

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

*The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University*SM

Volume XV Number 7

VERITAS SINE DOLO

December 12, 1996



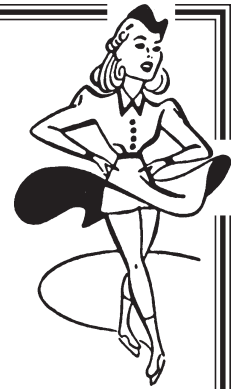
Merry Christmas 1996

Also Inside: Mink Maven Exposed • Notes from Beijing • Guest writer: Prof. Milyo



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vol. XV no. 7

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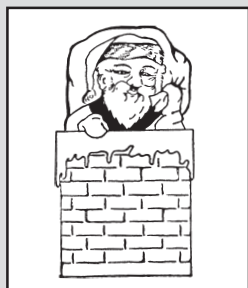
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FROM THE EDITOR

While most American college students have never been in a socialist country, they often speculate what life under a red flag would be like. But they need not speculate; they need only observe their surroundings for a sobering preview.

When property is collectively owned, no one has an incentive to take care of it as if it were his own. Because it would come at a monetary and possibly emotional cost, not to mention inconvenience, most individuals do not destroy their own belongings. But when that cost is served to an amorphous community in which the tax for property damage per individual remains unclear, no member of that group has a personal stake in maintaining the integrity of the property.

The most obvious example, and perhaps the most grotesque, is public bathrooms. Most of the campus uses dorm latrines daily, an experience that would make any student long for the comforts of home. During the week they are messy and emanate a peculiar odor unique to these shared facilities. On the weekends when the janitorial staff is not working, they are disgusting—at best—and often decorated with vomit. One cannot dismiss this trend as the inevitable product of over-privileged, rowdy college kids for this is easily refuted with a trip to the rest room at the movies. While the theater's owner might have an incentive to keep his business clean the patrons lack that drive, and consequently, their disregard for property overpowers the proprietor's mop. Likewise, dorm common areas serve as places where people snack on chips, leaving the wrappers and crumbs behind, and pick at the foam rubber peeking out from the seats others have ripped. No harm done since no one owns it.

And although the newly refurbished Tisch Library looks pristine, the books are marred with personal notes, scribbles,

and underlines. The users of this material have little interest in maintaining its original condition because after they are through with it, they will never use it again. Similarly, periodicals are often missing critical articles, graphs, and photos because students act inconsiderately. When personal convenience, not vested interest, drives decision-making, such is the result. The trend just gets worse with time as students feel less compelled to take care of the books which others have already damaged.

Similarly, Health Services is a prime example of what would have happened if Health Care Hillary had her way. Like national health care, one cannot choose his doctor, and because the service is "free" and not exposed to competition, it proves substandard. Often students wait for much time in the reception area to see some medical "professional" to tell them that he doesn't know what is wrong. Although the service is dismal, Health Services shelled out for a dizzying neon light board which scrolls the message "Welcome to Health Services." Certainly the money could have been better spent, but such is the way with collectivization.

As one walks around campus, he cannot help but notice the plethora of cigarette remains strewn all over the ground. Few people would stamp their butts on their own lawns or sidewalks, but because individuals live at Tufts as if it were a commune, the campus becomes the ashtray of the masses. While everything at Tufts is "owned," the University presents its property to students explaining that it belongs to everyone, hoping to garner respect for it. Unfortunately, Tufts and its students fail to recognize that what belongs to everyone belongs to no one. For those students and faculty who insist that collectivism could work if implemented correctly, think it over the next time you're sitting in a bathroom stall. —JS

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

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FOOL ON THE HILLSM

Ever since Jamie Roth founded the Human-Animal Mutualism Society (HAMS) early last year, her antics have been a source of much befuddled amusement here at THE SOURCE. Her crowning as Fool on the Hill was inevitable, and Miss Roth's latest gaffe truly takes the cake.

First, a recap for freshmen Jumbos that were fortunate enough to miss the wild adventures of the Mink Mistress. Radical Roth's leftist indoctrination began after attending a lecture in commie Cambridge last year that convinced the susceptible sucker and crony Claire Weigand to convert to veganism. Jolted Jamie's premiere protest whine? A rat dissection in BIO 13.

The rest, as they say, is history. The eager beaver's next stunt was to spearhead the campaign to banish veal from campus dining halls which ultimately proved successful as the timid TUDS caved in, sparking a campus-wide epidemic of mad cow disease. While HAMS's original mission was merely to "find a happy medium between what's right for humans and animals," the Veal Vixen's TUDS grandstanding let the cat out of the bag. The agenda of the animal rights fanatics is either-or: there is no room for "mutualism" when you deal with extremists.

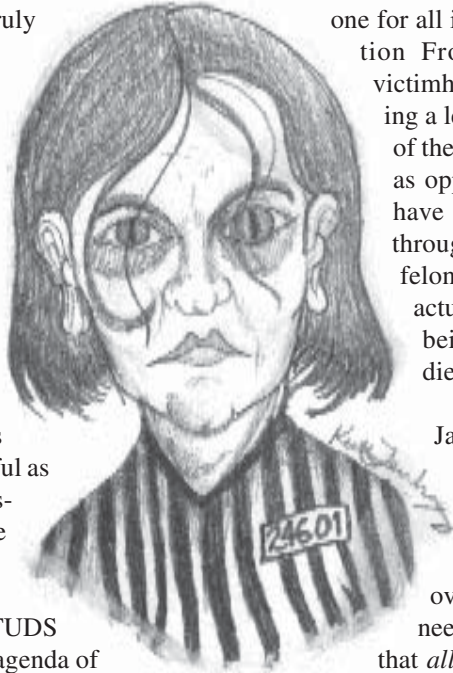
Apparently realizing this, Radical Roth changed HAMS's name to Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (SETA) early this year and shed her moderate mask. She ignited a controversy in the *Daily's* pedantic pages after authoring a "viewpoint" opposing milk. And now, just when the rest of the campus was only beginning to suspect that the Hokey

Hamburglar had fully plunged off the deep end, Jamie gets arrested for the attempted sabotage of a mink farm on the one-year anniversary of the first HAMS indoctrination session.

The animal-rights crowd is already milking this one for all it's worth. The terrorist Animal Liberation Front has already tossed the veil of victimhood on the Villainous Veal Vamp, starting a legal defense fund for Jamie and the rest of the usual suspects, billing the "Mass Four" as oppressed innocents. But a Jumbo would have to be as blind as a bat not to see right through Roth's riotous raid. The fanatical felon's agenda clearly does not represent an actual concern for the puzzled pets' well-being; the domesticated mink probably died quickly after Roth "freed" them.

The goal of ALF (or HAMS)—as Jamie so eloquently summed up for *The Daily*—is "to inflict property damage that will cost money" for the animal owners. (If we at THE SOURCE were not so busy chortling like laughing hyenas over the whole affair, we would feel a need to point out to the llama-loving lefty that *all* property damage costs money.)

Ordinarily, we would assume that monkey business like this would completely destroy the Pet Paramour's credibility. But at a "Top 20 Activist School" like Tufts, one can never be too sure. Before Jamie attempts to kill two birds with one stone and use her newfound publicity to make a soapbox sob for animal compassion, we offer a word of advice: we Jumbos have followed your tracks, Jamie, and elephants never forget.



PRIMARY SOURCE Semester-in-Review Updates

In the October 10, 1996, PRIMARY SOURCE, I reported that a number of students' vehicles had been unfairly ticketed over the weekend of September 29. Criticizing the police department for breaking a long-standing unwritten agreement that students' autos parked in legitimate faculty spaces on weekends were not to be ticketed and condemning the department for removing justice from its ticket-appeals process, I called for a complete re-assessment of parking regulations and procedures.

In a subsequent interview with Kathryn Williams, the official in charge of the parking department, I discovered that Tufts's policy had always allowed students to park in faculty spaces on weekends and that no change had been made. All students who received illegitimate citations, Williams said, could contact her and have the tickets unconditionally canceled.

Such conciliation notwithstanding, Mrs. Williams apparently made no effort to inform police and parking officers as to the substance of the rules: students have intermittently received

citations for parking in faculty spaces on weekends to this day. Moreover, Public Safety has made no reforms of the appellate process. Mrs. Williams still has complete jurisdiction over those matters and has ignored student petitions for reversal: more than a month ago, I filed two separate appeals and have not yet been informed of the decision.

On a happier note, the day after the November 21, 1996, PRIMARY SOURCE went to press, local and national news outlets reported that Boston College's Admissions Office, with complete approval from BC's new president, rescinded the Athletics Department's acceptance of Elton Tyler, the star high-school basketball player from West Roxbury who scored just 790 on the SAT. Tyler and two other recruits who will not attend BC next year now stand as symbols that Boston College's administration has restored scholastics to its proper position in that Jesuit institution. Hopefully Father Leahy will maintain his resolve to put academics before athletics.

—CD

Commentary

Not So Standard Fare

The Massachusetts Board of Education recently announced that it will require all high school seniors to take the GED. Normally only those attending fewer than four years of post-elementary school actually take the exam. However, board Chairman John Silber wants to see how many graduates actually meet the bare minimum standards of high-school graduation. Beginning in the year 2000, students will need to pass a similar test in order to graduate. Silber must withstand the criticism from the media and teachers if he is going to restore academic secondary-school standards in the Bay State.

The implementation of any uniform examination requirement is always hotly contested, especially by teachers and liberal politicians. For example, New York students will now have the option to take all but the English component of the New York Regents examinations in any language. Teachers maintain that a student might be capable in a subject but his scores will not reflect his talent because he could not understand the test. What they overlook, though, is that if he cannot successfully complete the test in English, he has not truly mastered the material they taught him.

The silliness has extended even further in California's detrimental bilingual education program. Certain western public school officials now claim that Ebonics, the technical term for "black English", constitutes a legitimate language. But no stereotypical slang should earn approval as a formal language whether it is spoken by black pupils or "Valley" girls. The teachers are actually doing a disservice to these children by not only permitting, but encouraging them to get through school without the proper communication skills to be successful in the business world.

While fluency in Ebonics might be a sufficient mastery of the American lexicon to land a job flipping burgers, it will never serve as a vehicle for upward social mobility—not because of racism, but because the real world still mandates standards. Without the type of rigid requirements Silber seeks to erect, performance will continue to decline to the point that all we can ask of our students is to clearly articulate, "Can I take your order?"

