

# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VERTITAS SINE DOLO

Love,  Tufts style

*Everything's coming up roses...*



*...when there's a Bush in  
the White House!*

**THE PRIMARY  
SOURCE**

Weekly Meetings Tuesdays, 9:30 PM  
Zamparelli Room, Mayer Campus Center

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# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

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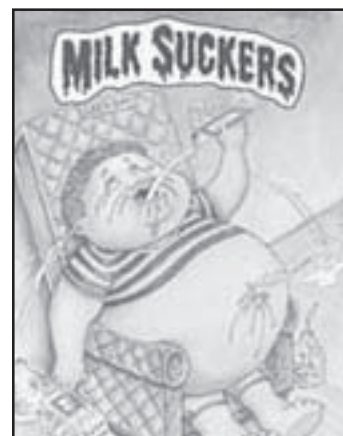
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# Love Potion

He huffed and puffed to catch up with her after class.

"Hey, you're in my Spanish conversation group, aren't you? Susan, right? I'm Joe."

"Yeah, nice to meet you. Our group leader sure does talk fast, huh?"

After ten minutes of warm conversation, the pair retreated to the campus center for a cup of coffee—her suggestion—and he decided to make his move.

"Um... I don't know if you're busy Friday, but maybe you'd like to head to the movies with me. That new Pacino movie looks really cool."

"Sure," she exclaimed, to his surprise. "What time should I meet you?"

Joe and Susan made a date. But at Tufts, and on many other campuses, traditional dating is anything but typical. After matriculation, a new phrase seems to dominate romantic interaction: random hook-up. The phrase is an essential part of the college vernacular; and while its definition may vary from student to student, to many at Tufts the casual sexual encounters described as "random hook-ups" are fundamental part of social life. Generally, the phrase refers to intimacy that occurs between two Jumbos after they've enjoyed a night of alcohol at a campus party.

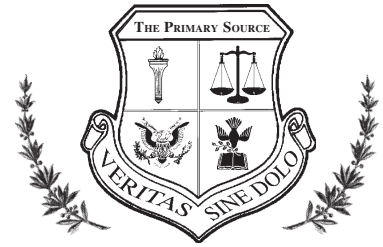
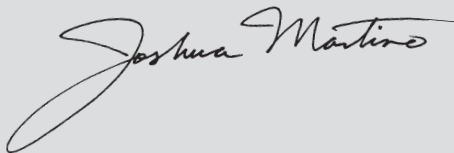
The administration is well aware of this behavior. Tufts policymakers know that the majority of male/female interaction takes place with booze present in great amounts. To protect itself from blame when date-rape or sexual harassment occurs, the University warns students what they are in for. Traditionally contorted into anti-male propaganda, the Orientation date-rape seminar "Why No Means No" indicates the University is cognizant of the lack of traditional dating. One would have thought that AIDS and sexual harassment lawsuits changed the scene for Tufts' swingers and one-night-standers. Not so—and the administration has been forced to adapt to the changing values of the average college kid.

A romantic liaison thanks to nine cans of Natural Light—yikes! What ever

happened to good old-fashioned dinner and a movie? Many among the matriculated would agree that collegiate hook-up culture has removed the charm from meeting a romantic interest. Perhaps it pressures reluctant freshmen into a sexual lifestyle which they might not have otherwise practiced under different circumstances. Surely, and sadly, the predatory nature of the random hook-up scene reflects a lack of character from some of our classmates. Meanwhile, voices from social conservatives and frustrated monogamists pleading for moderation and modesty are ridiculed. As two moral authorities wrote in the *Observer* last week, "Abstinence is not a feasible alternative in our times."

And that's really a shame. Yet it's nobody's fault—the hook-up scene flourishes because opportunities for meeting sober people are few. Last semester students complained of a dearth of non-alcoholic campus social events. Fraternities and off-campus keggers offer little amusement for those looking for fun minus the hooch-induced haze. And the university responded with what some students regard as a baby-step rather than a leap towards a thriving social life. Still, the opening of Club Hotung, a late-night DJ-and-dance party in the downhill pizzeria, is good news to those Jumbos who felt that there was no alternative.

On this Valentine's Day, whether you're alone and weary of hook-ups or you've just kicked your latest P-Row conquest out of the room, celebrate with this issue. No guarantees that the SOURCE will give you that warm, fuzzy feeling—in fact, we're more adept at causing ulcers—but the articles herein are surely the cure for sore hearts and hangovers.



THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE  
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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# Letters

## Perles of wisdom...

Dear Mr. Editor,

Is it just me, or is Jonathan Perle's latest article on missile defense system the same exact article as the one he wrote last year? I think that the picture is even the same. Did he think he could pull a fast one on all of us or is he just plain old lazy?

—Eric Greenberg

*We were worried that someone would discover our terrible secret.*

*Last summer, Jonathan Perle was killed in an unfortunate hunting accident. When police arrived and sliced open the grizzly bear's gullet, all they could retrieve of our late managing editor was a fingernail. But within that scrap of Jon Perle was enough DNA to clone him, and owing to a generous buffer-funding grant from the TCU senate (thanks Eric!), we were able to create an exact replica of our missing staff member. And with the application of a little human growth hormone (thanks to the Chinese swim team!), the SOURCE was able to grow our cloned Perle to his current age.*

*But something went awry during the restoration process, and Jon Perle lost most of his short-term memory. Had he been able to remember anything from before his losing battle with Nature's fury, he might not have written an article so similar to one of his previous pieces. We apologize for the confusion and thank you for being a conscientious reader. Cloning is an imperfect science. —ed.*

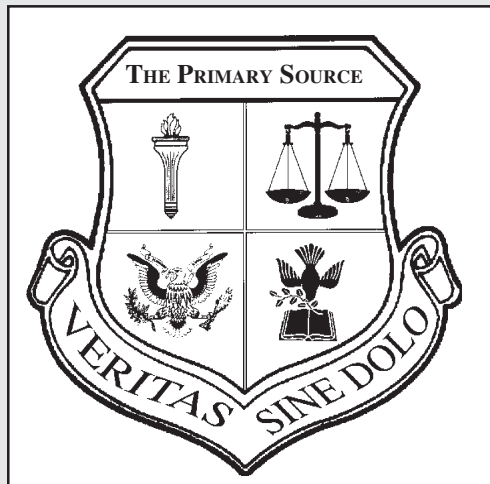


Do not feed the bears.



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Everything You Always Wanted to Know About **Tufts** <sup>\*</sup>  
*\*But Everyone Else Was Afraid to Tell You* <sup>SM</sup>



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# Commentary

## Strangers With Candy

Last Thursday, President Bush sent his tax cut proposal to Congress. During the presidential campaign, Bush likened his tax cut to a candy bar—a reward for the hard work of the American people as the government approaches a surplus. More recently, however, there is speculation that the country may come down with a case of negative growth. Bush is now selling the cure: medicine that happens to taste like candy. Bush claimed his tax plan would “provide relief to all income-tax taxpayers” and “help jumpstart the American economy.” Liberal critics of the plan complain that Bush’s plan favors the rich and is too large. This stance is weak and factually incorrect, yet it is not clear that metaphorical candy bars prevent recession or if eating too many of them will cause Alan Greenspan to have a stomach ache.

In Bush’s tax scheme, the number of income tax brackets would be reduced from today’s five (39.6%, 36%, 31%, 28% and 15%) to four (33%, 25%, 15% and 10%). Bush also proposes to grant benefits toward schooling to Americans with children, and to phase out the estate and marriage taxes. The harshest criticisms are leveled on Bush’s income tax reforms. Democrats complain that the tax cut will favor the wealthy over the poor. Often used against tax cuts, this argument ignores the specifics of the proposed rate changes. Although a wealthy family would receive more dollars than a poor family, the rich family will end up paying a larger overall percent of income taxes. Considering that currently the wealthiest 5% of the tax payers paid 54% of taxes, the bottom 50% paid only 4.2% of the tax take and the top half accounted for 95.8%, Bush’s tax reform is particularly generous to low-income Americans.

The more interesting arguments for and against Bush’s plan arise from Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan’s recent testimony to Congress. In his speech, Greenspan did not object to the idea of tax cuts, from which Bush took an enthusiastic

endorsement. Although Greenspan was opposed to Bush’s beliefs in tax-cut medicine for an ailing economy, he reminded Congress of the long-known fact that legislative attempts to aid the economy are notoriously slow and rarely have an impact until long after the economic downturn. Greenspan, however, claimed that a tax cut would be a boon to long-term deficit reduction. He proposed that the government would be rid of the deficit by 2010 and that in order not to overshoot the goal of zero deficit and end up with large surpluses, a tax cut now would be favorable. This treads the line of Bush’s original reasons for his tax changes: a projected surplus should be returned to the people.

The case endorsed by Greenspan and Bush is not entirely refutable, nor is it a sure thing. The current numbers on projected surpluses are based on only a few quarters of projected growth and government spending. If the country’s economy does take a downturn (a real possibility) and Congress passes additional spending bills (an absolute certainty) the date for a debt-free government will be pushed further into the future. Nevertheless, Bush’s diagnosis of a recession is convincing many of the virtues of his candy bars. Although the tax cuts might not help the economy, at least they will taste good.

## Punishing the Ugliest Crime

February is Black History Month, and with the special attention given to the black community this month have come strong demands to compensate African Americans for the ugliest crime in our nation’s history—slavery. Approximately fifteen cities have urged Congress to take preliminary steps toward the payment of slavery reparations.

At first, supporters of reparations seem to have a compelling argument. Black slaves were brought to the United States from Africa against their will. Families were split apart. Slaves were property, toiling for the benefit of slave-owners without ever seeing a penny of their own profits. Even after emancipation, blacks continued to live as second-class Americans. Today a large portion of the black community is terribly underprivileged. On average, blacks in the United States face lower wages and salaries, have less education, higher infant mortality rates, and lower average life spans than white Americans.

