

# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

V E R I T A S S I N E D O L O

## **ALSO INSIDE:**

**BURNING DOWN THE BUSH**

**PRIMARY SOURCE LIMERICKS**

**SPRING BREAK WITH THE BACOWS**



## **OUR BIAS RESPONSE TEAM**

# THE PRIMARY SOURCE:



**STRIKING FEAR IN THE HEARTS OF LEFTISTS SINCE 1982.**

Meetings every Tuesday at 10:00pm in the Zamparelli Room, Mayer Campus Center

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# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Vol. XXI • The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University • No. 10

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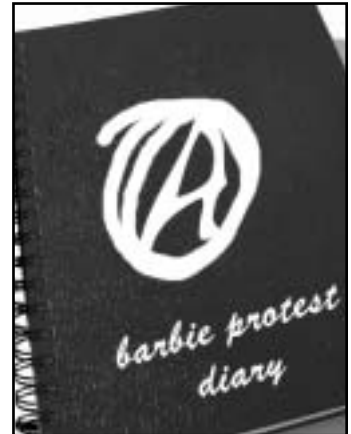
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# Biased Diversity

When a student writes on another student's whiteboard, "Stop cooking Asian food and stinking up our hall," it's chalked up to bias. Of course, this could be a completely factual statement—the food could be Asian, and it could smell horrible—but that doesn't matter to the Bias Response Team. The statement might hurt someone's feelings, someone who is so delusional that they might think their ethnic cuisine could *never* smell bad. In fact, it may not be the ethnic aspect of their cooking that is distasteful. Some strong smelling foods smell bad in every culture, but the leftists won't let you see it as anything less than a personally directed, hateful attack. It may show a dislike of Asian food, but that doesn't translate to hatred of Asian people.

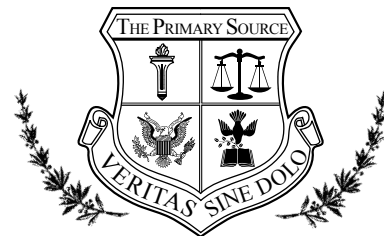
On the other hand, when an ex-President of the United States comes to campus, leftists throw out the rulebook. Replaced with profanity and hate-filled words, "bias" and "intolerance" are no longer part of their vocabulary. Suddenly it is okay to resort to behavior the rest of the campus—the mature students—haven't employed since childhood. When George H.W. Bush spoke at the Fares Lecture, the leftists turned their backs on the former Leader of the Free World; they shouted derogatory remarks during his speech and made obscene gestures.

Even former TCU senator Ariana Flores stood up with a few other leftists, holding a banner and shout at Bush. Yes, this is the same Ariana Flores who shouted at backers of Amendment III (to get rid of the culture rep vote) last spring, saying their support was based on "prejudice against gays and people of color." Of course, their support of the amendment was based on democracy, but she focused on portraying supporters as anti-diversity. But what was she during the Bush speech, if not horrifically biased and anti-diversity? She and her cohorts did not even allow their opponent to peacefully voice his opinions as scheduled. How is this giving peace a chance, if the opponent can barely deliver his speech?

Fortunately, President Bacow condemned their behavior before the speech. This, of course, did not stop them, but it did show our guests that the rest of the University does not enjoy associating ourselves with these leftists, especially at such events. It seems obvious, but many people around the world could use the reminder that campus protestors are a small minority. An Associated Press story told of what were to "be the biggest campus demonstrations since the Vietnam War." *The Wall Street Journal*, however, crunched the numbers for schools across the country, and the lowest percentage of *non-protestors* was 93%. At Tufts, if we have 200 protestors, there are still 96% of us not protesting. (And, thanks to some creative Jumbos, a slightly smaller percentage on campus even staged an anti-protest, demanding oil for their SUVs, tuna-free dolphins, and acknowledgement of Hansel's hotness right now.)

We would all do well to remind ourselves, as well as the Bias Response Team, exactly what these protestors stand for: prejudice and intolerance. How many Tufts students hate minorities, or any other group of people? Hopefully none. Even if one insists that some Jumbos hate certain groups, those allegedly hated groups have never needed a police SWAT team for protection from hordes of protestors, many brought in from off campus.

Imagine, however, that we were so cruel. Imagine that whenever Ariana spoke about culture reps, some turned their backs, others shouted, and still others held up obscene signs. Fortunately for her, those of us who disagree with her have a genuine interest in diversity of thought, and are willing to patiently listen.

THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE  
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# Letters

To Whom it may concern,

I live in the neighborhood and am not a student of Tufts, actually I chose the military over college in 1994. I just wanted to commend you folks, I was in shock when I heard of a conservative angle on a College campus, are you sure you really exist? This is too good to be true. Anyhow, here is the main reason for my contact, I am really tired of the Anti-War/Anti-Bush/Anti-American protesters that have been lauded for the past two months. They do not speak for me and for me to sit at home means I give them consent (sound familiar?). I have been counter protesting in Medford Square every Saturday from 10 am - noon, actually it is dual purpose. Not only is it a counter protest, but also a Patriotic rally of sorts in support of the troops in a war that we have already been in for months now? It is rumored that a local VFW is going to join the rally this Saturday with a sizable amount of vets with signs and American flags (war protesters see our flag like a cross to a vampire). I figured I would try to find some folks to join the ranks, also perhaps you could divulge some info of upcoming war protests in the area to counter besides Medford sq. I have sent an email to Jay Severin at 96.9 fm talk to try to use them as a platform as well. Anyhow, feel free to join us and God Bless America!