Big Brady

Conservatives champion judicial restraint, and in this era of legal activism, the need for a tempered judiciary is greater than ever. Still, the nation's founders created a three-branched government and Bill of Rights to prevent one segment of society from unduly depriving the rights of another. As long as judges confine their decisions within constitutional parameters, their input is critical—particularly in the case of the Brady Law, which is currently under the Supreme Court's review.

The milestone gun-control legislation, which arguably runs afoul of the Second Amendment protection of the right to bear arms, clearly violates the Tenth Amendment, which grants to states and the people all powers not specifically assigned to the federal government. Brady requires local police departments to perform background checks on would-be gun owners. As Justice Scalia noted during court arguments, it makes states "dance like marionettes on the fingers of the federal government." Liberal gun-control advocates, like *The New York Times* editorial page and one lower court, can only offer the pitiful defense that this onus is not significant. Sure, cops have nothing better to do than file paperwork on Washington's behalf.

Thankfully the Court appears headed toward an override. Still, opponents of states' right are resourceful, and are already conspiring new ways to impose Brady that are less vulnerable to Constitutional scrutiny. Congressman Charles Schumer (D-NY) proposes making federal grants contingent upon states' compliance with Brady's mandates. This is an old, but effective form of federal coercion to which we owe the 21+ drinking age and mandatory seat-belt laws. It's more constitutional, but no less

offensive, that the federal government takes money from the states through compulsory taxation and then only returns it when local legislatures forfeit their autonomy. Repelling such statism does not fall within the purview of the Supreme Court: the judiciary can only repeal unconstitutional laws; removing unscrupulous politicians is the voters' responsibility.

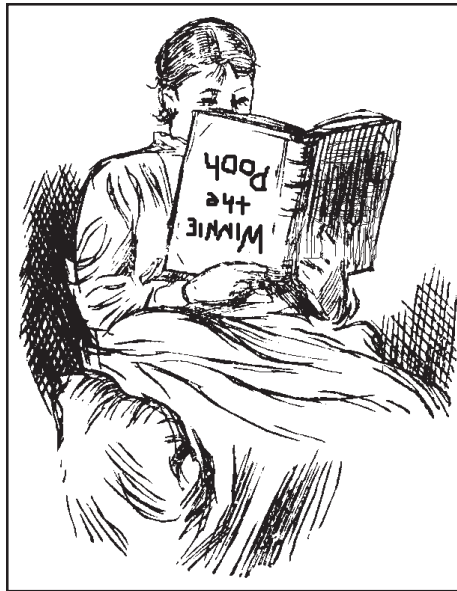
Giuliani, Control Freak

Like Cambridge, Brookline, and parts of Boston, New York City has various rent-control laws that restrict the amount landlords can charge for apartments. In theory, such regulations keep housing affordable, but the result is invariably a decrease in availability and quality. Rent control makes repairing housing units, and often just own-

ing them, unprofitable. Thus beautifully situated buildings in southern Harlem with views of the East River or Central Park go abandoned, becoming home to rats and crack addicts. The shortage does little to help the poor who cannot afford real-estate brokerage fees to find apartments.

But meddlesome liberals and residents of rent-controlled apartments comprise a powerful voting bloc in New York, thus making the elimination of housing regulations politically treacherous terrain. State Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno therefore deserves credit for his vow to end rent control by barring its re-authorization in this year's legislature. Fellow Republican, New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who has encouraged Democrats to fight the deregulation, deserves contempt.

Although Giuliani has generally done admirable work as mayor, overseeing a drastic reduction in crime, he has based his political career on pandering to the press—and as a Republican, the best way to earn media affection is to buck the conservative



trend. In 1994, for example, he inexcusably endorsed liberal Democratic Governor Mario Cuomo's failed bid for re-election. His newfound love for rent control, at the expense of his city's best interest, is yet another attempt to garner favorable headlines. But if Giuliani continues selling out his principles to become the next Bill Weld, he can expect the same political fate.

Negative Reaction

Liberal hypocrisy reared its ugliest head last week when a US district court thwarted the California Civil Rights Initiative, an anti-affirmative action measure passed last month by an overwhelming majority of the state's voters. Black businessman Ward Connerly, who spear-headed the grass-roots movement, believed that Proposition 209 would grant marginalized groups the chance to be assessed on their merit rather than their gender and race. Evidently, federal Judge Thornton Henderson is not as confident in minorities, as he issued a restraining order preventing Governor Wilson from implementing the referendum.

Prop. 209, not Henderson's ruling, fosters the spirit of equal rights. At least five Supreme Court Justices are expected to uphold 209's constitutionality, reversing the decision, but things could change by the time the case climbs through the court system. Henderson argues that the initiative implicitly violates the Fourteenth Amendment because in practice, it targets a limited segment of the population. But the San Franciscan and his liberal allies have been defying that amendment for thirty years. Preferential treatment based on race, gender, and sexual orientation flatly contradict the words "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

The Pope's Great Hope

As the international community looked on incredulously, the world's most famous anti-Communist and its most notorious atheist embraced. When the Vatican received Fidel Castro at the Holy See, the Cuban dictator announced that the pope "moved" him, and confirmed the negotiation of a papal visit to Cuba. The one nominally Christian bastion of Marxism still remaining is also the only Latin American country His Holiness has never visited.

Castro has reportedly guaranteed that the pope will have freedom of movement while on the island, an unprecedented concession which suggests the aging dictator's weakness. During his thirty-eight year reign as the head of Cuba's unopposed political party, Castro forced the Roman Catholic Church underground. The tyrant is responsible for expelling countless priests and nuns, demolishing whole churches, and closing down paro-

chial schools. In the wake of the momentous visit, the religious faithful hope for permission to open more churches and schools and to publish a Catholic newspaper.

Many among the Cuban-American exile community understandably regard the pope's reception of Castro as absolving a murderer. These political refugees also fear that the Vatican's gesture could spawn international opposition to the Helms-Burton embargo of Cuba. Indeed, communist sympathizers hope that the Supreme Pontiff's appearance will lend global credibility to their worker's paradise, crumbling since the Soviet Union's demise.

Regardless of the pope's opinion of the embargo, both sides misconstrue his actions as politically motivated and underestimate the power of his spiritual leadership. If *Il Papa* works the kind of miracle in Cuba that he helped bring about in Poland, the world will express eternal gratitude.

Indexing Misery

As if Americans needed more evidence of their poor math skills, it turns out that US government officials can't even add and subtract. The Consumer Price Index, the number the General Accounting Office uses to calculate inflation's effects on American prices, has overstated the actual rise in the cost level by 1.1 percent. That difference may appear inconsequential, but looks can be deceiving. When adjusted for inflation, a mere percentage amounts to \$130 billion in tax-funded overpayments to entitlement programs such as Social Security.

The reasons for the miscout are threefold. The first involves failure to recognize that when a good's price rises, people simply substitute other goods for it in order to save money. The

GAO's second oversight neglects that technological advancement lowers prices in certain industries, like computers. And, private sector discount suppliers dodge upward price pressures by selling in bulk.

Naturally, there is still no word on whether the current administration plans to offer a refund credit to offset the illegitimate payments. The AARP and other special interest groups who routinely benefit from the subsidies of bloated federal budgets have already begun denying the miscalculation. But their dependence on exaggerated government largesse in no way justifies failure to redress that problem. Any reduction in the political hot potato of Social Security, the program most enriched by the inflation blunder, makes even the wild-eyed deficit hawk skittish. For once, statesmen should act on this opportunity to stand up for the disadvantaged taxpayer by taming the pork-laden sacred entitlement cow.



Fortnight in ReviewSM

Comedy is allied to Justice.
—Aristophanes

PS Tufts's new Curtis Hall coffee house, scheduled to open on January 15, will be called "Brown and Brew". Expect to see the entire Tufts community frolicking and sharing zany misadventures just like the cast of *Friends*.

PS A Santa Claus was arrested on Fifth Avenue during a sit-in protest. He'd better hope his prison has a chimney.

PS The Seventh-Day Adventist Church published a book likening the pope to Satan and calling his followers tools of the devil. Exhibit A: that pointy hat.

PS Minnesota dentist Gregory Dick was arrested for employing a personal shoplifter to steal designer clothes. We could make a Dick joke here—but we yanked that idea.

PS Governor Weld announced a new policy to wire Massachusetts schools with state-of-the-art computer technology. Medford townies announced their plans to steal it.

PS In Boy Clinton's proclamation for Pearl Harbor Day, the President asked America to praise veterans who fought the war and then returned to create the most prosperous peace in history. Unfortunately, Bubba forgot that the '80s—not the '50s—set this record. We understand the Clintons had a lot of blackouts during the '80s.

PS A study of 500 Israeli elementary school students shows that children who eat certain kinds of junk food perform better in school. Something about that doesn't sound kosher.

PS The next issue of John-John's magazine, *George*, will feature a nude Claudia Schiffer covered only by a Clinton/Gore ribbon; an alternative edition will feature the turtleneck-clad super-model wearing a Dole/Kemp ribbon and wiping a tear from her eyes. A rare third edition has her wearing a Kennedy ribbon, a toe tag, and being pulled from Chappaquiddick Bay.

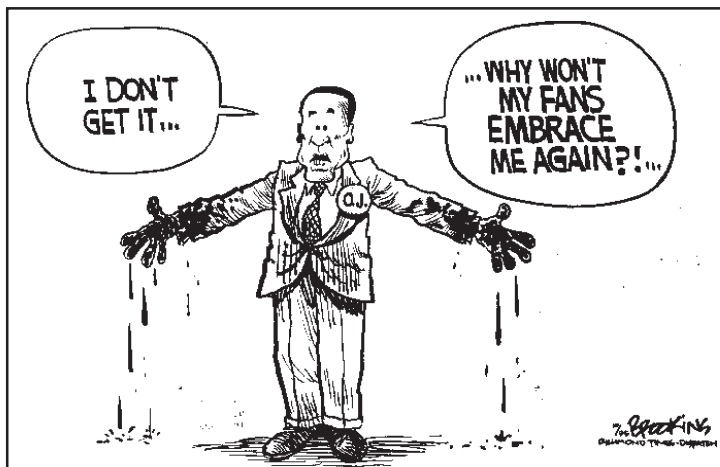
PS A Lewis Hall RA smelled marijuana near a student's room and called the cops, but TU's finest could not find any evidence incriminating the suspects. Wait a minute—how do RA's and police officers know what marijuana smells like?