These facts are persuasive, but after more careful consideration, the argument for reparations begins to weaken. If the United States government paid money to any person to whom it had ever harmed, all government revenue would be squandered paying reparations. If the government compensates all blacks for their labor in pre-Civil War America, shouldn’t it also make payments to all Japanese because of their suffering in internment camps during World War II? What about innocent government officials who lost their jobs during the era of McCarthyism?

Another problem reparations advocates overlook is the impossibility of correctly determin-



ing to whom reparations are owed. Not all black men and women were enslaved prior to emancipation. In fact, some blacks held slaves themselves. With the question of distribution comes the equally important issue of collection. Not all white Americans are descendants of slave-owners. Great numbers of white immigrants arrived on American soil near the turn of the twentieth century, long after slavery had been outlawed. Finally, the picture is even murkier for Americans of mixed descent. Does a man with a black father and a white mother pay or receive?

If the United States government were going to take steps to improve the plight of the black community, its actions should have been taken in the second half of the nineteenth century. After emancipation in 1865, no steps were taken by the government to ease slaves' transition into a free nation. Newly freed black men and women needed but did not receive adequate education, skills, jobs, and assistance from government and charitable organizations in order to survive in a free market society. Fortunately, unlike the America of 1865, our nation today is truly a land of opportunity where all citizens have the ability to succeed and move up in society, regardless of inherited wealth and influence.

Just because the United States government sanctioned this terrible injustice 150 years ago does not mean that it can make up for its failures with reparations today. Equitable collection and distribution would be impossible. Any attempt to pay reparations for slavery would only waste government resources and contribute to the racial tensions that already divide our nation. Instead of paying arbitrary and meaningless reparations, the American government should focus on improving public education in the black community, rebuilding minority neighborhoods, and ally itself with charitable organizations that would improve the lives of the black and white communities alike.

## A Heartfelt Farewell

As if of the scandals surrounding his sexual infidelity weren't enough, Bill Clinton left office with yet more indiscretions. Upon leaving the White House, Clinton and his wife were criticized for taking \$190,000 worth of china, flatware, rugs, televisions, sofas and other gifts with them. Bowing to the criticism, the Clintons announced last week that they would pay for \$86,000 worth of gifts.

Questions then arose over more than \$28,000 in items found on a list of donations the Park Service received for a 1993 White House redecoration project. This week, *The Washington Post* quoted three donors who said that they had assumed the furnishings they donated for the project would stay in the White House, and not be given to the Clintons to take home.

This all comes on the heels of a congressional investigation of the questionable pardon of Marc Rich. Rich had been charged with wire fraud, tax evasion of over \$48 million, and oil deals with Iran that violated U.S. trade sanctions. He moved to Switzerland in 1983, shortly before he was indicted in what the lead prosecutor in the case called the largest tax fraud case in U.S. history. While avoiding prosecution and living lavishly in Europe, Rich's ex-wife Denise Rich had given \$400,000 to Clinton's presidential library. It is also reported that she contributed thousands of dollars

in gifts to the Clintons, further questioning Clinton's motives for the pardon.

Some critics, such as former Rich Prosecutor Rudolph Giuliani, have questioned Clinton's motives, suggesting that he pardoned a guilty man for strictly political reasons. Several documents and e-mails have surfaced showing that Clinton did not heed advice from the District Attorney's office nor sought council in his decision. Clinton's actions during his last days in office were far worse than any of the scandals that have plagued him during his tenure. While his previous actions indicated the ex-president is a weak-willed man of questionable morals, his final error proved that he was willing to abuse his presidential power as well. Mr. Clinton has treated the Office of the President as his personal playground; the Rich pardon was simply icing on the cake.

## Involuntary Charity

The recent quake in India was one of the worst natural disasters in recent years, claiming the lives of thousands and destroying the homes of countless others. In response, the TCU senate voted to spend \$800 of the student body's money on disaster relief. While this gift was certainly made with good intentions, the senate clearly overstepped its bounds.

An essential function of the TCU senate is to dole out money collected from the Student Activities fee. This fee, which amounts to just under \$200 tacked on to each student's tuition payments, is intended to fund the various student organizations. It is just one additional burden that often cash-strapped Tufts students must pay upon enrollment. While reasonable expenditures on student groups are beneficial to Tufts and should be funded by the fee, expenditures that are not beneficial to student groups should be avoided.

Some backers of the Indian expenditure argue that the senate already wastes large sums of money and that at least this recent payment goes to a good cause. These critics are certainly correct in that the TCU senate has an inflated budget, and the donation certainly was to a good cause. However, this does not change the fact that senate expenditures should be for the sole benefit of the students. It is, after all, a *student* activities fee. The budget should be streamlined, and wasteful groups should be de-funded. Still, past senate misdeeds and over-financing are no excuse for future misappropriations.

It is not easy for a student senator to vote against a motion that would donate funds to a worthy charity, especially when the money donated seems to come from the University, rather than an individual's pockets. However, that which the University spends must first be collected from the pockets of individual students. Any money collected from students should be used for education and activities exclusively. When senators and administrators fund anything but these expenses tuition rises, and less-wealthy potential students are forced to go elsewhere. About two new student groups could have been funded by the \$800 spent on Indian relief. While spending money on groups that encourage philanthropy is appropriate and desirable, actual donations are not. The TCU senate, much like the U.S. Senate, must realize that whatever it gives, it must first take away. Perhaps if they did not take away so much, individuals would be able to give more. ▣

# Fortnight in Review<sup>SM</sup>

*Comedy is allied to Justice.*  
—Aristophanes

**PS** Well, Tuftonian kiddies, aren't you lucky, because Tufts has brought the acclaimed performance piece "The Vagina Monologues" your way! But did you know other works in the same milieu have been callously rejected? Indeed! Take a look at THE PRIMARY SOURCE'S:

## Top Ten Rejected Anatomical Theatre Pieces

10. "The Uvula Monologues"
9. Gut Slam-Poetry
8. Spoken-word Colon Testimonials
7. "Foreskin: The Musical!"
6. Left Ass Cheek Performance Art
5. "The Male Nipple: An Enigma in Mime"
4. "The Joy of Lips"
3. "The Joy of Lips"
2. Anything involving ugly people
1. Anything involving fat people

**PS** Six people in Mobile, Alabama were charged with using the Wee Care Day Care Learning Center to hide marijuana distribution in a scheme involving over two tons of the contraband plant. Authorities became suspicious when the children demanded a pound of Doritos with their milk and cookies.

**PS** Older drivers in Arizona may have to pass a vision test every two years to keep their licenses under proposed legislation that also would force them to pass a driving test if they get two tickets. Older drivers are encouraged to seek medicinal substances to combat deteriorating vision, available at your local day-care center!

**PS** An Alaskan woman won \$1.2 million in damages from the maker of an herbal diet drug after she suffered a stroke. The woman was so overjoyed at the settlement that she couldn't stop smiling out of one side of her face.



**PS** Hawaiian police are searching for the organizer of an illegal cockfight after officers dispersed a crowd of about 300 people at a weekend fight. Police said 19 dead and three injured gamecocks were recovered at the scene. The pulverized roosters were then sold for Taco Bell's new "Tenderized Chicken Fajitas."

**PS** Despite ample references to assassinating Bill Clinton, a controversial web site still has a fan in the form of current Governor Huckabee of Arkansas, who feels the murderous rants are the opinions of a few addled users and not the site itself. Huckabee is also jealous because he hasn't had to replace a single mattress in the Governor's mansion during his entire tenure.

**PS** On the way to Cleveland's Jacobs Field, \$500,000 fell out of an armored truck through a partly open door and has yet to be recovered. Since the money was lost, Cleveland Indians ballplayers will be forced to draw straws to determine who has to take the 0.5% pay cut to compensate for the loss.

**PS** A Colorado sheriff is in a mild imbroglio after getting caught serving deer and elk to inmates. It isn't that the prisoners don't like eating game, but game to them has always meant thin, frightened eighteen-year-old white boys.

**PS** A man who attempted to rob Atlanta Falcons defensive back Elijah Williams was shot and wounded outside a bar in Atlanta's Midtown section. The suspect has not been identified, but was seen fleeing the scene with the Super Bowl MVP trophy.

**PS** Many residents of Half Moon Bay, California are upset over the city's plan to build a two-ton statue of a man lifting a pumpkin, which is set to be installed next month in a city park. The uproar began when citizens discovered that the statue was in fact a monument to the victims of testicular elephantiasis.

**PS** In the irony of all ironies, controversial rapper Eminem will perform with bisexual pop-monster Elton John at this year's Grammy Awards. Even more ironically, Grammy promoters have thought of an "interesting" way to keep Eminem from spouting his hateful rhetoric.

**PS** A New York State court has ruled that Vincent Zeh, who was convicted of stabbing his estranged wife 22 times and killing her, will lose visitation rights with his children. Zeh will, however, be invited to sing at the Grammys with Melissa Ethridge.

**PS** Clever circus owners were able to smuggle an elephant into Mexico past customs checkpoints in Texas. The smuggler later told a Mexico City newspaper, "Getting it across the border was easy. Getting the elephant in and out of my rectum was an entirely different story."

**PS** The prime minister of Japan has come under fire for playing golf after he received news of the sinking of a fishing boat that was hit



by a US sub. The Prime Minister responded, "Yeah, I know that boat thing sucked, but I did sink a birdie on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole!"

**PS** We can't make this up: the state that elected Hillary Clinton passed a law that allows parents of unwanted babies to avoid felony charges for child abandonment if they leave their newborns at a safe location. Recycling authorities are asking parents to separate their infants from commingled containers and papers.

**PS** A machine used for the past seven years to administer lethal injections during executions in Delaware is up for bidding on eBay. At this point, the username of the highest bidder is JKevoR04.

**PS** In other eBay craziness, a 20-year-old man who sold his soul online and fetched \$400 claimed he posted the auction because he was very bored, much to the chagrin of the site's management, who usually try to remove frivolous auctions. With the money, the man plans to buy some friends.

