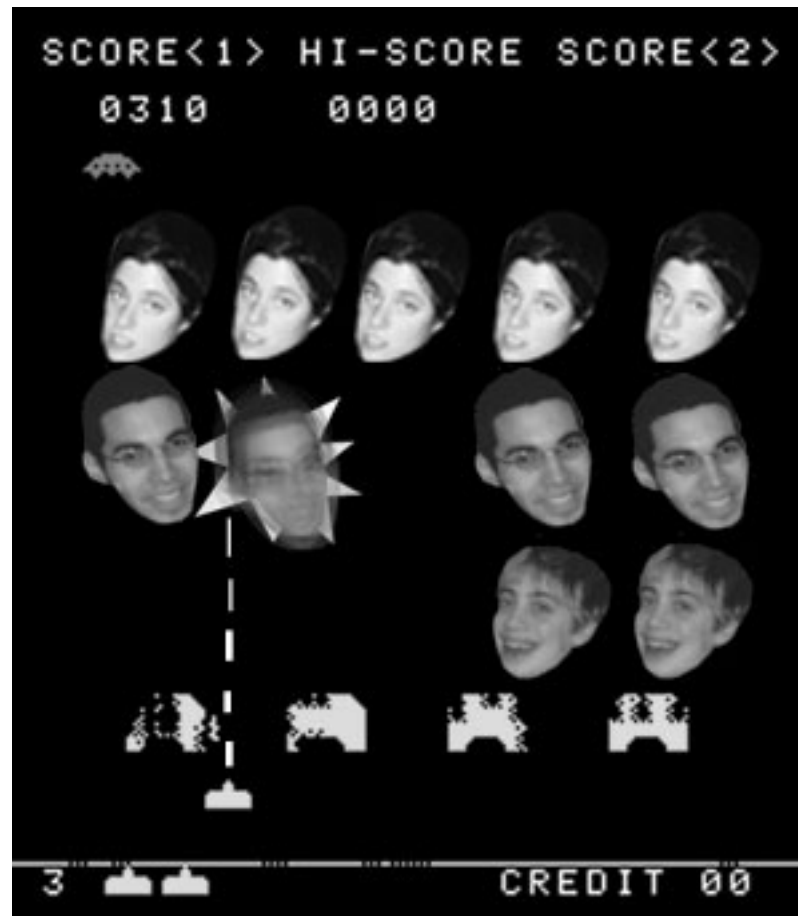
If you like SSTPS2, you'll love Vagina Fantasy! The brainchild of Hironobu Sakaguchi and Eve Ensler, this role playing game with an all-female cast features adventures based around empowering topics like Hair, Smell, and Lesbian Child Molestation (pictured).

VAGINA FANTASY

ヴァジャイナ ファンタジー



Race Invaders



Okay, this one's not really politically correct, but man, it's funny as hell. Look at... hey... who are you? Where are you taking me?! HELP...