PS Bill Maher's *Politically Incorrect*, the most politically correct show on television, is moving from Comedy Central to ABC and will appear after *Nightline*. Next episode: *Family Matters*'s Steven Urkel debates the budget deficit with Nobel laureate Milton Friedman.

PS A new PBS special features Bobby McFerrin performing the music of Mozart. Don't worry, it's crappy.

PS Two third-floor Bush Hall students were locked in their room for a few hours while custodians picked the lock. Good thing B&G sped up its ninety-day priority list.

PS Sharon Stone is asking for \$15 million to pitch Ralph Lauren's new perfume. Perhaps the scent will sweeten her now-stale career.



PS Australian press hounds caught a photograph of a fly-zipping Bill Clinton emerging from the bushes on a golf course, and later shaking hands with well-wishers. He only washes his hands when Whitewater is concerned.

PS After losing a bet with students that they would not read 1,000 books in a month, Duxbury Elementary School principal Jack Rudolph had to smooch with a pig. Jamie Roth called it rape.

PS The Florida Department of Revenue decided to tax business transactions on the Internet. If they can ever figure out how to access it.

PS Two students were written up by TUPD for climbing Ballou Hall's scaffold. They were seeking shelter from the 3:30 PM secretary stampede.

PS Nicole Simpson's mother testified that OJ apologized to Nicole at her funeral. He wanted a stab at getting back together.

PS First Daughter Chelsea performed ballet at a Washington, DC, production of *The Nutcracker*. The story was loosely based on her mother.

PS From the "Strategic Gaming Society Loser Seeks Same" Department, *Boston Herald* Personals, December 7, 1996: "LET'S GO CHASING DRAGONS through the snow. SWM, 23, seeks whimsical SF, 21-26, to slay dragons with. Must be willing to attend obscure movies, play outside, and spend nights staring up at the stars."

PS New investigations reveal that ex-Clinton official Mark Middleton used a private restaurant in the White House to entertain Asian business clients for his private firm. One got a fortune cookie that read, “You will cause a President to get indicted. Your lucky numbers are 46, 43, 29, 12, 31, 6.”

PS A few years ago, Grand Central Station in New York City displayed a Christmas tree and a menorah during the holiday season. But the Muslim community got angry, and to avoid a jihad on the tracks the train depot displayed snowflakes and the like the following year. This year, Grand Central is featuring a Kwanzaa menorah, a Hanukkah menorah, a Christmas tree, and a star and crescent. Now the atheists are up in arms.

PS In response to a Wal-Mart policy that edits movies sold there for content, Oliver Stone announced that his future movies will contain less explicit sexual scenes. No word yet on the paranoid leftist rantings.

PS The University of Arizona rejected a donation from alumni to give scholarships to American Indian virgins because, according to its director of scholarship development, “We can’t dictate morals.” Instead, they pass out condoms.

PS Twenty-eight Iranian teenagers were given ten lashes each, and three were sentenced to jail for attending a party where Western music was played. Understandable if it featured the “Macarena”.

PS The US’s Goals 2000 law, which attempts to put Americans first in the world in science and math, has a long way to go; Americans came in 28th place in math and 17th in science. But at least we’re catching up with France in adultery.

PS A new study by Consumer Alert and the Media Research Center shows that magazines like *Good Housekeeping* and *Family Circle* are preaching big government solutions to soccer moms’ woes and exuding a liberal bias. New recipes call for sugar, flour, and food stamps.

PS After Lillian Clayman, the new mayor of Hamden, CT, noticed that the license plate on her official car read HN-69, she accused the police chief in charge of a “deliberate, vulgar, and sexist” attack. She obviously has a deliberately vulgar mind.

PS Despite Bob Dole harping on increased drug use in the election, the FBI just revealed that drug arrests are at an all time high— with 588,963 marijuana arrests and 1.5 million total drug arrests in 1995. And that’s just in the White House.

PS The US Supreme Court will decide whether Bubba has the right to delay Paula Jones’s lawsuit until the end of his term. Why couldn’t he keep his pants on when Paula was around?

PS After White House AIDS Czar Patricia Fleming resigned, the White House announced it is looking for a new lackey who will help energize the homosexual vote for Democrats in the 1998 midterm elections. Democrats are yummy.

PS Vintage booksellers report an unprecedented rise in demand for 1950s era Dick and Jane books, a pillar of baby boomer nostalgia. Like we said before— no Dick jokes in this issue.

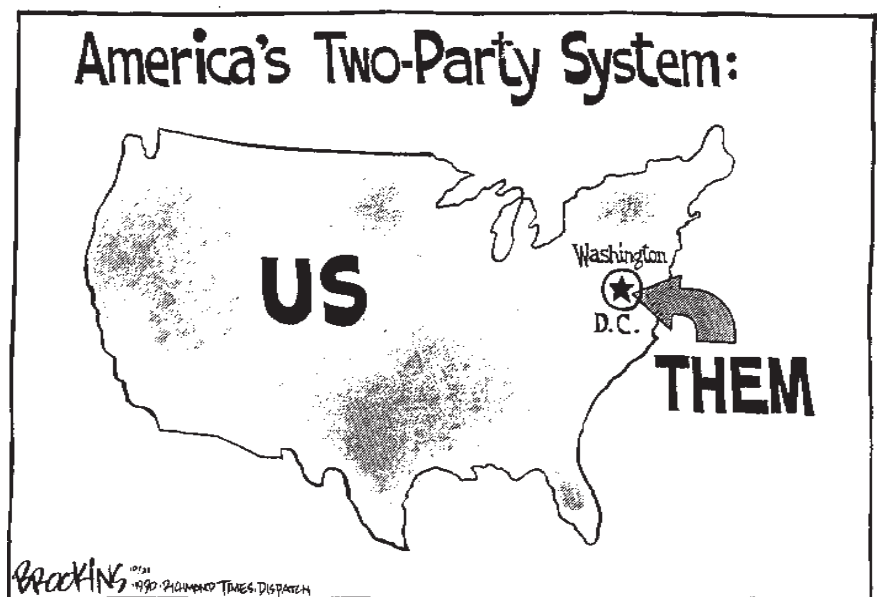
PS A recent barrage of lawsuits reveals that more and more servicemen in the Armed Forces are being charged with rape. And it wasn’t the taxpayers filing the claims, either.

PS Hell-week drop-out Shannon Faulkner’s lawyers are seeking \$5.4 million in legal fees from the Citadel and the state of South Carolina. But they might just get exhausted and give up in a couple of days.

PS The Center of Jewish and Christian Values is protesting Hollywood, arguing that its portrayal of Christians as snake-oil cheaters has no basis in reality. Just ask *JMJ and Tammy Faye*.

PS In completely unrelated news, the Anchor Baptist Church promised kids pizza and basketball games, but once they were lured inside, the children were given sermons and full-body baptisms— and not even any pizza.

PS At least the baptisms were delivered in thirty minutes or less.



Voice for School Choice

Julie Rockett

As discontent with the nation's public school system becomes widespread, school choice acquires increasing popularity among politicians, parents, teachers, and students. The issue first gained mainstream attention during the 1992 Presidential race; President Bush promoted tax vouchers for parents to use towards their children's tuition at public or private schools of their choice. Meanwhile, Governor Clinton argued that parents should cull only from local public schools.

Ironically, the issue resurfaced in the 1996 presidential debates when Bob Dole chided Clinton for sending his daughter, Chelsea, to the private Sidwell Friends School—an option the President would not extend to his fellow citizens. But Clinton continued to defend the government school apparatus, holding that public schools have made great strides in the past years, expanding arrays of choices for parents and students. Much of Clinton's "bridge to the 21st century" consisted of piece-meal federal programs to equip the nation's ailing public school system with benefits its private counterparts have enjoyed for years.

Debate and rhetoric continues to pour over this issue in Washington. But the matter is ultimately a local decision; parents are merely asking the government for permission to provide their children with an education which they themselves deem appropriate instead of having a bureaucrat make such critical decisions. Proponents of school choice advocate voucher programs in which the state would dispense tax dollars to parents equivalent to per-pupil expenditures which they could use at any accredited school that accepted their children. (Decisions regarding the application process would remain at the discretion of each school.) Very simply, parents are asking for the same freedom of choice that they have when purchasing any other product or service when they select a school.

Support for school choice transcends political and socioeconomic lines. Nevertheless, the mere idea of freedom and competition raises eyebrows of statist perennially suspicious of private initiatives. Opponents assert that by educating students outside their surrounding area, the program would diminish social cohesion and endanger feelings of community. Additionally, class-fearful liberals often worry that schools may be categorized as middle class or working class, an odd hypothesis considering that schools and neighborhoods already receive such categorizations from observers. Moreover, increased choice could only result in dispersion of classes from insular communities and promote greater class diversity in schools.

Other choice opponents claim that consumer pressure will dissuade teachers from pursuing innovations for fear of losing customers. Other market-fearing assertions hold that parents would flock to private schools and leave public schools devoid of funds and unable to compete, an ironic

will ultimately spread to the entire school. Moreover, public schools, concerned for their own survival, would be forced to improve, rather than stagnate, if they lost substantial revenues to private competitors.

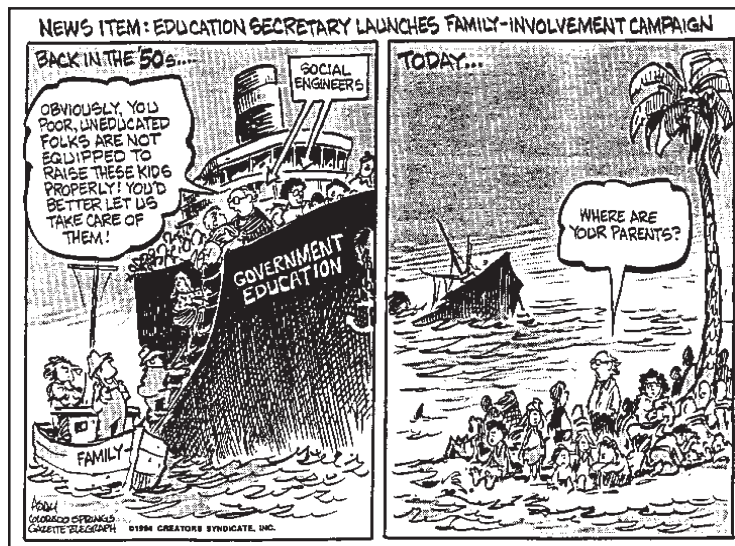
The free market will force teachers to be innovative in order to compete, a trend which will ultimately spread to the entire school.