**PS** Michigan health officials are handing out condom earrings, condom lollipops, and condom hair accessories by the thousands this weekend in advance of National Condom Week. Citizens are encouraged to return to lives of hedonistic, unprotected sex as soon as the week is over.

**PS** Top Ten Tufts Pickup Lines:

10. If it could talk, what would your vagina say?
9. What's your name again?
8. Let's go back to my place and celebrate diversity.
7. Hey baby. I've got my own show on TUTV.
6. I'm an RCC—I know all about plug n' play.
5. You're the best TA I've ever had.
4. Are you on ALBO? Because I would really like some buffer funding.
3. Say, beautiful. I'm against abstinence too.
2. Is that a Nalgene bottle in your pants or are you just happy to see me?
1. I write for THE PRIMARY SOURCE... hey... wait! Where are you going?

**PS** A New Hampshire used car dealership swindled several African refugees with limited abilities in English by charging them up to twenty-seven percent on auto loans. In response, New Hampshire's legislature has changed the state's slogan to "Live Free, or Die, or Maybe Just Live in Indentured Servitude for a While."

**PS** Burlington, Vermont wants you! To have more kids, that is. Apparently missing the point of that whole "overpopulation" thing, Burlington's mayor hopes to see his city's populace increase by fifty percent in the next three decades. UVM students are encouraged to continue partying, screwing, and not going to class, but officials urge them to switch from pot to drugs that don't affect your sperm count.

**PS** Two male Pennsylvania high school girls' basketball coaches were canned for buying three cases of beer for their, um, athletes. The men have since found work in middle school.

☞ What! No Heumann? CSL named a list of **Wendell Phillips** Awards nominees that include members of TFA, TTLGBC, and Tufts Democrats. THE ELEPHANT is willing to bet that the winner's speech will include the words "empowerment," "alternative," and "self-acceptance." Bring your **hankie**... Tufts offers students a new shuttle bus to downtown Boston. As long as **Ted Kennedy**'s not driving, we're down...



Trustees are considering building a **new dorm** to house students who would otherwise be prone to the exorbitant rents from towny landlords. After years of threats, near-defunding, and putting up with general leftist crap, the SOURCE suggests adequate compensation: call it **Reagan Hall**.

☞ In an effort to wrestle senate control from the right wing, Lou Esparza emails **every leftist on campus**, begging "Dearest members of the Coalition, TFA, TTLGBC, TMAV, ECO, PAA, Amnesty, TU3, ALAS, Oxfam, and friends, we should run for senate!" THE ELEPHANT cringes—imagine an entire senate full of **culture reps**... We remind you not to vote for anyone whose closest friends are an acronym... Tired of downloading porn? Log onto **Tufts Feminist Alliance**'s new website (<http://ase.tufts.edu/tfa/online/>). If you like **bald chicks** who know Java, emails and meeting times are provided... **Ariana Wohl** complains to the *Daily* that DTD rush posters (actually photocopies of liquor ads filched from the pages of *Maxim*) are "sexist and misogynistic." Future rush posters will declare: "Rush DTD: Where you'll never be objectified by the disempowering masculinity of our **phallocentric brothers**."

☞ In other bumbling from the Tufts far-left, the remnants of TSAD embarked on their next **cause of the weak-minded**: a new Tufts political magazine—call it the SOURCE's evil twin. We're looking forward to the competition, but *Viewpoint* editors, *MIMNotes* publishers, and the clandestine staff of *Submerge* are all shaking in their Sketchers... With over **44%** of the vote, THE PRIMARY SOURCE is the run-away winner of the latest Rumorsdaily QuickPoll asking, "Which organization would you be most interested in reading a book from?" Ironically, TSAD, actually authoring a book of their **misadventures**, finished dead last. Thanks to all our appreciative readers. Perhaps the next poll ought to ask, "What organization would you least like to read a magazine from?"

☞ Rumors from **Lecture Series** indicate that a conservative speaker may be on the way in the form of Alan Keyes or even right-wing funny-man **P.J. O'Rourke**. Is it too late to petition Concert Board for Ted Nugent at Spring Fling? Guess we'll have to make due with our **Axl Rose** poetry slam at Oxfam... Next to an editorial slamming a pro-life SOURCE piece, the *Observer* prints a comic humorously depicting an **abortion**. Subtle it ain't.

☞ THE ELEPHANT never forgets.

*Get ready Tuftonians—you're about to be vagina-slapped.*

# Political Panty Raid

*by Megan Liotta*

There are some things a lady just doesn't discuss with strangers. Vaginas may now be crossed off that list.

When the sexual revolution began, the movement was about women being on top, women getting sexual gratification, women having multiple partners, women sharing the alleged sexual freedoms of American men. Now that *that's* over, feminists have been looking for something new to whine about. They found it: their vaginas. V-day has become D-day for women across the nation. The word "vagina" will henceforth invade card stores and candy shops each February.

Valentine's Day started out as a commemoration of a saint who performed secret forbidden marriages in the Rome ruled by Claudius II. By the eighteenth century, Britons and their American colonists were exchanging little notes signed "Love from your Valentine" on February 14<sup>th</sup> to express affection while remembering a Christian martyr who signed letters to his jailer's daughter in the same way. Victorians took Valentine's Day to a whole other level with their frilly little hearts given out to everyone they knew. The traditions and valentine designs are still quickly changing to keep pace with pop culture.

For our generation, Valentine's Day used to be a time of carefully selecting little cards for each of their classmates. Special attention was paid to make sure one's crush was not obvious. Little girls gossiped in groups about their like-interests. The boys pretended to gag. Perhaps Daddy's little girl got a box of chocolates, or Mummy got a bouquet of roses. "Won't you be my Valen-

tine?" was shyly whispered from one blushing child to another.

Thank goodness feminists have come to save us all from the oppressive hell that is represented by the above description of Valentine's Day.

The liberation began with Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*, a stage play based on interviews with hundreds of women about—what else?—their vaginas. Ensler wrote the play because she was "worried about vaginas." She expressed an interest in the female anatomy when it dawned on her that people might not be thinking about it. Eegads! Her play and

the subsequent movement called "V-Day" (for Vagina Day, celebrated by feminists in lieu of Valentine's Day) now has people thinking about vaginas even when they'd rather be thinking about anything else.

Bizarre and pretentious as its origin was, the inceptive movement was small and had admirable intentions. Proceeds from performances of the *Monologues* go toward support groups and centers for abused women. Unfortunately American feminists have perverted the original movement, making it into a grotesque political celebration whose only end is to shock and repulse. The result is, as always, a horde of smug liberals saying, "I told you so" when people shudder at the display.

Tufts' own version of "Vulvapalooza" is coming to campus for Valentine's week-end in honor of the University's performance of the *Monologues*. With it will come a tribe of Amazons—the TFA's women warriors ready to do battle with the idea that a woman's body is her own.

Wait a second. Now that women have won their bodies back from the oppressive

menfolk, they are public property? That's right. In fact, so public that the TFA table at Vulvapalooza will even feature the ever-popular party game "Pin the Clitoris on the Vagina." Just one question: if we're all so concerned with being in tune with our bodies, shouldn't it be "Pin the Clitoris Betwixt the Labia?" Let's just hope that no one in the TFA is pre-med.

With quotes in Ensler's production like, "...my vagina: it was who I was," and an anatomically incorrect, sexually graphic game, one has to wonder if Vulvapalooza and V-day are helping society to stop objectifying women. If women are all vagina and no brain, then the world is right back where it started when women were simply baby machines.

Ensler's connection to Valentine's Day, itself, is vague. "The idea was to take the romance out of Valentine's Day and put the vagina back in. To empower women on Valentine's Day instead of disempowering them, which is what often happens with romance," she said in an interview with Naomi Mendelsohn from Chickclick.com. There are several problems here. First of all, there is nothing wrong with romance on Valentine's Day, or any day for that matter. Romance does not imply forced sexual activity; it connotes a consensual, mutual affection between two people. Secondly, since when were vaginas mysteriously absent from a woman's Valentine's Day festivities?

Yet again Tufts leftists are trying to gain respect, and yet again they are making themselves look like fools. The students who love to be hated are killing the student spirit by vaginal suffocation. There are even buttons that read "Vagina Friendly" for the throngs of students who wear their politics on their backpacks. If, as ubiquitous feminist rouser Gloria Steinem says, feminism is about a woman's ability to choose what is right for her, then the TFA must allow Tufts women the choice to keep their vaginas their own business this Valentine's Day. □

**VAGINA  
FRIENDLY**

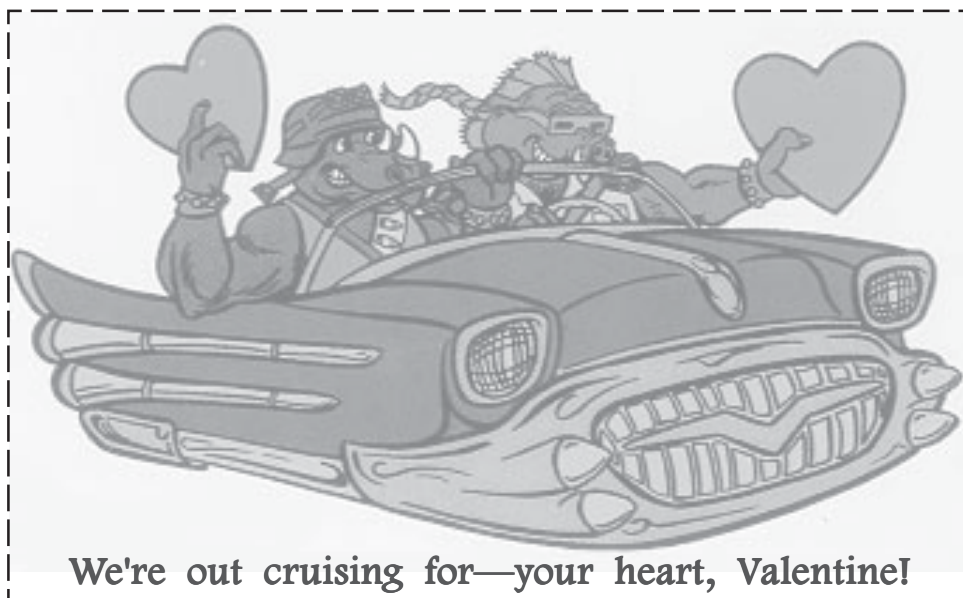
**Buttons declaring this slogan  
prepare Jumbos for the inanity  
that is Vulvapalooza.**

*Miss Liotta is a sophomore majoring in English.*

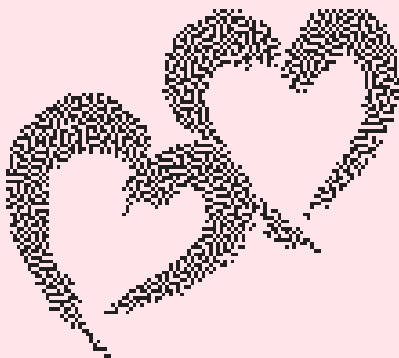
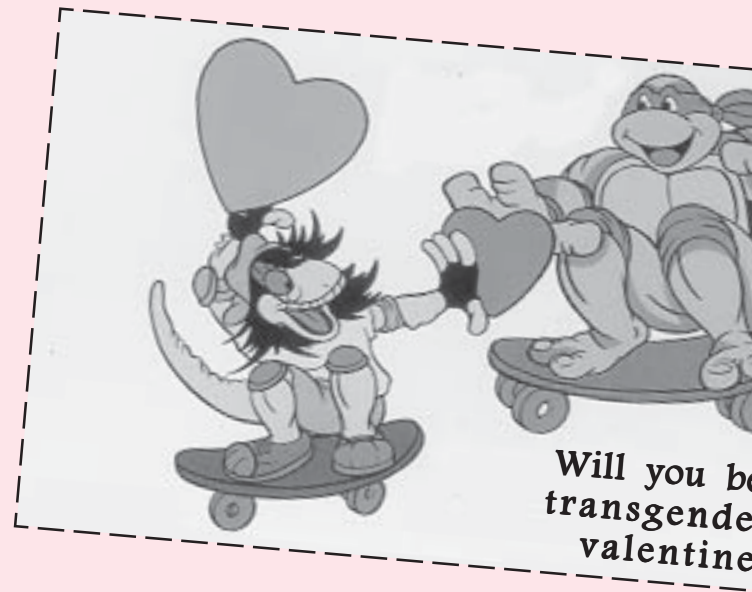
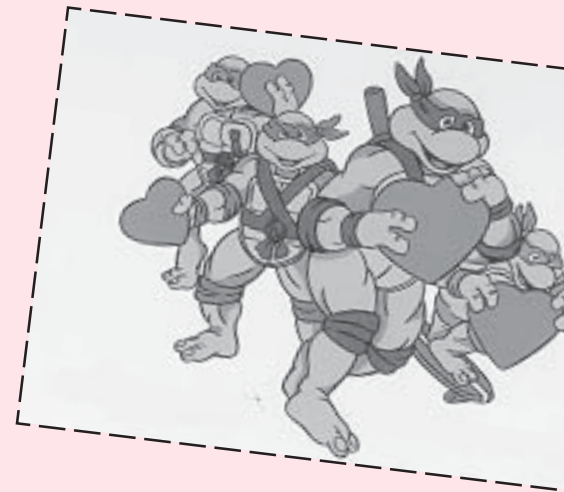
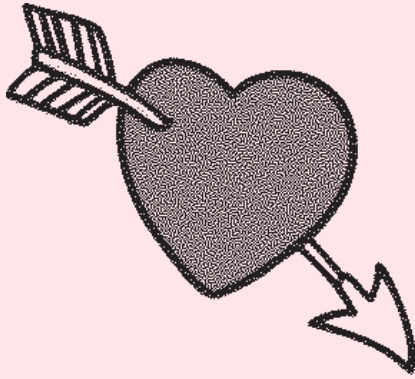
*THE PRIMARY SOURCE presents*

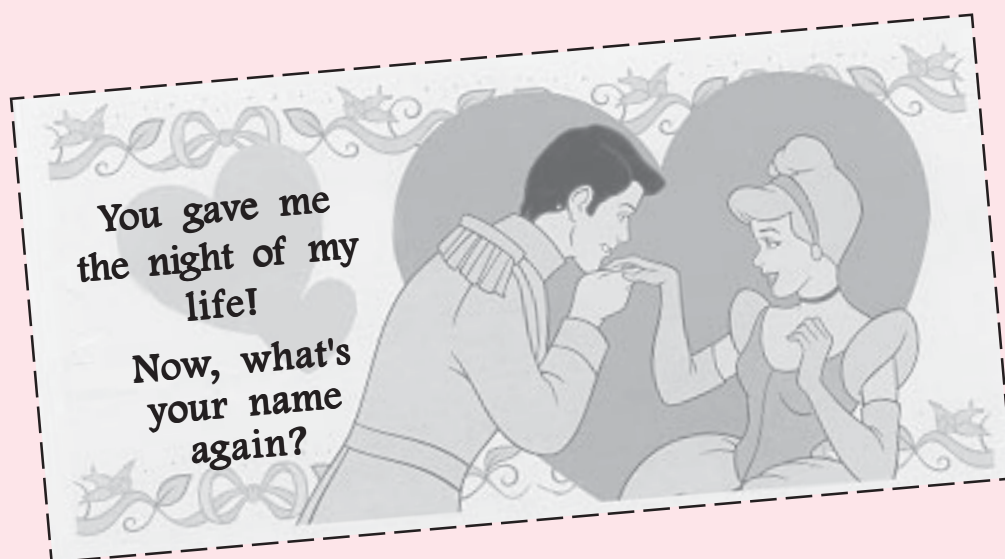
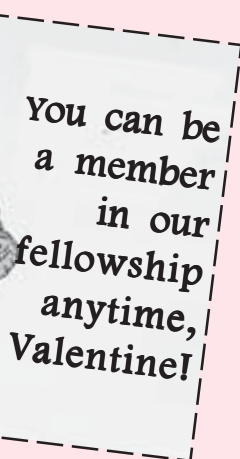
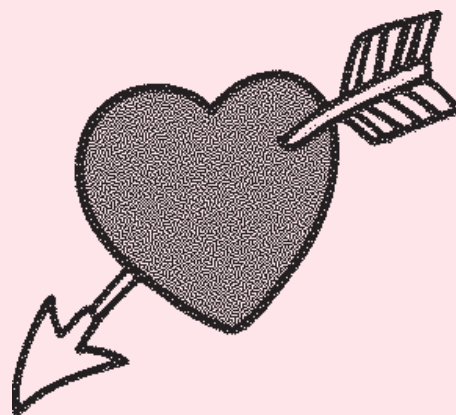
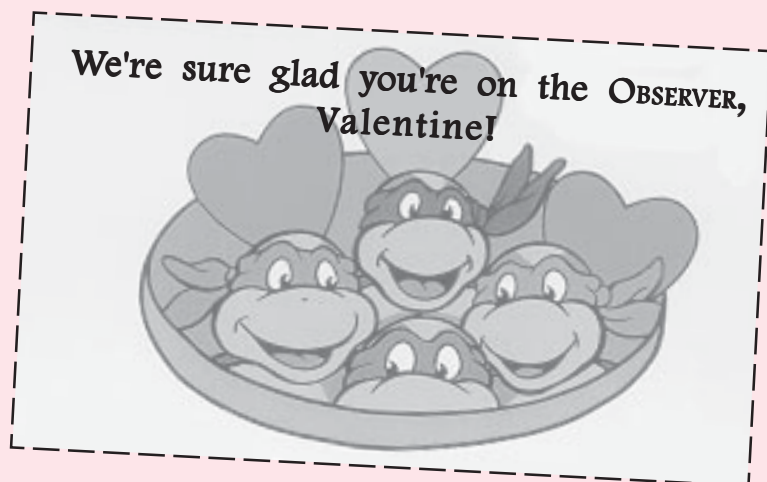


# Cut n' Paste Tufts Valentines!









# Leftist Chick: An Ode

by Justinian DiSarpedonia Moriarty

Do not conform, dear leftist  
chick!

Forego maternity.

No makeup, skirts, or pots  
for you—

Practice modernity.

For I am spellbound by thy  
hair close-cropped,

Thy boyish child's visage.

My heart flutters when your  
hurried breath

Keaves thy décolletage.

Thy lovely breasts—how coyly  
hid

B'neath thy baggy garb

And upon each of their rosy tips

A gleaming, steely barb.

Just like thine ears—those  
studded lobes

That hear my words excited.

For when I play with those  
sixteen rings

They jingle; I'm delighted.

Thy supple legs in trousers at

My wanton touch do bristle;

N'er spoiled by a razor's glance,

They bloom like

budding thistle.

These dressings some call

teenage angst,

Not individuality.

Yes!—when amongst thy

swarthy leftist friends,

You all look the same to me.

But fear not my darling leftist

chick!

Thy charm conquers my will.

Whether taking a stand or

sitting-in,

Don't fret—I love thee still.



**The Vagina Monologues ventures into territory best left unpenetrated.**

## Into the Void

*by Alyssa Heumann*

As a student in an American high school or middle school, you no doubt remember the most revered of classroom past-times—the penis game. Yes, that insidious exchange of the word “penis” that begins as a barely-audible whisper and builds to climax, as one brazen, pubescent classmate has the nerve to shout “penis!” at the top of his/her lungs. The game incites feelings of discomfort in witnesses and simultaneously empowers those involved—they have set a decidedly sexual climate where there previously was none.

*The Vagina Monologues*, a performance art piece written by Eve Ensler, is no doubt written and presented with much the same intent. Unfortunately, however, the *Monologues* demonstrate that Ensler has learned little from her adolescent predecessors. The *Monologues* do not (contrary to progressive belief) promote a more highly evolved or comfortable relation to one’s anatomy. Instead, the view of female genitalia promoted in the *Monologues* is much the same as the current male relation to the penis—decidedly immature.