Amy Wells, author of *Time to Choose*, avers that using government money at a religious schools would create a conflict between the separation of church and state articulated in the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. Ms. Wells overlooks a fact that, fortunately, the Supreme Court did not; vouchers are passed directly from the state to parents and not to religious institutions. The Court's 1992 decision in *Zobrest v. Catalina Foothills School District* verified that it is both legal and Constitutional to use state-funded vouchers at religious institutions as long as the government provided them first to taxpayers.

Wells also asserts that the same people who have extensive access to information and transportation, *i.e.* the rich, will be the only group to benefit from school choice. Such a contention is completely erroneous and unfounded. Most choice programs, such as those in Minnesota, Puerto Rico, Texas, and Arizona, permit only low-income families to take advantage of them. Additionally, 39% of the student body of Massachusetts' charter schools come

from low-income families earning under \$19,000, whereas only seven percent of Massachusetts families live in poverty.

Please see "School Choice," continued on page 20.



objection considering that these individuals have always held that public facilities are just as competent as private schools. But all of their objections are baseless. The free market will force teachers to be innovative in order to compete, a trend which



And thanks to your favorite team of crack investigative reporters,
 THE SOURCE is proud to bring you advance warning of some notable resolutions.

Asst. Prof. Jim Glaser: Get my name in *The Daily* once a week until tenure review in March.

Bill Weld: Dump the wife and marry Barney Frank in hopes of landing a cabinet spot.

Registrar Linda Gabriele: Mouth off to the faculty, make them get the grades in *extra* early, lie about sending out grade reports, and then sit on them until the spring semester starts.

Lecture Series: Work on that Fidel Castro project with Tufts Dems.

Queen's Head & Artichoke: More naked chicks,
 more readers.

Jesse Jackson:
 Sue Mr. D for oppressing Arnold and Willis.



Greg Geiman: Persuade the masses to join the mushy middle through illiteracy campaign.



Jamie Roth: Make bail.

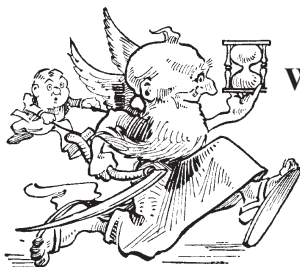
Kathy Polias: Get the spotlight back from Jamie Roth.

Chaplain Scotty McClennan: Get the University to recognize a fourth meal of the day.

TCU President Andi Freidman: Get that "sucker" tattoo removed from her forehead.

President Bubba: Nationalize the first all-black, all-lesbian economy.

Womyn's Collective: Organize an abortion registration drive.



Daily Editor-elect: get a l i f e.

Bruce Reitman: Give that gnarly moustache another go.





The Primary Source Prese

Oh Come All Ye Crim'nals

sung to the tune of "Oh Come All Ye Faithful"

Oh come all ye crim'nals,
Liars, and cheats, and deadbeats,
Oh come ye, oh come ye
To the Clinton White House.

Come peddle influence,
To Dengs, and stars, and rednecks.
Come give a big donation,
Come watch the coronation,
And get your corporation
A great big kick-back.



I'm Dreamin' of a Bright Professor

sung to the tune of "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas"

I'm dreaming of a bright professor,
Unlike any on the Hill.
Who can read, write, and lecture,
Assign grades without conjecture,
And never has quotas to fill.

I'm dreaming of a bright professor
Who can speak English fluently,
Who thinks Shakespeare's a thespian,
Not a black, crippled, lesbian,
And doesn't proselytize currently.



Geiman the V

sung to the tu
You know Lin
Snyder and Os
But do you re
The worst Dan

Geiman the V
Had a very son
And if you ev
You would ev
All of the othe
Used to laugh
They never le
Run among th

Then one desp
O'Keefe came
"Geiman with
Won't you fil

Then how the
And they pran
Geiman, the V
You'll go dow
(Like Jessica K

OJ Simpson's Coming to Town

sung to the tune of "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"

Put on your knit cap,
Get in the Bronco,
Go to Brentwood,
And slice up the ho.
OJ Simpson's coming to town.

He'll kill Nicole and Ronald,
Then say with a straight face,
"You really must acquit me—
Do it for the great black race!"
Oh, he'll get off scot-free
And laugh like a clown.
Maybe then he'll kill one more Brown.
OJ Simpson's coming to town.



Andi the Pres'dent

sung to the tune of "Frosty the Snowman"

Andi the Pres'dent,
Is a crazy lefty loon,
With a Clinton line,
and a button, "NOW!"
and a tired victim's tune.

Andi the Pres'dent
Wants to help the blacks.
But with set-asides
And racial bias,
Her program reason lacks.

There must have been some pleasin'
In that Senate bill she pass'd.
For when she sprang it on the scene,
She contented Aliguma Kabadaki at last.

Oh... Andi the Pres'dent,
May you live to see the day
When Tufts gets a clue,
Rejects your stew,
And throws politics away.

Hark! TBAG Now Proclaims

sung to the tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! TBA-AG now proclaims:
Myanmar, go down in flames!
Fight mil'tary exploitation,
Kill the Pepsi generation.

Stay away from Sunkist, too,
Seven-up's evil; so's Mountain Dew.
Ocean Spray's of the same ilk,
Genocide starts with milk.

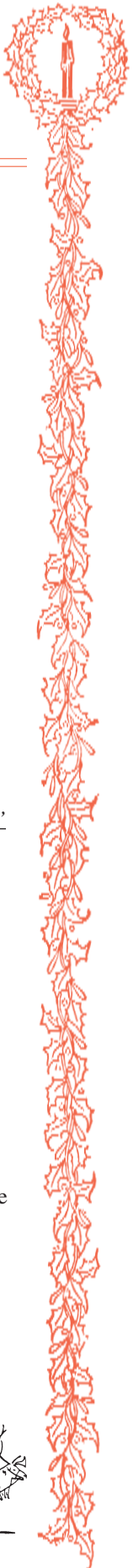
Hark! TBA-AG now proclaims
Put an end to drinking games.



The Twelve Days

sung to the tune of
On the twelfth day
Bill Clinton gave
Twelve Rogers sn
Eleven Starrs indi
Ten Camels smok
Nine Huangs givin
Eight Dicks fondl

nts: Christmas Carols 1996



Viewpoints Columnist

one of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"
 with Tu and Tobin, Copeland and Sanborn,
 Stow, Youman and Erdheim.
 call,
 why writer of all?

Viewpoints col'mnist,
 every prose,
 ever read it,
 when say it shows.
 ever col'mnists,
 and call him names,
 at poor Geiman,
 their col'mnist names.
 o rate Daily-eve.
 e to say:
 our rows so light,
 l some space tonight?"

col'mnists loved him,
 nced about with glee,
 Viewpoints columnist,
 yn in infamy!
 Ruzz!)



of Term Two f "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

of Term Two
 to us:
 orting,
 cting,
 ing,
 ng,
 ing.

Seven aides leaving,
 Six eras ending,
 Five cover-ups!
 Four GOP sell-outs,
 Three FBI files,
 Two hackneyed bridges,
 And a First Lady in the pokey.



Marryin' in Ole Hawaii-Land

*sung to the tune of
 "Walkin' in a Winter Wonderland"*

Gay bells preen,
 Men are kissing,
 The groom's a queen,
 Ring-bearer's missing.
 Two brides, no grooms,
 Insem'nate their wombs,
 Marryin' in Ole Hawaii-Land.

In Oahu courts make it official,
 Marriage means whatev'r you want.
 You'll wed a guy, a gal, or snowman,
 Get luc-ky, you can even bed your aunt!

Exchange the vows,
 Put on leather.
 Latex love
 Lasts forever.
 This que-er sight,
 Is ev'ryone's right,
 Marryin' in Ole Hawaii-Land.



Knable, Knable, Knable

*sung to the tune of
 "Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel"*

We have a Dean of Students,
 Who doesn't do a thing,
 She sits on all those panels,
 But only wants to sing.

O Knable, Knable, Knable,
 You've been around too long,
 You've got no new ideas,
 So give us your swan song.

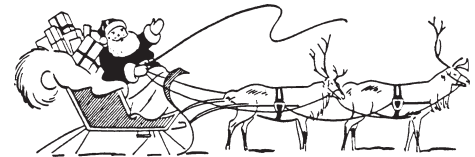
Jamie Roth

sung to the tune of "Jingle Bells"

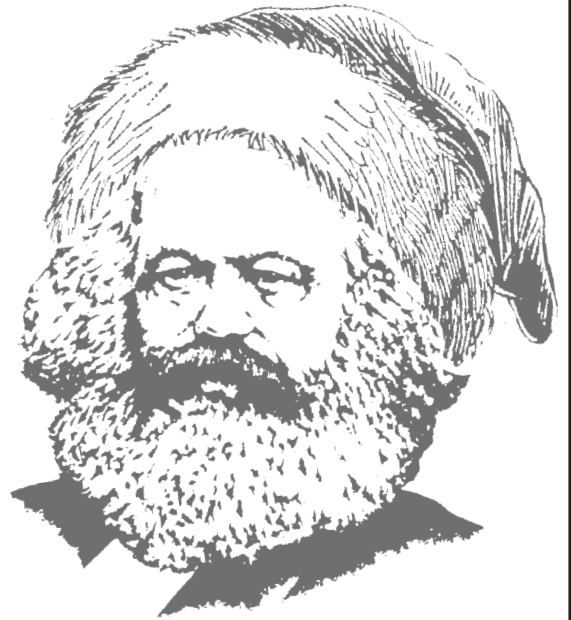
Jamie Roth, Jamie Roth
 Radical all the way.
 Oh, what fun it is to see
 'Em take that nut away.

[flashback]
 Dashing through the snow,
 With kerosene in hand,
 To the mink-farm she goes
 Cheering all the way,
 "Fire, Fire, Fire!"
 Bells on a-larms ring,
 Making Jam' take flight,
 Oh, what fun it is to laugh and see
 Them make that collar tight.

Ohhhh...
 Jamie Roth, Jamie Roth
 Radical all the way.
 Oh, what fun it is to see
 'Em take that nut away.



Greetings Comrades



As part of the International Workers' Revolution, we've been instilling Communist (communitarian in academia) values in sacred Western traditions. The following is a report from the front lines regarding our success infiltrating Christmas.



Gifts are now distributed by a central planning authority.



Santa easily violates private-property rights.