Included in the book are women’s answers to questions such as “if your vagina could talk, what would it say?” and “if your vagina got dressed, what would it wear?” Such fanciful imaginings are more appropriately the province of 6-year-olds than of grown women, and hardly reflect any sort of comfort or maturity. The frequent and public mention of words like “vagina” “labia” “clitoris” or “vulva” doth not a liberated woman (or society) make. And the eager consumption of “vagina salad” or cake in the shape of labia is not a signifier of sexual adulthood any more than is the act of a teenage male naming his penis.

Feminists allege that Western culture worships the phallus and that frequent use

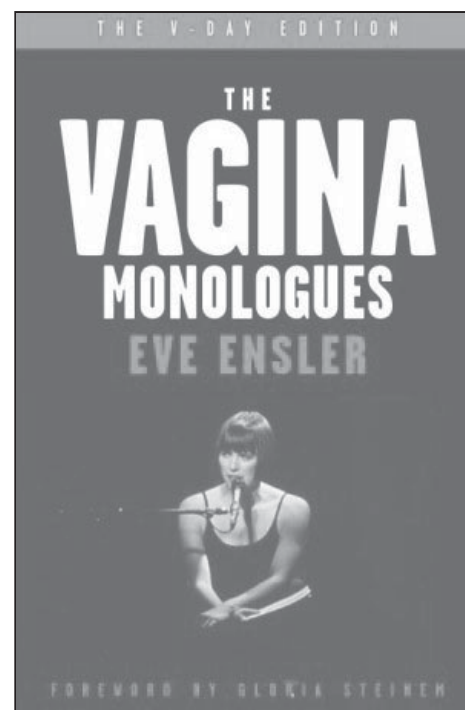
of the word “penis” and its referents are commonly regarded as symptoms of a phallocentric culture. Calling someone a “dick,” however, is no more complimentary than use of the epithets “pussy” or “cunt.” The difference between these phrases, however, is that there is little effort put toward “reclaiming” derogatory terms for the male sex organ. Females who echo Ensler’s sentiments, however, (like those in the “cunt club” at Wesleyan University) rejoice in making their genitals everyone’s business.

*The Vagina Monologues* are yet another example of a common liberal theme: namely, that sexual and verbal permissiveness are equal to empowerment. What Ensler and her legions of eager performers forget is that sexual humility separates humans from the carnal animal world. Embarrassment or modesty regarding one’s sexual apparatus and personal habits serve a useful purpose. When Ensler simulates an orgasm on stage, or discusses the intimacies of masturbation, she treads on the mysterious and alluring areas of sex that we as humans have the ability to appreciate. By making sex public, the fascination it holds is diminished, and a once-hallowed and enigmatic act becomes as ordinary as brushing one’s teeth.

Added to the uncomfortable exhibitionism of the *Monologues* is the questionable morality promoted therein. Though there are many included incidences of violence and sexual acts perpetrated against women, not all are treated in the same manner. In one vignette, a young woman relates her early experience with sexual abuse. An assault by one of her father’s male friends is explained in wholly negative and damaging terms. The same young woman was subsequently the victim of statutory rape by a female; this event is described as a positive “sexual awakening” for the young target. Both episodes are characterized by law as sexual abuse and were no doubt psychologically damaging—so why is one vilified

and the other glorified? The attitudes toward victimization of children are not only ambiguous—the *Monologues* also suggest that lesbian orientations are prompted by episodes of male sexual abuse.

Unfortunately, the celebration of all that is vaginal obscures the most useful information offered in the *Monologues*. Lost among the humorous and diatribes and ridiculous Q&A sessions are serious discussions of women’s rights. The mass rape of Bosnian refugees and childhood sexual abuse are important issues that concern all females. Yet, why does this discussion come wrapped in such absurd and offensive packaging? Ensler responds to criticism of the *Monologues* by stating that they are simply “about attraction, not promotion.” In this way, she hopes to stave off critics who would call the piece politically incorrect. Ensler is wrong on both counts: her monologues go out of the way to shock and scandalize instead of attract (Ensler proudly proclaims that those in the audience routinely faint during the production), and they are used in the promotion of a political cause, V-day. The presentation of the *Monologues* in their current form not only repels some audience members, it keeps other prospective V-day supporters out of the theatre altogether. If the overarching message of the *Monologues* is one of respect for women, then all potential viewers should be encouraged to attend—not just those with their minds between their legs. □



*Miss Heumann is a senior majoring in Psychology and Child Development.*

*The election of Ariel Sharon is just one more step on the path to peace with security.*

## Arafat and Sharon: Old Timers at an Old Game

*by Tal Dibner*

The Middle East, countless news articles begin, is a place of contradiction. Old meets new, East meets West, Arab meets Jew, and so on. It is usually not a place of change. For most people of the Middle East, life continues as before. Why then the focus on the elections of one country? There are as many explanations as there are news correspondents, but this student finds a simpler answer. Sharon's election is more than just Sharon's election. The real lesson is that Israel's elections are the only real ones in the Middle East. Indeed, Syria has a president and Iran holds its restricted elections, but the real power is handed from father to son or from one autocrat to the next. In a few more liberal nations such as Iran and Egypt, change is in the air, but real liberty is still far away. Is it any wonder that the world focuses its attention on the one honest game in town?

This is not to say all is perfect in the land of milk, honey, and silicon. Israel is not without corruption, scandal, and controversy. Hatred exists within its borders however one draws them. And I don't care if you see Israel as a Zionist Capitalist encroachment by Western Civilization into the Middle East, or as the one place in that part of the world where anyone is truly free. Israel's elections are more than political arm-wrestling and more than a way of giving a prime minister or Parliament the mandate to pursue one course of action or another. Each election stands as something else as well: they are celebrations of a rare right in a country with many political parties, a nation where communism, proto-fascism, socialism, and religious zealotry all vie peacefully for their piece of the political pie. Israel has citizens who came from villages in Ethiopia, Nazi concentration camps, Arab regimes, and Soviet states where voting was not an act of choice, but of confor-

mity. The high number of political parties, including several Arab ones that have enjoyed considerable success, encourages people to vote. Israeli politics is cutthroat, rough, and confusing. In other words, democracy is alive and well.

The Palestinian authority wants a state of its own, or so they say. Frankly, liberty does not seem to be a goal of theirs. A state is just a tool, it can be used to give a people liberty, security, greatness, wealth, and more. There is no reason to believe a Palestinian state would hold fair elections. Arafat is stuck—he cannot back down, (think of the chaos) and he can't keep going forever. He's not a young man. The PLO, known in the

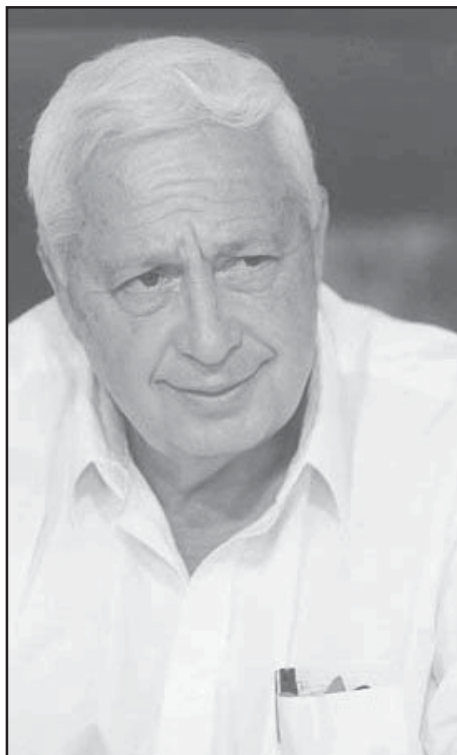
80's as a terrorist organization, has tried to revamp itself as the PA, and has only succeeded in gaining a reputation among the Palestinians as a corrupt and, if anything, too willing to compromise. They have, as yet, failed to remove the clause in their charter that calls for the destruction of Israel. And Arafat, stuck at the top, is unwilling to destroy himself by striking at the corruption and graft that is the hallmark of his organization. In short, the Palestinians lack political flexibility—Arafat's demise will occur, and they do not have a way of handling the situation other than bloodshed.

Here Israel has the ultimate advantage. It can change leaders; it has no ticking clock for political self destruction. Israel is a mature society—it has caught the American gift for self-depreciation and attacks its own heroes, forcing better performance from public leaders. Its political leaders come and go, and often re-emerge when the situation is right. Arafat is a terrorist-

turned-failed-diplomat. Sharon, hated for failing to stop a massacre, is seen as a murderer by the Palestinians. In reality, all that he failed to do was to order his troops to fight non-Israeli Christian troops bent on killing Palestinians. This is his failure. Sharon was a commando (a real commando, fighting soldiers, not a "commando" who attacks civilians, like his counterpart) and then a highly successful commander. It was he who led the counter attack into Egypt when the Egyptians and Syrians were exploiting the success of a sneak attack on Israel in 1973. This counter attack was bold, almost reckless, and probably helped save Israel from destruction. The real reason the Palestinians regard the election of Sharon as a disaster is not that a murderer has been elected; Barak and Netanyahu both had military careers. Sharon is different because he proved to have a gift for the sudden attack, the use of fear rather than destruction. As a commando and as a tank commander he showed a unique understanding of the value of initiative, that he who forces his opponent to respond is already halfway to victory.

Netanyahu and Barak were both adept at reacting. Sharon, with an old, so called "hawkish" stance, is far harder to predict

**Israeli politics is cutthroat, rough, and confusing. In other words, democracy is alive and well.**



**Sharon will play hardball with the PLO.**

*Mr. Dibner is a junior majoring in History and Political Science.*

and far more likely to view a confrontational situation in simple terms. He has chosen thus far to halt the peace process, arguing that one cannot negotiate while on the receiving end of attacks. This "hard liner" was elected by a large majority—and to Sharon that means a mandate to do things his way.

Change may indeed be in the air for Israel, the Palestinians, and the peace process. It is a return to an earlier status quo, when terrorist attacks brought more than just harsh remarks, when Israel used its strength confidently if not always judiciously. Sharon is bad news to all those who hoped to carry on a process of slow attack on Israel while crying out for peace. Should he outlast Arafat, the Palestinian cause of independence may flounder. If Arafat outlasts Sharon, as he probably will, Israel will not be in dire straits. Another leader, with views tuned to the situation and the views of the public, will emerge and take power following another election. Democracy, it seems, does offer at least this advantage over despotism. So let the world focus on Israel, criticize Sharon, and point out the flaws in the Israeli political system. The result of such scrutiny will be a stronger republic, better able to cope with its enemies and more confident in its dealings with potential friends. The peace process will go on; this election is just one more step on the path. □



**Arafat: must play ball with a hardliner.**

# Abortion: The Indefensible

*by Jared Burdin*

**I**n the interests of promoting public discourse and refuting poorly conceived arguments, I offer this guide on debating abortion with leftists. The February 9th, 2001, *Observation* by Erin Dwyer and David Attanasio entitled "The Primary Right to Choose" will be used as a source for pro-abortion arguments. In this piece, the co-authors sought to refute Stephen Tempesta's pro-life article "A Right Not to Kill" that appeared in the last issue of the *SOURCE*. What you are about to read is a rebuttal of a leftist response.

When discussing abortion with abortion supporters, it is imperative to point out logical fallacies and pseudo-science wherever they crop up. Continuing through "The Primary Right to Choose" Ms. Dwyer and Mr. Attanasio argue *ad absurdum* that if a preborn child in the third trimester is a life, then a gamete is a life as well. Furthermore, they contend, when a man ejaculates (and presumably when a woman completes her menstrual cycle) lives are being extinguished. These statements are clearly erroneous. The co-authors admit as much when they acknowledge that a sex cell on its own has only half the chromosomes of human cells. It is for that reason a sperm and an unfertilized egg, when separate, cannot be considered human lives. When united, a being is formed that is wholly unique from the sex cells that formed it in that it has a full set of chromosomes and will grow. Within 24 days, when a woman may realize that she is "late," that being has a beating heart. Ms. Dwyer and Mr. Attanasio ask, "Where do you draw the line" on when life is present in a fetus. The answer is clear: at the moment of conception.

Abortion proponents may not subscribe to the above statement but may rather take the stance that Ms. Dwyer and Mr. Attanasio do, stating that there is "no clear demarcation" between what is a life and what is not. Their argument seems to be that, if we are not sure abortion kills a life, why should we stop? If faced with this line of thinking from an abortion supporter, ask him if it is permissible to set a

pipe bomb in a mall because it might not kill someone. Or ask him if the Secret Service would tackle someone shooting at the White House. After all, he might not kill someone. No one in their right mind can condone an activity that puts others at life threatening risk. Because an abortion supporter is not sure the baby is alive is no justification for legal abortion.

When a pro-abortion activist's anti-child bias has been exposed, he often appeals to the life of the mother in support of the so-called right to choose. Ms. Dwyer and Mr. Attanasio follow suit when they consider health issues and the future of the mother. Legal abortion simply cannot be defended on the grounds of maternal health, as that is clearly not the reason for its existence. According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood's research arm, only 2.8% of the estimated 38.3 million abortions performed in the United States since 1973 were for maternal health reasons. Furthermore, abortions for medical reasons were permissible prior to the *Roe v. Wade* decision. As for a woman's future, the National Organization of Women's review of the 1996 Kaiser Family Foundation's Survey of Teens and Sex shows that 70% of teens who bear children complete high school. That a crisis pregnancy is a potentially life altering experience does not change the fact that a pregnant woman has a life growing within her. This "your life or mine" argument from abortion proponents is truly sickening. Nevertheless, a student or careerwoman's future need not be shattered by a crisis pregnancy. Supportive crisis pregnancy centers are located throughout the country. To argue that an unexpected pregnancy will necessarily destroy someone's future is to argue from ignorance.

Abortion supporters often use arguments like those above to defend the indefensible. Through reasoned discussion one can reveal the truth to them. Perhaps their minds can be changed. At the very least, they'll have something to think about. □



*If we're not supposed to eat animals, then why did God make them so tasty?*

# Of Mice, Men, and PETA

*by Robert Lichter*

Is God a vegetarian? Our friends at People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals would have us think so, even presenting a redaction of New Testament verses to “prove” that Jesus did not eat meat at the Last Supper. I do not presume to be a Biblical scholar, but I know that when the disciples ask Jesus where they can buy “bread” to feed the multitude, they aren’t inquiring as to the whereabouts of the nearest bakery. “Bread” symbolizes all food-stuffs, just as it is used in the Lord’s Prayer. But this is only the crust of PETA’s faulty reasoning.

I can’t disprove that God is a vegetarian; I’d have a hard enough time proving that God even exists, as that is a matter of faith. I am, however, sure beyond a reasonable doubt that Mother Nature is not a vegetarian. Mother Nature shows tough love to the animal world in a take-no-prisoners, survival of the fittest existence. Ethics for animals in the wild begin and end with the principle that the strong eat the weak.

PETA gives animals rights, but no responsibilities. Animals are not called upon to help other animals by PETA. Showing kindness is a responsibility they place solely on humans. PETA lectures us that the ethical human will trap a mouse that ventures into the house, and

then release it into the wild, for the mouse has a right to live a full and happy life. What a warm, fuzzy feeling this gives us, at least until we think it through. While the humane trapper is snug in his warm house, the little mouse is out in the cold, snowy world. In the great outdoors the mouse may be dinner for an owl, a fox, or perhaps the neighbor’s cat. If these killers have rights equal to humans, why don’t animals have the responsibility of

recognizing that murder is evil, and offering dinner and a warm nest to the homeless mouse?

The answer is that Mother Nature has made them carnivores, equipped with sharp claws and long, pointy teeth designed for ripping flesh—mouse, rabbit, and bird flesh. If you get the impression that PETA’s logic is on the level of a children’s book in which Mr. Squirrel and Mr. Hawk live in happy harmony in the forest, you are right. PETA refuses to acknowledge animals’ cruelty to animals so that they can portray all harm to animals as human-based.

Mother Nature does not only kill through her carnivorous minions; sometimes she kills on her own, indiscriminately. This winter, in one

shallow Wisconsin lake, thousands of fish died when over a foot of snow prevented light from getting through the ice to the aquatic plants. When the plants died, the oxygen balance in the water was upset and every fish died. These fish had been stocked by the Dept. of Natural Resources using money from the license fees of hunters and fishermen. These humans, reviled by PETA as killers, gave the fish life, while Mother Nature took it all away in one blizzard.

PETA operates through scare tactics, using the old reliable liberal dodge that when the facts aren’t on your side, fear can be a powerful substitute. Lately PETA has attempted to instill fear into the hearts of faithful Christians with the absurd argument that God gave to chickens rights and intellects identical to those of humans. PETA’s website claims that Jesus was a vegetarian. Amazingly, yet not surprisingly, their case is founded in little theology and less logic.

According to the Bible, Jesus was a kind person who would not in any way support cruelty to animals, but it is illogical to presume that any use of animals is equivalent to abusing them. The Last Supper was a celebration of the Passover, a feast in which roast lamb is featured on the seder plate. And let us recall

**If you get the impression that PETA’s logic is on the level of a children’s book in which Mr. Squirrel and Mr. Hawk live in happy harmony in the forest, you are right. PETA refuses to acknowledge animals’ cruelty to animals so that they can portray all harm to animals as human-based.**



**"Say bro—I'll have mine medium rare."**

*Mr. Lichter is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.*

the miracle of feeding 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish. Also, do not forget that five of the 12 apostles were professional fishermen. Since it is clear that PETA misrepresents Christianity, the bigger question is why?

PETA's beliefs are founded on the premise that animals and humans are equal and entitled to the same rights. Christianity maintains that Man should respect and love all of Creation because he is placed above animals and plants. Animals are placed on Earth for the judicious use of humanity. Christian teaching tells us to love animals and preserve nature as part of God's creation, but also that they are a resource like any other, and they are to be eaten and worn as a winter coat. Only Man has a moral conscience, and only Man can make a moral distinction between the killing of animals for food and murder. Animals, such as my cat, are amoral. When they see a mouse, they only see prey. It's called the food chain.

Not only does PETA make false statements concerning the life of Jesus; it goes further, telling Christians how to behave: "Jesus mandates kindness, mercy, compassion, and love for all God's creation." As if PETA is the moral authority when it comes to kindness and compassion! The recent nationwide "Milk Sucks" campaign in middle schools provides trading cards to students that depict children with various health problems, such as Chubby Charlie and Windy Wanda. Not only are these cards a juvenile political statement, they are far from kind and compassionate when children are ridiculed for physical attributes that often are not their fault. PETA even went so low as to attack New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, posting billboards that read "got prostate cancer?" next to the mayor's milk-mustached face. The groups demand that we treat animals kindly, but then mock a man's struggle with a deadly disease. The inconsistency is shocking.

PETA lectures that "there will be no factory farms and slaughterhouses in heaven." This reminds me of the old German drinking song that goes "In heaven there is no beer, that's why we drink it here!" So have a hamburger and wash it down with a cold one (even PETA endorses beer!). If you're Christian, you may want to do it before Lent. □

# PETA's Crash Course in Propaganda

## Lesson One: Start young



## Lesson Two: Spoof, spoof, spoof



## Lesson Three: Blame a corporation



## Lesson Four: Hit 'em where it hurts—the ego





*Nobody expects the Spanish Inquisition!*

# Pilgrim's Progress

by Andrew Gibbs

Since the inauguration, Bush administration advisors have been diligently at work trying to plunge one of the most enlightened nations in the world back into the Dark Ages. They have arrived at their final solution: the recombination of church and state. One might wonder how they came up with such a simple, yet brilliant idea. In actuality, it takes nothing more than a blatant disregard for the lessons of history.