Comrade Santa keeps extensive files; he knows who's been naughty...

Refusniks in gulags happily make toys for the greater good of the Par – uh, People.



Mind control, baby; mind control.



Could the red nose be any more obvious?



Santa Youth volunteer their Chips-Ahoy; indoctrination successful – coercion no longer necessary.



Let them think of it as giving gifts; nobody needs to call it asset forfeiture.

Under a Red Flag

Colin Kingsbury

Beijing, 1996. No one who spends even a few days here can leave doubting the success of the reform process begun almost two decades ago. There are skyscrapers on every block, imported cars clog the streets, and the main problem state-run department stores face now is competition. And while life for most Chinese remains a very Spartan affair by Western standards, it is significantly better today, and for a lucky few life is good indeed. The train stations overflow with peasants newly arrived in search of streets paved with gold, and though a few get lucky and land jobs as taxi drivers, most find nothing more than a peddler's stand, or perhaps a ticket home. But the immigration is hardly just Chinese; Beijing now ranks number one as the destination for expatriates. It is no small irony that a city once famous for its xenophobia is now home to over one hundred thousand foreign residents.

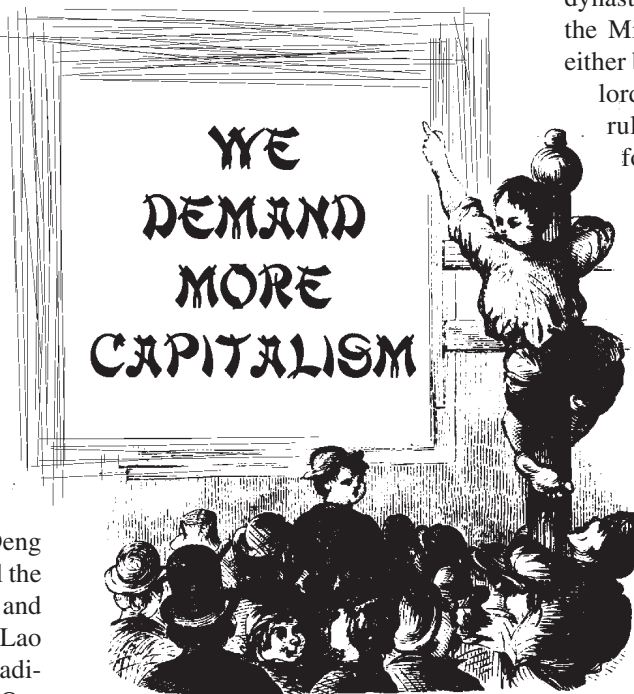
In fact, everyone here seems to be doing so well that it is hard to imagine what life was like before Deng Xiaopeng took over. The world of the Chinese is a small and very insular one when it comes to foreigners who get inside only with the greatest of difficulties. While political terror on the scale of the 1960s is now just a memory, people still have to watch what they say and to whom they speak. And yet every now and again someone will open up to you, like the taxi driver in Xi'an who told me the economic reforms were moving too slowly. What China needed, he said, was "more capitalism." But the fact that enough capitalism exists for him to ask for more is itself a revelation.

While most Westerners now focus on the economic aspects of pre-Deng Communist rule, those alone hardly tell the story. One night a group of students and several Chinese faculty went to the Lao She Teahouse to see performances of traditional music, acrobatics, and Peking Opera. As one teacher explained, though such venues were everywhere in old Beijing, most disappeared after Liberation because anyone who had time to relax had more time to build the country. And when there

were performances, the audience had to sit and watch intently and work as hard as the people on stage. Anything else wouldn't have been Maoist. "Now," our teacher said, "they work, we spend money." So quickly does the conscience of a nation change.

What Color is the Cat?

Some years ago, Deng Xiaopeng uttered the famous dictum, "It doesn't matter what color the cat is, if it catches mice, it's a good cat," an allusion to his antecedent's preoccupation with the color red. Unfortunately, the Communist Party's most visionary leader has slipped from the picture at the moment that his leadership is most needed. Jiang Zemin, the heir apparent to Deng, emphatically insists that the reform and opening process will continue. Should a battle for succession ensue among Jiang and other top officials, however, Deng's reforms would almost certainly suffer.



Judging by recent coverage, most observers appear to be convinced that although all the signs are mixed at best right now, the future of China's opening is bright. They reason that since the reforms have

done so much good, only a fool could decide to back away from them. But while everyone agrees that the reforms led to today's level of prosperity, the Party also feels those reforms nibbling away at its power base. State-run companies, once the bedrock of everything, now command a

What China needed, a cabbie said, was "more capitalism." But the fact that enough capitalism exists for him to ask for more is itself a revelation.

mere half (and a declining one at that) of the economy. Authority to approve small and medium-size foreign ventures now rests with provincial governments. Faltering state enterprises now increasingly face bankruptcy and foreclosure proceedings.

To the Western observer all these changes represent progress, but to China's leaders they look more like the fall of a dynasty. Historical precedent reveals that the Middle Kingdom was typically ruled either by one emperor or one hundred warlords, a fact not lost on the current rulers. Up until recently they could fool themselves into thinking all these changes had no effect on their power. Eager to please hard-line officials and avoid a potentially destabilizing in-fight in the opening of the post-Deng era, Jiang Zemin recently embarked on a campaign to "Build the Socialist Spiritual Civilization." Those with a vested interest in the reform process consider all of this hot air to float the geriatric crowd off into the sunset. They could be correct. All reforms have been proceeding more or less as planned, and the flow of investment into the country indicates a confidence from the business community. The test of China's resolve, however, is already fast upon us.

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China earlier pledged that by the end of this year, central control of currency exchange will be abolished and the Renminbi (People's Money) allowed to trade on the open market, but her confidence is wavering. Currently, foreign and joint-venture companies face severe difficulties repatriating domestically-earned profits. Instead, the government encourages businesses to export their products and earn hard currency, a slice of which goes to Beijing. Furthermore, foreign companies must follow the same rules as state-owned firms regarding cash—any amount above a set limit must be sold to an approved central bank (usually at a discounted rate) or re-invested. On top of that, all corporate bank accounts are subject to review to make certain that all policies are followed.

China's rationale for this constricting web of regulations is that they ensure companies will only build here for the long run. Ventures that benefit from the domestic market must also reinvest in the nation. But no matter how many times words like "development," "long-term commitment to the nation," and "differing levels of development" are used to justify such policies, the color of the cat does not change. China's policies are mercantilist in the ancient sense—sell goods for gold (or hard currency) and limit all non-essential imports.

This policy enriched imperial courts for two millennia, and probably would have survived if Britain hadn't applied her commercial expertise to starting the world's most successful dope ring. But the mercantilist practices of a bygone era cannot work in the modern borderless business world. Today's multinationals come to China looking for more than just an export factory—they want a piece of the market. While they can get access, albeit somewhat limited, the potential for profit is substantially smaller due to Beijing's policies. Still, in the long run an early entry to the market more than offsets the inconvenience of the day's troublesome red tape. But this view assumes as a necessary precondition that the rules will someday change. Everyone agrees this is gambling; the debate concerns only the odds. If the deadline passes and the government fails to hold up its end of the deal, those odds will change, and if

enough time passes, the analysts will conclude that China is a bad horse to put money on. The very foundation of economic growth could disappear as quickly as it came, taking with it all China's hope, until finally the Yangtze runs red.

The foundation of economic growth could disappear as quickly as it came, taking with it all China's hope, until finally the Yangtze runs red.

But another rationale exists for the government's policy, far more insidious than simple poor strategy. The imperialism of the 18th and 19th centuries left many wounds which have hardly healed, and foreign influence is still a very touchy topic. A circular just issued by the Ministry of Civil Affairs banned the use of "undignified names," using a disco named "Formosa" after the Spanish name of Taiwan in the 17th century as a key example. *The China Daily* said: "Names displaying unhealthy content or 'cultural colonialism'... harm the national interest and dignity." Similarly, most foreign businesses here exist as part-owner of a joint venture with a state company, and rarely hold a majority interest or veto power over the Chinese partner. And the currency policy pretty much eliminates the option of simply picking up and leaving. The government can say that it is merely trying to build a healthy Chinese base for the economy, but we must question the wisdom of supporting such an artifice through continued trade and investment.

The Next Ten Years

Whatever path the Party chooses, the free market will ultimately win. Already Deng's reforms have permeated into every level of society. The Tian'anmen protests

occurred more as a result of economic recession than political repression. Since then, the terms of the truce between the people and the government have been that so long as economic growth continues everyone will keep quiet. Thus, for the Communists, economic development is a Catch-22; it both sustains and rots their power. If they recognize that the dam has already burst in terms of the development of capitalism, or for that matter, if they actively wish to see it move forward, the future of the oldest nation in the world will be bright indeed.

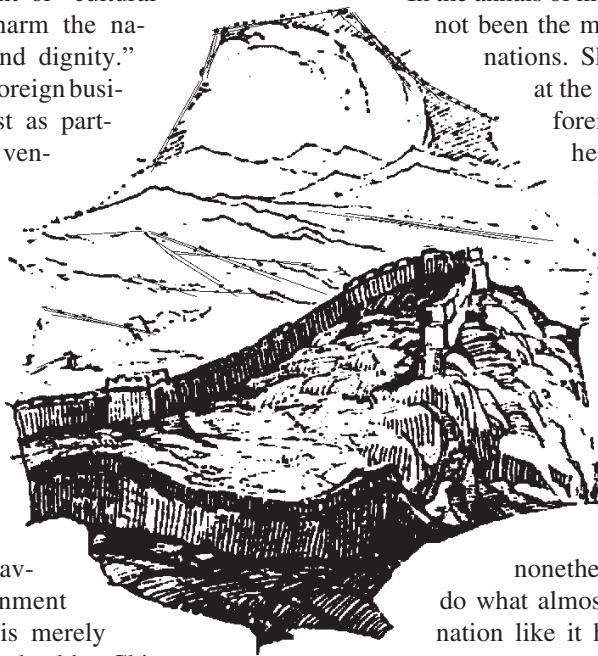
Surely the most dramatic event of the next decade will be the hand-over of Hong Kong next year. While the return of the last great colony to the "embrace of the motherland" will take a big chip off China's shoulder, it will also pose a great challenge to her rulers. The promise of "one country, two systems" must become reality if China wishes to maintain international confidence in her progress. Unlike on the mainland, any muscle-flexing by Beijing in Hong Kong will be political repression.