The integration of church and state has never worked. The most frequent historical use of such a system has been to justify some monarch's ascension to power. Another popular use for such combination has been to veil genocide under some official action of the state. Doesn't anyone remember the Spanish Inquisition? How quickly people forget the reason the first pilgrims came to the land that was to become the United States (for those who slept through elementary school history, it was to escape mandatory religion). Armed with these history lessons, how can the Bush administration make such phenomenal blunders?

Defying common sense, Bush has boldly set up a cabinet for what he calls "faith-based solutions." This of course begs the question, why? Such institutions already exist; they are called churches. They are privately funded by those who believe

in their causes and require no external government meddling. The devil's advocate would inquire as to what benefit would come from integrating the government into this system. One could argue that additional funding to religious organizations would increase their efficacy. This is true. However, were this money instead funneled into a single non-denominational solution, the result would benefit everyone and alienate no one.

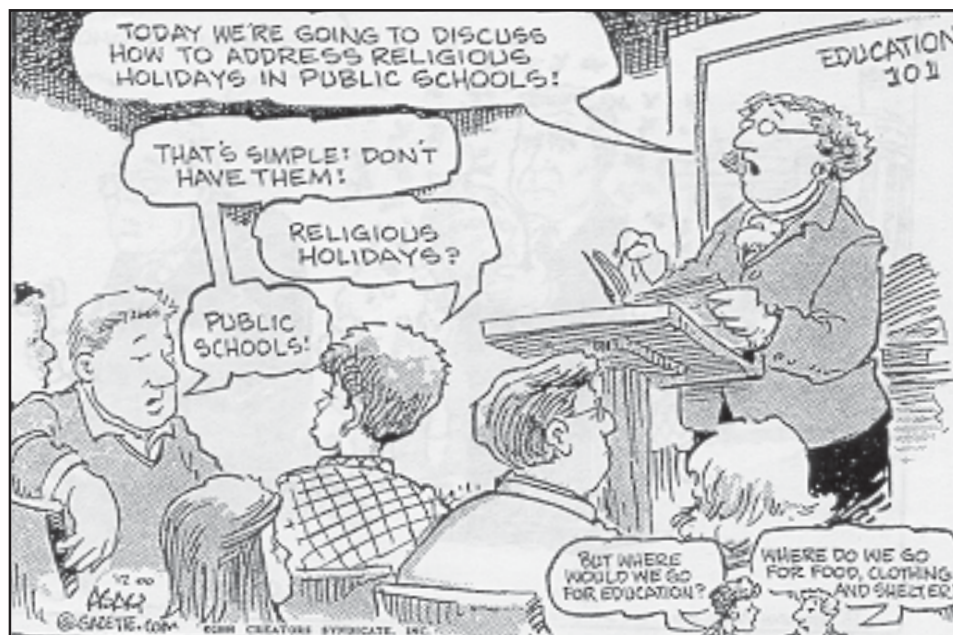
To execute this plan one must first determine what constitutes an officially recognized religion. There exist many re-

ligions that do not fall under the umbrella of official recognition. This might require that followers of those religions pay taxes to fund other people's faiths. It is unfair to force an agnostic or atheist to shell out money to support a cause they believe to be utter nonsense. Furthermore, once the religious organizations have extorted their funding from taxpayers, they might then decide to distribute their newfound wealth exclusively to believers in "The One True God," whichever one that is. It reeks of a convert-the-heathens strategy.

Just as the nonbeliever should cringe at the combination of church and state, so to should religious organizations. While minor religions should fear a lack of fair representation, major faiths should fear loss of autonomy. As it now stands, private organizations have the right to govern themselves as they please. Once an organization starts receiving government subsidy, however, it is no longer a private entity, but rather becomes subservient to the government. Not only is there a loss of independence in such an arrangement, it also creates the possibility for dirty deals. A religious government official could offer funding to leaders of another faith if they agree to bring their beliefs in line with the philosophy of the person in power. This is not at all unlikely since similar such situations already exist. Until very recently the legal drinking age in most states was eighteen. Thanks to some liberty-trampling puritans, it is now twenty-one. The states

*Please see "Pilgrim" on page 22*

**Anyone who has been to Sunday school knows that the Earth is at the center of the universe, the planet is 6,000 years old, Man was made in the image of God, and Darwin was an evil man who is presently burning in a Christian Hell. While religion and science can certainly co-exist, combining church and state is not the way to go about it.**



*Mr. Gibbs is a junior majoring in Computer Engineering.*



*Government handouts will feed a man for a day;  
faith-based initiatives will feed him for a lifetime.*

# Charity with Conviction

*by Sam Dangremond*

The first clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America states "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." Freedom of religion is the very first of the liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, yet over time this freedom has been tragically distorted. It is now generally thought that there exists a separation of church and state. President George W. Bush has recently unveiled an innovative plan to address the social problems of our nation through faith-based initiatives. In the name of religious freedom, this plan is being attacked by those who would sacrifice the well being of America's less fortunate to preserve the so-called separation of church and state.

In order to understand the meaning of the first clause of the First Amendment, one must understand the intent of the Founders who created the Bill of Rights. The first ten amendments consist of those inalienable rights of the individual upon which the government may never infringe. These rights protect every American from the power of a tyrannical government. Thus freedom of religion is meant to protect religion from the government, not protect the government from religion. The First Amendment prevents the government from regulating religion and from forcing religion on its citizens; it does not prevent religion from playing a role in government. In fact, from the invocation given before each Congressional session, to the motto "In God we trust," religion has al-

ways been an integral part of American politics.

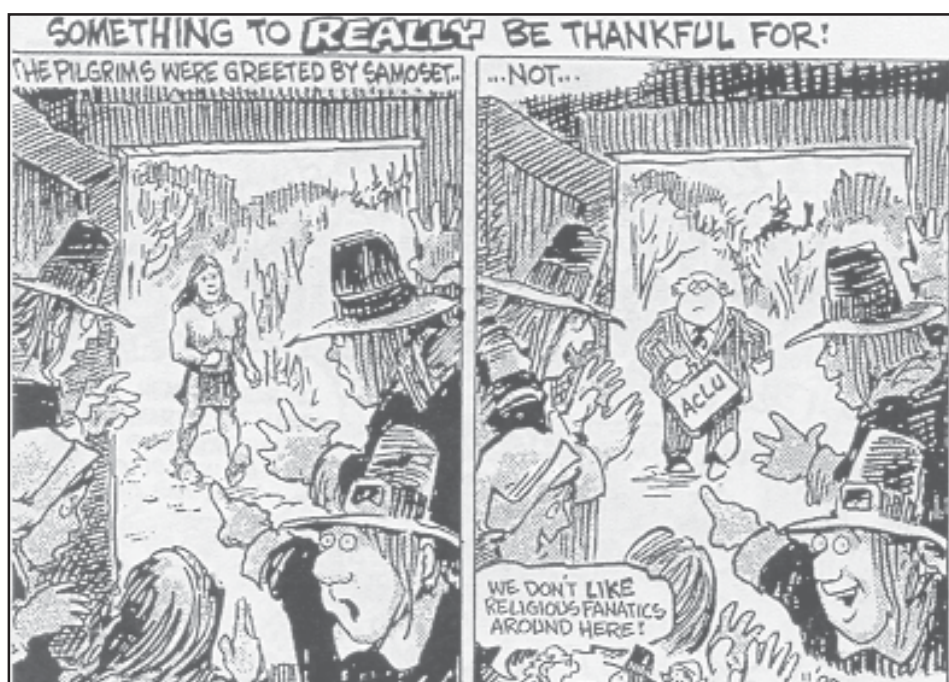
President George W. Bush campaigned on a message of compassionate conservatism. Now that he rightfully occupies the Office of the President, Bush is making this slogan a reality by exploring solutions to the traditional problems of poverty, hunger, and homelessness without resorting to the liberal "solutions" of big government and entitlements. In order to fight these social problems, Bush has created the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. This office is charged with managing specially designated federal funds by assigning grants to charities. The only difference between this agency and myriad others like it is that religious organizations may

apply for these charities- as can any other organization. Essentially, religious organizations will not be discriminated against when their charity programs are evaluated for federal funds. This program grew out of a provision in the 1996 welfare reform laws (championed by then-Senator John Ashcroft) that allows for "charitable choice." This existing law allows states to assign federal grant monies to religious organizations for charity work, while ensuring that the money does not pay for religious instruction or worship activities. Thus, Bush's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives is merely cutting out the middlemen (state governments) by providing federal money directly to charity organizations of all types.

Bush's plan to involve religion in addressing the problem of poverty is firmly grounded in conservative principles. The first of these is the role religion plays in promoting morality. Religion acts as a moral compass for those in need of direction and is an avenue to escape the materialistic meaninglessness that so often afflicts those chronically dependant on government handouts. Involving morality is precisely what some would have the government avoid for fear of sanctioning one man's morality at the expense of others. Yet, involving faith in social programs has a proven track record of improving lives without becoming denominational. The most effective program for treating alcohol

*Please see "Charity" on page 22*

**Who can better help  
the homeless man on  
the corner, a  
bureaucrat in DC or a  
pastor right next door?**



*Mr. Dangremond is a sophomore  
majoring in Chemical Engineering.*

*"Charity" continued from page 21*

abuse, Alcoholics Anonymous, mentions God no less than six times in its famous twelve step program. It is exactly in this manner that the faith-based initiatives will operate, acknowledging a "higher power" without reference

to any specific religion while making drastic improvements in the lives they seek to change. The second conservative principle embodied by faith-based initiatives is the preference for local control and grassroots change. By delegating the means to accomplish charity work to churches, local communities can be served by those who are most familiar with their problems. Who

**Religion acts as a moral compass for those in need of direction and is an avenue to escape the materialistic meaninglessness that so often afflicts those chronically dependant on government handouts.**

can better help the homeless man on the corner, a bureaucrat in DC or a pastor right next door?

The concerns brought up by the ACLU and others who oppose Bush's plan are valid ones, but can be solved simply by proper administration. The

Bush government is in no way establishing, or even favoring, any one religion. When he unveiled his plan, the President was flanked by leaders of the Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths. All charity programs, regardless of religion affiliation, can apply for the federal funds, those with the best program will be awarded the money to implement their charity. Additionally,

this money in no way affects other government programs; it has been created in addition to all existing federal programs. Those in need will now have one more option (or an option where none before existed) to seek help. The ability to choose a program that is not faith-based has been a major concern for the ALCU, yet beggars will not be choosers when any option is better than none. For the ACLU to deny those in need the ability to obtain help from a faith-based initiative because no secular program exists is to inhumanly condemn them to remain destitute.

Freedom of religion does not mean freedom from religion. The federal government has poured uncounted billions into the welfare state, yet poverty remains a problem. Empowering local communities to help those in their midst through faith-based initiatives is a bold new strategy for treating this problem. Big government handouts have not worked, the time has come to take a more compassionate approach. □

*"Pilgrim" continued from page 20*

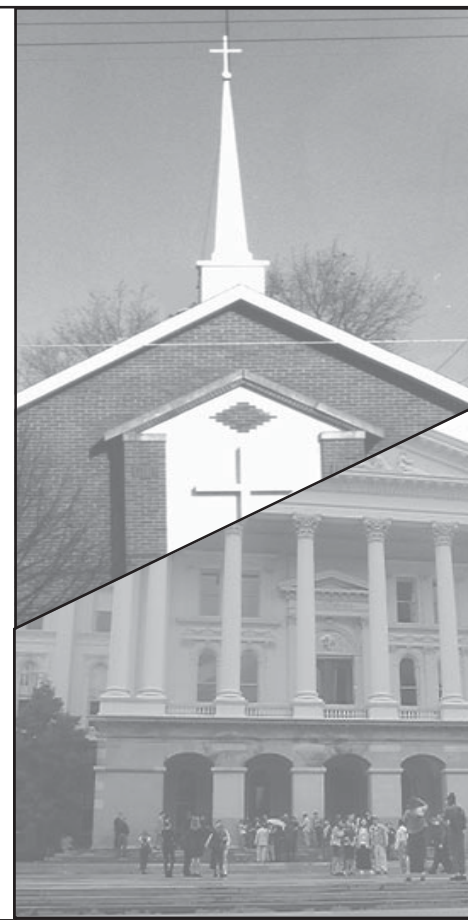
are not required to make it twenty one, but they receive federal grants in exchange for doing so. Politicians frequently buy and sell the rights of citizens, auctioning them off to the highest bidder. Bringing religion into this equation would spell doom for personal freedom.

If the corruption and discrimination inherent with the merging of church and state were not enough, then consider for a moment the quality of the services that would be provided in place of non-religiously affiliated ones. Organized religion and science have never been able to agree on much. Anyone who has been to Sunday school knows that the Earth is at the center of the universe, the planet is 6,000 years old, Man was made in the image of God, and Darwin was an evil man who is presently burning in a Christian Hell. While religion and science can cer-

**Favoring religious solutions has the inherent risk of placing people in positions of power based on zealotry instead of merit.**

tainly co-exist, combining church and state is not the way to go about it. Would it be in the better interest of the public to have tax dollars pay for a state of the art hospital, or for a Christian Scientist temple where people could go to have evil spirits exorcised? Favoring religious solutions has the inherent risk of placing people in positions of power based on zealotry instead of merit. Government has no right to promote such a scenario, especially not with taxpayer dollars.

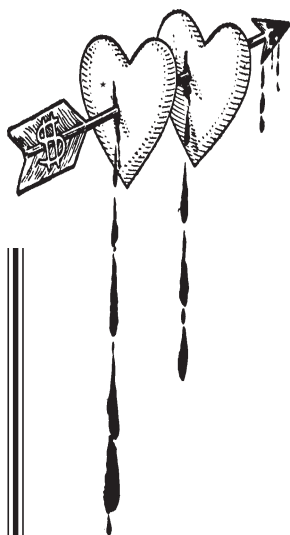
Appropriation of power to government, while sometimes necessary, inevitably increases the risk of corruption and illicit manipulation. Accordingly one must keep additions to the role of government to a minimum. Everyone has a right to religion. Yet at the same time, everyone has a right to freedom from religious oppression. Preserving such a complex situation requires great care. Religion and government can successfully coexist, but only through their separation. □



**Got something to get off your chest? Send a letter to the editor!**

[source@listproc.tufts.edu](mailto:source@listproc.tufts.edu)

**We feel your pain.**



# *Fifty Ways to* **LOSE** *Your Lover* III

Teach a course on abstinence \* Invite your friends over to his place for a sit-in \* Take her out to dinner on points \* Make her pay for both of you at Film Series \* Discriminate against him based on his identity \* Put a hidden camera in her bathroom \* Vote Nader \* Spell his name wrong in your tattoo \* Order a Natural Light \* Go abroad without telling her \* Have your vagina do monologues \* Write another missile defense article \* Forget her anniversary \* Forget to affirm his non-discrimination policy \* Teach the mice in your dorm to do tricks \* Confuse Nomar with Derek \* Set off the fire alarm in South... again \* Lobby to have his culture house demolished in order to build your new dorm \* Sign your emails "one love" \* Apply for a position with CECA's "escort" service \* Take her for a long walk on the beach of the Mystic River \* Be a general who makes peace \* Offer to buffer her funds \* Decry to her the evils of "apathy" \* Quit the SOURCE to write a weekly column for the *Daily* \* Spend a romantic weekend in the AEPi basement \* Declare your major in Women's Studies \* Give her meningitis \* Get a work-study job in Oxfam \* Mix her a rohypnol martini \* Steal the Espressos delivery car \* Take a vacation to the School of the Americas \* Ask why MD 20/20 is not on the wine list \* Appear on [www.fatchicksinpartyhats.com](http://www.fatchicksinpartyhats.com) \* Name your genitalia \* Name your genitalia after someone of the opposite sex \* Post her photo on a website that asks "Am I Hot or Not?" \* Wear a beret \* Join Galactica \* Be conservative \* Write features for the *Daily* \* Appear on *Jumbo Love Match* \* Host *Jumbo Love Match* \* Allocate Tufts money for your home country \* Fail Math 4 \* Leave your K-Y jelly out by mistake \* Attend a party at the Arts Haus \* Introduce her to your good friends from East Somerville \* Write a book about TSAD \* Buy him a gift certificate to Goodwill \*



## NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

If a candidate cannot keep his marriage vows, how can you expect him to keep his campaign promises?

—Mike Stimpson

We must be prepared to pay a price for freedom, for no price that is ever asked for it is half the cost of doing without it.

—H.L. Mencken

A man in love is like a clipped coupon—it's time to cash in.

—Mae West

History fails to record a single precedent in which nations subject to moral decay have not passed into a political and economic decline. There has been either a spiritual awakening to overcome the moral lapse, or a progressive deterioration leading to ultimate national disaster.

—Douglas MacArthur

A policeman's job is only easy in a police state.

—Orson Welles

I'm astounded by people who want to 'know' the universe when it's hard enough to find your way around Chinatown.

—Woody Allen

Conservatives define compassion not by the number of people who receive some kind of government aid but rather by the number of people who no longer need it.

—Jack Kemp

We would like to say that those guys in our legislature tax our patience, but we don't want to give them any ideas.

—Herm Albright

He that falls in love with himself will have no rivals.

—Benjamin Franklin

The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.

—Herbert Spencer

In every American community you have varying shades of political opinion. One of the shadiest of these is the liberals. An outspoken group on many subjects—ten degrees to the left of center in good times, and ten degrees to the right of center if it affects them personally.

—Phil Ochs

When virtue and modesty enlighten her charms, the lustre of a beautiful woman is brighter than the stars of heaven, and the influence of her power it is in vain to resist.

—Akhenaton

Conservatism favors the restraint of government. A little government and a little luck are necessary in life, but only a fool trusts either of them.

—P.J. O'Rourke

I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue!

—Senator Barry Goldwater

Love is a fire. But whether it is going to warm your hearth or burn down your house, you can never tell.

—Joan Crawford

A society that puts equality—in the sense of equality of outcome—ahead of freedom will end up with neither equality nor freedom. The use of force to achieve equality will destroy freedom, and the force, introduced for good purposes, will end up in the hands of people who use it to promote their own interests.

—Milton Friedman

Women are made to be loved, not understood.

—Oscar Wilde

Self-help books are making life downright unsafe. Women desperate to catch a man practice all the ploys recommended by these authors. Bump into him, trip over him, knock him down, spill something on him, scald him, but meet him.

—Florence King

How do you tell a Communist? Well, it's someone who reads Marx and Lenin. And how do you tell an anti-Communist? It's someone who understands Marx and Lenin.

—Ronald Reagan

Sometimes democracy must be bathed in blood.

—Augusto Pinochet

When my sister and I were growing up, there was never any doubt in our minds that men and women were equal, if not more so.

—Al Gore

Well, sure, the government lies, and the newspapers lie. But in a democracy, they aren't the same lies.

—Alexis A. Gilliland

Democracy and socialism have nothing in common but one word, equality. But notice the difference: while democracy seeks equality in liberty, socialism seeks equality in restraint and servitude.

—Alexis de Tocqueville

Love is the delightful interval between meeting a beautiful girl and discovering that she looks like a haddock.

—John Barrymore

It is unfortunately very true that, without leisure and money, love can be no more than an orgy of the common man. Instead of being a sudden impulse full of ardor and reverie, it becomes a distastefully utilitarian affair.

—Charles Baudelaire

To make certain that crime does not pay, the government should take it over and try to run it.

—G. Norman Collie

Run for your life from any man who tells you that money is evil. That sentence is the leper's bell of an approaching looter. So long as men live together on earth and need means to deal with one another—their only substitute, if they abandon money, is the muzzle of a gun.

—Ayn Rand