In the annals of history, China has not been the most fortunate of nations. She has suffered at the hands of nature, foreign powers, and her own government. Saddled with the largest population, scarce farmland, and low development, the land Napoleon termed "the Sleeping Giant"

nonetheless managed to do what almost no other poor nation like it has done in the past century: change. In 1949

"The Chinese People stood up," and in 1979 Deng told them to start getting rich. Today optimism is the rule of the day, and every pollution-enriched sunset in Beijing seems just a precursor to a brighter dawn. Let us hope it is so.

Mr. Kingsbury is a junior majoring in Economics. He is currently studying in Beijing and will return to Tufts in the spring.



Do We Need Campaign Finance Reform?

Jeff Milyo

The corrupting influence of money in politics is a staple of media pundits, public-interest advocates, and even political candidates. It is not the stuff of civics courses, nevertheless every American is well acquainted with the following biennial ritual: it starts with sordid tales of interested money, special access and the like; these lead to visceral calls for reform from self-appointed watchdogs and has-been politicians; incumbent office holders then don sackcloth and win plaudits with promises of bipartisan talks; time passes without action, until finally the indignant voices of virtue and reform can tolerate no more and turn to denouncing the hypocrisy of political insiders. However, this time around the calls for campaign finance reform are reaching a historic crescendo; this may finally be the year that Congress is forced to “do something.” Let’s hope not.

The urgent calls for reform and the drastic nature of some proposals (e.g., former Senator Bill Bradley has repeatedly argued for an amendment to the Constitution in order to circumvent the free speech rights of political candidates) are in stark contrast to our limited understanding of just how money influences politics. Perhaps few pieces of conventional wisdom are so widely (and firmly) held and yet so little supported by systematic evidence as the old chestnut that there exists a vibrant cash-and-carry market for both legislation and elected offices. (Be advised, I’m a trained professional; do not attempt to repeat that last sentence in the presence of others. If you do, you will be vilified as either a soul-less, conniving traitor to all that is decent, or a colossal ignoramus. Of course, there will always be a few open-minded folks who will hold out the possibility that you are both.)

The two fundamental tenets of the “flea-market” view of money and politics are that “special interests” buy favors from

politicians with campaign contributions and that incumbent politicians then use this “dirty money” to “buy” re-election with massive campaign expenditures. Most of-

Calls for campaign finance reform are reaching a crescendo; this may be the year that Congress is forced to “do something.” Let’s hope not.

ten, these claims are regarded as self-evident; in place of rational argument one is treated to a list of dollar amounts and contributor names. It is taken for granted that monetary exchange is immoral and that private campaign financing perverts the otherwise pure and perfect policy that would emerge from our divinely inspired democratic process. That this tactic succeeds is perhaps the clearest proof that Americans are stunningly ignorant of the nature and workings of two very familiar institutions: markets and democracy.

unable to close the deal with an enforceable contract; exchanges must be done on trust. It’s hard to imagine buying a majority in each chamber of Congress under these conditions; it’s a bit easier to imagine securing favors from Bill Clinton and Dick Gephardt, or Newt Gingrich and Trent Lott.

Consider as well that the amount of money going into political campaigns is quite small (it is comparable to the amount that Americans spend on chewing gum, greeting cards, or yogurt). How much would you be willing to pay for the right to coerce millions of Americans? Millions? Billions? The \$500,000+ gifts to the national parties from corporations and unions are in the right ballpark. But contributions in Congressional campaigns are already limited by law. For instance, political action committees may give only up to \$10,000 per candidate. Further, PACs rarely “max out”; they typically contribute \$500 or \$1000 to any particular candidate. These amounts are too small to be effective bribes.

So why do PACs give money? They want to be able to plead their case when their interests are at stake. These small gifts most likely buy “access” to lawmakers, but it is doubtful that they buy action. In fact, there is no systematic evidence that campaign contributions buy influence in Congress. Yes, there exist occasional anecdotes of sordid deals, but I’m referring to objective analysis of all the relevant data. Sorry to say it, but such corruption does not appear to be very common or wide spread.

But doesn’t all that money distort the outcomes of Congressional elections? Well, I surely don’t vote for someone simply because they ran the most advertisements. You surely don’t, either. Do we think so little of our fellow citizens that we must



Now, if you were going to buy influence, would you purchase it from a handful of party leaders or would you try to separately sway 218 members of the House and 51 Senators? The former exercise evokes images of smoke-filled rooms while the latter suggests a picture of futility, something like herding cats. On top of the logistic difficulties, consider that you will be

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protect them from political ads? Will limits on campaign expenditure render the public less gullible? The most recent and best studies of campaign expenditures in Congressional races find that they have no significant effects on electoral outcomes (I can direct those interested to the relevant literature). So both of the fundamental tenets of the flea-market view of money in politics are (to date) not supported by the evidence.

The recent media frenzy over campaign finance has been fueled by the questionable fund-raising activities of the Clinton campaign and the large "soft-money" (unregulated) contributions to the national parties. Oddly, these incidents have been used to promote further regulation of Congressional campaigns. If anything, such reform will likely produce more bribery and influence-peddling, not less. This is because party labels go a long way in determining the electoral success of political candidates, while campaign spending allows candidates to define themselves in more detail than as simply "Republican" or "Democrat". Thus campaign spending is most important to the independent-minded candidates and less important to party loyalists and lap-dogs. Limits on campaign contributions and expenditures in Congressional races will hamstring maverick candidates and increase the relative importance of party labels, party platforms, party endorsements, and party expenditures. This will make members of Congress more beholden to their leaders, which will in turn enhance the ability of party leaders to deliver political favors to big contributors of unregulated soft money.

The Supreme Court has struck down all attempts at mandatory limits on campaign expenditures and limits on soft-money contributions. The Court's opinion that campaign expenditures are protected speech has been the target of much ridicule from reformers. The reform lobby believes that campaign spending limits do not hinder freedom of speech; in effect, they have no quarrel with the content of what candidates

say, just as long as nobody hears it. But imagine for a moment that the reformers had there way.

Limits on campaign spending will not reduce the value of political favors. Would-be contributors will still have an incentive to buy favors, only now they will use barter instead of cash. Corporations and unions will pay professionals to stage demonstra-

Campaign spending is most important to the independent-minded candidates and less important to party loyalists.

tions or provide campaign "volunteers". This isn't so hard to imagine; we see the seeds of such activity today in the way that liberal advocacy groups organize free bus trips to the Capitol for "activist" (i.e., under-worked) college students. Also, in the future, interested persons and organizations that are barred from making contributions will instead produce their own advertisements (consider the AFL-CIO's \$35 million "voter education campaign" in the past election). In short, money will continue to flow wherever it is permitted, perhaps to party leaders and perhaps toward "independent expenditures".

Bill Bradley has foreseen these possibilities. He argues for a Constitutional Amendment that will permit limits on expenditures by parties, non-party organizations, and non-candidates. It may not sound so bad when described as "closing the soft-money and independent expenditure loopholes," but it is the proposed regulation of speech by non-candidates which proves most frightening. How will prohibitions and limits on political speech be enforced? Will it be illegal for the National Rifle Association to inform its membership about the roll-call votes of politicians? How about the Sierra Club or the National Abortion Rights Action League? Will Murphy Brown be permitted to ridicule Newt Gingrich? Will copies of *The American President* be pulled from the shelves of Blockbuster? Will your English professor be hauled off in leg irons

for her asides on the hypocrisy of advocates of "family values"? Will the Tufts administration be hunted down for its knee-jerk support of affirmative action? Will police in riot gear bust up the freshmen indoctrination next fall? OK, it's not completely a nightmare scenario, but the point is that current reform proposals may have some unintended consequences.

For the power-hungry among you who have a primal need to "do something", here are a few modest reform proposals: 1) Improve the enforcement of public disclosure laws. The best way to keep politicians honest is to subject their records to scrutiny, but the Federal Election Commission is notoriously lax in enforcing existing regulations (particularly regarding non-monetary contributions). Perhaps "whistle blower" bounties should be established for private persons or groups who discover cases of improper disclosure or improper contributions. 2) Adopt term limitations for all office holders. To the extent that the market for political favors relies on trust and repeated interaction among an elite cohort of party leaders, term limits will increase turnover and reduce the opportunities for cooperation based on the expectation of future reciprocation. 3) Adopt supermajority requirements for tax and expenditure increases, and establish an economic bill of rights. The more limited the role of government in the economy, the less valuable will be political favors. Finally, for those of you who are troubled that the wealthy have more "say" in the political process and so desire public financing of campaigns: why should government decide who qualifies for public financing? Why not rebate some small amount of each citizen's taxes (say \$1000), then let each individual decide whether he wants to use this money to give to the political candidate of his choice or to use it to buy food, baby diapers, etc. If it upsets you that many people might keep their \$1000 tax cut rather than give it to one of the Kennedys, then I suggest that you register for ECON 02: Introduction to Microeconomics. I'll be happy to sign your add form.

Dr. Milyo is Assistant Professor of Economics on leave from Tufts. He is a visiting scholar in political science at MIT and holds a research fellowship from Harvard and MIT.

The Tempting of Liberty

Ananda Gupta

Lovers of liberty had much to mourn this past November when voters chose a president whose commitment to paternalism knows few bounds. It was little consolation that the man he defeated nearly equaled that commitment, as he would have shaved only a few percentage points off the government's growth rate. Low turnout and general apathy seemed to signal either complacency or helplessness. The remaining electorate continued the erosion of civil and economic liberties, whistling something tuneless as it whimsically took another few steps down the road to serfdom.

Forty-eight percent of the American public apparently desires a larger, more intrusive government—and the other half does not seem to harbor any reservations either. If so many Americans sincerely want people like Ted Kennedy to make critical decisions for them, what can freedom's advocates say? Surely, there is room within the scope of liberty to cede one's decision-making powers away. Politicians often complain that the electorate's wishes remain unknown, and that conflicting messages from different groups of voters make proper representation difficult.

Yet the American public seems to unite its voice every time it votes: "We are cattle; please treat us accordingly. Please take away our money, for we do not know how to spend it ourselves; we are irresponsible and childish in that regard. Please dictate to us what we may or may not put into our bodies, because we are too ignorant and short-sighted to learn about the effects before we indulge. Please send us to fight in wars, because we would like nothing better than to die far from home, in the service of people we have never met and may not even like. Please force us to send our children to public schools, because we care nothing for them and would work them eighteen hours a day in sweat-

shops had we our druthers." The individuals who stalk the chambers of Congress and the White House hear this call, and they respond.

Government consists of a group whose members desire power over other people above all other goals in life.

No one can blame them for responding. The will of the people is clear: more government. "The people" must see their lives as tremendously bleak if they can only become manageable with the assistance of an army of bureaucrats. Since so many people apparently hold that view, and the majority of them want their government to govern on that principle, it seems fitting that they should receive the treatment they do—and, given America's democratic nature, impossible that they should not. Thus, the temptation faced by libertarians committed to the advocacy of free-

government did not exist, would it have been necessary to invent one? Just as the lapsed minister continues to preach, acting as if he still believes in God, someone who firmly believes in taxation could take half his income every year in cash and throw it into the ocean if he so chooses. He could still go off to distant lands and die fighting for a cause he finds morally repugnant. In short, he could approximate the presence of the activist government without there actually having to be one.

People often express surprise at the less attractive implications of democracy. In a democracy, the only people to receive power are those who actively seek it. Accordingly, government consists of a group whose members desire power over other people above all other goals in life. Hardly the "reluctant rulers" whose praises Plato sang! Moreover, government's monopoly on the use of force ensures that it, and it alone, polices itself. It would make little sense that responsibility for policing, say, airline safety should fall only into the hands of private air carriers. An external authority whether it be consumers in general, interest groups made up of families broken by air accidents, or government—is clearly necessary. Why then is no external authority necessary for government? "The people" serve as the ultimate check, perhaps. But again, since only those individuals who desire power—who revel in it—will serve to replace the ones



dom: since it seems that the vast majority of people desire a totalitarian state, it appears absurd that anyone with good intentions should deny it to them. In short, is it paternalistic to say that people should be free, regardless of their obvious expressed preference to the contrary?

The problems come when those who would rather not return to that tedious business of eternal vigilance see fit to make that choice for others. But a flock of sheep prefers that everyone else at least acts like, if not becomes, one of them. If an activist

the people vote out, more of the same inevitably ensues.

It seems absurd that anybody would voluntarily adopt such a system. But in the context of the libertarian temptation, it makes sense. It creates a system wherein the most power-hungry individuals within society achieve the power they so fervently desire, and go on to do what the rest of society so eagerly wants them to do:

*Please see "Temptation,"
continued on the next page.*

***“Temptation,” continued
from the previous page.***

exercise that power over every individual’s life.

Democracy does have one advantage over other systems; it allows government, for the most part, to reflect popular preferences. Whether or not previous policies have affected those preferences does not matter—the silver lining is just in the possibility. The very possibility for change,

***“School Choice,”
continued from page 10.***

At a recent school board meeting in Milwaukee, one mother announced before the school committee, “I am one of those people who is supposed to be stupid because I am black, poor, and live in the inner city, and I raised my children in a single parent home. I am here to say that this is a lie. The difference is that I am being denied access and resources. When you empower parents like me, there is a major difference. We become responsible for our own lives... We want to be empowered and that is what the school choice program has done.” She represents the many parents whose only recourse is to ask the government for permission to become what all parents ought to be: responsible and accountable for the welfare of their children.

The documentary *Hoop Dreams* shows in patent detail that real school choice among minorities and lower classes is now only a tangible option for those children with athletic prowess. Robert L. Carter, lawyer for the NAACP and a prosecutor in *Brown v. Board of Education*, supports school choice and affirms that “more black children are in all or virtually all black schools today than in 1954.” Thus by denying a choice in schools, the government has produced a profound new segregation. School choice will produce through competition what the government tried to produce through coercion and failed: peaceful racial integration.

School choice is more than a series of theories and suppositions; it has proven results. One of the earliest and most successful programs took place at New York’s East Harlem High School. In 1974, East Harlem ranked last out of 32 New York public schools in tests for basic math and reading skills with a drop out rate above

for approximation of preferences unpoluted by government largesse and usurpation of individual responsibility, shines a little brighter under democracy than under a system which, through its vagaries, might actually produce a set of reluctant rulers. After all, even the most well-intentioned advocate of liberty can accomplish nothing if people retain a herd mentality.

Sometimes it seems that the only hope for freedom lies in a course similar to the one Claudius took in *I, Claudius*: “Let all

50%. The school board rendered the high school hopeless and blamed the poor results on “the bad influence of parents and/or a general lack of interest on the parents’ part.”

An innovative administrator, Carlos Medina, allowed the teachers to develop their own programs within East Harlem and gave parents and students an opportunity to choose from four alternatives. Medina stated that they decided to set up these schools upon some very basic principles of education: small schools are more effective than large schools, learning should be fun in order to keep children coming back, and schools should cater to the needs and goals of the students. With these concepts in mind, the teachers of East Harlem created four autonomous schools within the building that housed the entire East Harlem High School student body.

Once given the choice, the parents immediately felt they had some control when it came to their children’s education. This control developed into feelings of pride and ownership for their school. Sy Speigel, a former East Harlem administrator adds, “It’s an old capitalist idea that people just treat what they own better than things they don’t own.” The figures speak for themselves. According to the Center for Education Reform, “The resulting competition increased education quality: graduation rates shot up from less than 50 percent to more than 90 percent; the district, which ranked last of New York City’s 32 districts, climbed to sixteenth in basic skills testing; and community morale soared as the choice program brought parents and teachers together to work on behalf of their children.” The success of East Harlem High School bears witness to the positive results of teacher ingenuity, parental involvement, and school autonomy.

In Massachusetts, efforts to achieve the same results as East Harlem are pres-

the poisons from the bottom of the swamp rise up.” More simply stated, give the welfare state enough rope, and it will hang itself. The true costs of an activist government will manifest themselves very shortly. Once they do, perhaps the temptation to supply the people with the tyranny they so zealously crave will fade away into unpleasant memory.

*Mr. Gupta is a junior majoring
in Economics and Philosophy.*

ently underway. Charter, pilot, and magnet schools provide alternative forms of education for adolescents in the Bay State. Their strengths lie in the diversity of options. Many of these schools focus directly on the needs and interests of students; for instance, some cater to former drop outs or provide appropriate curricula for those interested in programs like international studies.

With education alternatives now firmly a part of Massachusetts, experts polled parents and students about their reaction. After only one year in existence, the charter schools’ results proved laudable. 75% of students said that they were more enthusiastic about learning than they had been in their previous school, and 85% of parents contend that their child is a more enthusiastic learner than before. 70% of schoolchildren felt safer at their charter school and their true success lies in the fact that 95% of parents and children chose to re-enroll in the same charter school for the next academic year.

Former Secretary of Education William Bennett remarked, “Remember: the child is not a ward given to the state for its nurture. The child is a gift of God given in trust to his parents. Schools should treat young people as gifts of God, not as subjects of social experimentation.” Government must realize that the bond between parent and child is sacred and that it does not have the right to interfere with this nexus. By withholding choice in education, the state robs parents of the power to guide their children’s future. Only when the government removes coercion from education will the goals and pursuits of families from all backgrounds materialize.

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student in education, concentrating
in secondary school history.*

No Salvation

Micaela Dawson

The day after Thanksgiving, as the rest of the Catholic community began preparing for the Christmas holiday, convicted double-murderer John Salvi committed suicide. His death marks the latest in a two-year long tragedy that began when he showered a Brookline Planned Parenthood clinic with bullets, slaying receptionists Shannon Lowney and LeeAnn Nichols. Perhaps Salvi was clinically insane, but he more likely suffered from the same moral disease that plagues death penalty enthusiasts, abortion advocates, and all murderers: the misconception that human life is expendable.

Following the suicide, talk radio buzzed with calls for Massachusetts to implement capital punishment because of the costly "inconvenience" of incarcerating murderers like Salvi. The callers found an unlikely ally in the prisoner, who originally sought the death penalty for himself because of the "inconvenience" of the prison lifestyle. Pro-choicers also used this event as the soapbox from which to preach about the "inconvenience" of unwanted pregnancy.

Sadly, none of these largely Christian parties recognizes that convenience was never a precondition for the protection of life. It was not self-expedient for Christ to suffer crucifixion. Yet if he had not made that sacrifice, his disciples contend, there would be no salvation for the faithful. The real tragedy of the Salvi case is that the supposedly devout Catholic never fully understood that notion of redemption, which lies at the heart of the religion. If his god persuaded him to assail anyone remotely associated with abortion clinics, as he claimed, then his is not the Christian divinity who sanctifies the innocent and blesses repentant sinners with mercy.

Gunning down two women and then taking his own life prove Salvi's unbelief in the power of the Redeemer. The criminal's well-intentioned mission of preventing Planned Parenthood's destruction of the unborn was clearly undermined by his disregard for those already born and

Christ's ability to forgive them. But religious death penalty supporters and abortion apologists are just as sacrilegious as the triple-murderer in their failure to trust God's saving grace. Unfortunately, reac-

If his god persuaded him to assail anyone, his is not the Christian divinity.

tion to both the Brookline murders and the suicide suggest that the wrong lessons have been taken from this series of injustices.

When a category of human beings is wholeheartedly deprived of the protection which civil legislation owes it, the state rejects equality before the law. If the state refuses to protect the rights of each citizen, especially the weak against the strong, the foundations of a legal society are rendered meaningless. Every instance of infringement upon the right to life deserves to be punished by the law, because of its disregard for the respect and protection human existence deserves.



The Miracle of Life

Worldwide, a billion people will soon celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, the central figure of the faith supposedly practiced by Salvi. The virgin conception signifies the miracle of life, God's glorious gift to mankind. At Christmas and Easter, Catholics worship the good shepherd who, they believe, poured out his body and blood so that his flock could

enjoy a better life on Earth as well as eternal life in Heaven. The Savior who proclaimed, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," symbolizes the very essence of a full Christian existence.

Unfortunately, this fundamental understanding eluded those involved in the Salvi tragedies, John most of all. Instead of honoring the wonder of redemption manifested in the Incarnation and Resurrection, nominally Catholic abortionists, suicides, and other murderers worship the destruction of life. When Planned Parenthood kills the unborn, it sins against God and humanity. In turn, Salvi's distorted retribution served only to repeat the clinic's crimes, rather than redressing them. Those who continue to appeal to the politically popular but spiritually bankrupt death penalty carry the already over-extended injustice to a third level. All three deny Christ's command to offer each other the same love and deliverance that God grants His children.

The answer to human sin is not more sin, but compassion. If Salvi had been true to his name, he would never have assaulted the clinic. The trauma a woman faces after losing her child, whether self-induced or not, is usually a lifetime of suffering and guilt. After the sin has been committed, the Christian's rightful position is where Jesus stood, by the sinner's side helping her to repent and earn forgiveness.

But by taking his own life, Salvi committed the worst sin of all. His suicide tacitly dismisses as personally meaningless the gift of life bestowed by Christ's ultimate sacrifice. The Gospel reveals that Jesus so loved humanity that he died for it. In a bitter irony, Salvi so despised humanity that he abandoned it in favor of his victims' violent fate. In pulling the plastic bag down on his own head, the modern-day Judas also lowered it over Christ's.

Miss Dawson is a junior majoring in Classics and Philosophy.

Stupid Pet Tricks

Keith Levenberg

Four individuals, including Tufts junior Jamie Roth, were arrested early Thanksgiving morning, accused of breaking and entering at the Carmel Mink Ranch... and releas[ing] 25 mink that were being raised at the ranch for their fur.

—The Tufts Daily, Wednesday,
December 4, 1996

It seems that Tufts students continue to live up to *Mother Jones's* "Top 20 Activist School" billing. Unfortunately, while such antics may impress the left-of-Lenin crowd in Ballou Hall and the *MoJo* editorial office, the rest of the world does not look quite so kindly on the University when it reads that Tuftonians resort to terrorism to inflict their extremist agenda on others. Jamie Roth's latest folly is merely the inevitable result of an administration and campus culture that refuses to scream "Enough is enough!" as the methods and ideology of the left become more and more radical.

Consistent with its political philosophy, modern leftist activism predicated itself on depriving others of choice. First, Jamie Roth thinks that using calves for veal is cruel—but rather than persuade others to see things her way, she swindles Dining Services into banishing the meat from dining halls. Next, the Tufts Burma Action Group wants us to boycott Pepsi—but rather than explaining why and swaying consumers rationally, it initiates a blitzkrieg campaign to have TUDS break its contract with the soft drink company and ban Pepsi products from campus. Now, Jamie's latest stunt shows us

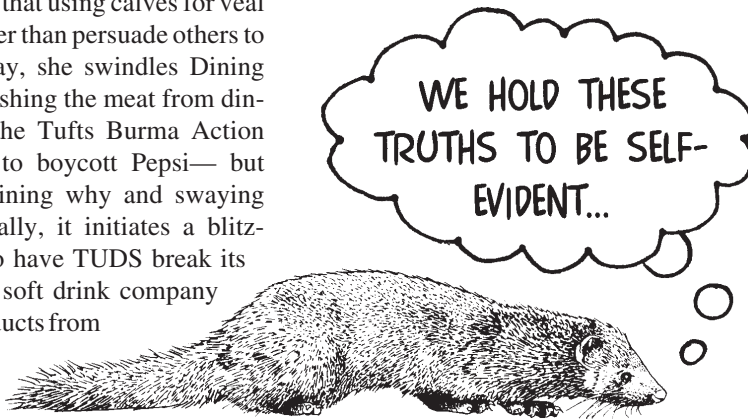
that although she disapproves of using animals for fur, she has no desire to respect the choices of the near-unanimous remainder of the population that feels differently.

Moreover, such a contempt for choice is not a fluke characteristic of these fringe fanatics. It is an inseparable pillar of the elitist philosophy that governs the left's political intuitions on every issue. Every leftist pet project from Social Security to affirmative action to the Food and Drug Administration assumes people unworthy

to make choices regarding their own lives and demands that they surrender this power to the state.

Perhaps Miss Roth will claim that animals have inviolable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness just like people, and that the state should not permit anybody to violate these rights. Very well. What would society look like if we recognized such animal rights? Clearly, humans would not be able to use animals for food—a proposition attractive to animal rights fanatics. This does not extend merely to not eating meat; animal products such as milk, cheese, and the like would necessarily be proscribed, unless we accept that killing animals is immoral but enslaving them is perfectly all right. Additionally, ownership of animals as pets would also be prohibited as a form of slavery. So far, an animal rights activist's utopia.

But the parade of horrors does not end here, because many species besides the human race routinely kill animals. The



logical extension of "animal rights" borders on the absurd. We would have to concoct a law enforcement institution to investigate and apprehend carnivorous animals, not to mention a criminal justice system to try them. Moreover, since animals obviously lack the mental competence to become jurors, we would have to deal with claims of discrimination when a shark is convicted by an all-human jury.

Of course, an animal rights activist would probably reject this scenario. The

common wisdom seems to hold that an animal's right to life applies only if its killers are human. Now the terms of the debate become clear. The activist's concern for the welfare of the animal is purely

Consistent with its political philosophy, modern leftist activism predicated itself on depriving others of choice.

superficial; he does not seriously defend any rights on behalf of the animal but merely wishes to place an excessively burdensome obligation on humans without any moral justification.

But the concept of rights is antithetical to such selective implementation. If the animal truly has a right to its life, the right is expressible as a moral transaction stipulating that any being that takes its life has acted immorally. To reject the moral proposition is to reject the right. The only alternative is to stipulate that an animal that violates another animal's rights cannot be held culpable because it lacks the mental advancement (possessed solely by humans) enabling it to contemplate its actions on moral terms. Having admitted this, the only proper response is to retort that an animal incapable of moral intuition cannot be governed by moral principles.

Ironically, it seems that an increasing number of Tufts students are also unable to comprehend moral principles. But certainly the Tufts community cannot act surprised when its activists engage in a lawless disregard for private property, given that the University's own Vision Statement actively courts a 'diversity' of moral values. The spoils of this mission are now readily apparent, and those that crave moral diversity now have it. Although most students continue to "live and let live," others adhere to suspect moral orders with no absolutes besides the relentless desire to maliciously harm other people.

Mr. Levenberg is a sophomore majoring in Philosophy.

Tuftonian Anagrams

What they say it means...

What it really means...

The Observer He tore verbs • Terse verb ho

Bridge-Metcalf Left Cambridge

The Tufts Daily Deify that slut • Audit sly theft

Tufts Christian Fellowship Witch stash fell in pit for us

Political Science See capitol clinic • Cite cocaine spill

[former] Dean Elizabeth Ammons Ten dozen bash, I am lame

[Professor] Robert Devigne Veer, big rodent • Invert beer god • Die revert bong

Jamie Roth Jam it, hero! • I jam to her

[President] John DiBiaggio Bio going jihad

[Vice President] I. Melvin Bernstein Bein' silent vermin

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NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

Let's define what we mean by attacks on Kenneth Starr. It's fair game to point out that he is a partisan Republican, that he defends the tobacco interests... Yes! He got his job under very steamy circumstances. That's fair game.

—Eleanor Clift

Watergate was a criminal conspiracy conducted out of the Oval Office. There is nothing even remotely like that alleged against the President. We ought to wait and see what Ken Starr says. He's the only one who has credibility, in my mind, in bringing forth this investigation.

—Eleanor Clift

If Clinton invariably makes men uncomfortable with a "Nice tie!" when he shakes their hands, he is just as quick to drop his eyes to a woman's décolletage and murmur appreciatively, "Nice pin!"

—Todd Purdum

For three years in a row, the [General Accounting Office, the] congressional watchdog agency has found such big problems that it couldn't even express an opinion on the reliability of IRS financial statements.

—Tom Herman

Your job is not to judge the rightness and wrongness of each student's answer. Let those determinations come from the class.

—Guide to teaching Mathematics in California

When you subsidize poverty and failure you get more of both.

—Dale Davidson, National Taxpayer's Union

We have rights, as individuals, to give as much of our own money as we please to charity; but as members of Congress we have no right so to appropriate a dollar of public money.

—David Crockett, Congressman, 1827-35

The learned are seldom pretty fellows, and in many cases their appearance tends to discourage a love of study in the young.

—H. L. Mencken

The only thing that saves us from the bureaucracy is its inefficiency.

—Eugene McCarthy

The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government.

—Thomas Jefferson

The dove of peace has become the ostrich of complacency.

—Jeanne Kirkpatrick

Democracy has two excesses to be wary of: the spirit of inequality, which leads it to aristocracy, and the spirit of extreme equality, which leads it to despotism.

—Montesquieu

Giving help to the enemy used to be called treason. Now it is called "foreign aid."

—Unknown

If when I die I am still a dictator I will certainly go down into the oblivion of all dictators. If, on the other hand, I succeed in establishing a stable base for a democratic government, I will be remembered forever in every home in China.

—Chiang Kai-shek

Every great man has his disciples, and it's always Judas who writes the biography.

—Oscar Wilde

A friend of mine was asked to a costume ball a short time ago. He slapped some egg on his face and went as a liberal economist.

—Ronald Reagan

I was hot. I was smoking it. I was having a good time.

—Bill Clinton, after breaking 80 in a round of golf

It's not a bad idea to get in the habit of writing down one's thoughts. It saves one having to bother anyone else with them.

—Isabel Colegate

Quotations are a communist's bullpen. Stealing someone else's words frequently spares the embarrassment of eating your own.

—Peter Anderson

Whenever a Republican leaves one side of the aisle and goes to the other, it raises the intelligence quotient of both parties.

—Clare Boothe Luce

Liberty not only means that the individual has both the opportunity and the burden of choice; it also means that he must bear the consequences of his actions.... Liberty and responsibility are inseparable.

—F. A. Hayek

Supporting the Equal Rights Amendment is like trying to kill a fly with a sledge hammer. You don't kill the fly, but you end up breaking the furniture.... We cannot reduce women to equality. Equality is a step down for most women.

—Phyllis Schlafly

Copy from one, it's plagiarism; copy from two, it's research.

—Wilson Mizner

I might have gone to West Point but I was too proud to speak to a congressman.

—Will Rogers

Democracy substitutes election by the incompetent many for appointment by the corrupt few.

—George Bernard Shaw

It's always easier to see a show you don't like the second time because you know it ends.

—Walter Slezak

We have to offer up scary scenarios, make simplified dramatic statements, and make little mention of any doubts we may have. Each of us has to decide what the right balance is between being effective and being honest.

—environmental activist Stephen Schneider

It takes a woman twenty years to make a man of her son, and another woman twenty minutes to make a fool of him.

—Helen Rowland

Ultraliberalism today translates into a whimpering isolationism in foreign policy, a mulish obstructionism in domestic policy, and a pusillanimous pussyfooting on the critical issue of law and order.

—Spiro Agnew

Socialism is the philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy.

—Winston Churchill