Ronald Groves

To the Editor:

As a frenchman at Tufts, I feel both shocked and outraged by your article "fifty reasons to be glad you're not french". It is certainly not denying the Constitutional Right of Freedom of Speech to say that this article is one xenophobic and purely racist. Using the word "smelly" is more than an ad hominem attack: it is a humiliation that I can't tolerate. I have never been insulted like that; my family, however, has: it was during the second World War and they were jewish. I hope you'll understand that neither myself or any of my French compatriots and American friends will accept this.

Pierre Fournier

To the Editor:

Though I consider myself a liberal, I read the SOURCE from time to time just to see what other viewpoints are. But I must say your article in your last issue, "Iraq and Roll," entitled "50 reasons why you should be glad you're not

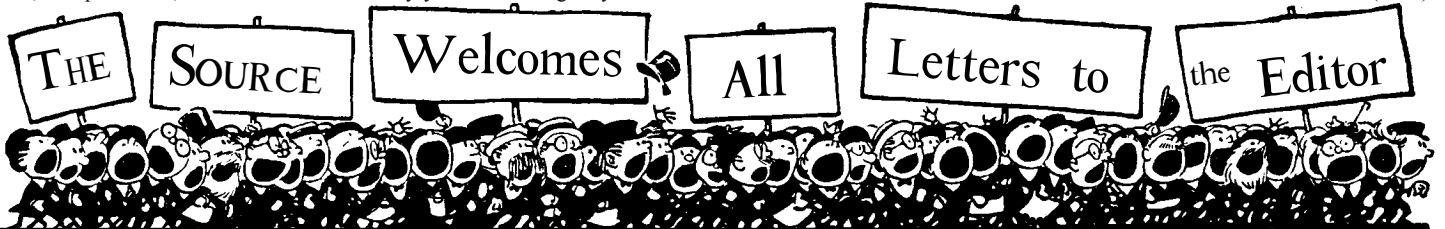
French" (or something like that) insulted me beyond what any assault on my political beliefs would have. This is not a "hate letter," it's just to let you know that I was very disappointed as I would have never expected people of maturity to publish something like that. Although it did state a few political opinions, it hinged on low-blow insults by attacking the French people based on American stereotypes and misconceptions. That article is a disgusting example of how low people are willing to stoop, thinking themselves funny, in order to attract attention to their argument, whatever it may be.

Daphne La Bua (J '06)

To the Editor:

Christian Miller's article "Reclaiming Goddard Chapel" makes a valid point that as representatives of the Catholic community, the leaders of CCT have the responsibility to exemplify the ideals of the Catholic Church. What this article fails to take into account, however, is that any religion, including Catholicism, is still open to thought and interpretation. Miller's article makes the assertion that since Catholic scripture encourages the support and promotion of any "just war," it would logically follow that the CCT should support "just war" as well. This may be true, but the leaders of Tufts' Catholic community are still given the liberty of determining for themselves, in good Catholic moral fashion, their own definition "justness." The presidents of the CCT have just as much validity in their perception of whether the US-Iraq conflict is a "legitimate defense by military force" as any other member of the Tufts student body. I find it hard to believe that the educated, active and chosen delegates of the CCT acted rashly and without thought to the consequence when they signed the TCOWI petition. Shouldn't their anti-war statement be even more impacting, as it came from not just an academic background, but from a standpoint steeped in Catholic virtue? By publicly concurring with the TCOWI, the CCT is not doing the Tufts Catholic community a disservice. Quite the opposite, the leaders of the CCT are using their position as role models to its fullest capacity by putting themselves on the line for what they consider to be true Catholic ideals. I, for one, would much prefer a leader who stands undaunted in their moral and religious beliefs to one who sits silently and unthinkingly in inaction.

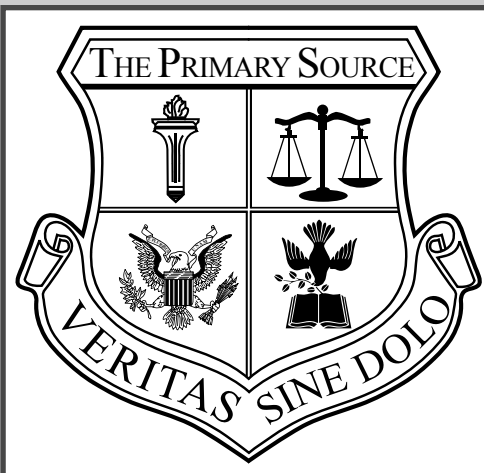
Sarah Dale (J '03)



The SOURCE welcomes all letters to the editor. Please address all correspondence to [submissions@TuftsPrimarySource.org](mailto:submissions@TuftsPrimarySource.org)

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About  
*\*But Everyone Else Was Afraid to Tell You*

# TUFTS\*



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# Commentary

## If You Build It, They Still Won't Come

Prior to Former President George H. W. Bush's lecture, a number of students vocally expressed dissent for this year's choice for the Fares Lecture, many of them claiming a desire for an open debate either in addition to or instead of the speech. Although some of these people participated in an anti-Bush rally outside Gantcher, others chose to attend the lecture itself and indicate their opposition by remaining seated during standing ovations, refraining from applause, or turning their backs to the stage. Other students, however, decided that the time and place allotted for the former president to speak was also their time and place to voice dissent. The inappropriate and immature behavior of these select few students not only reflected poorly on the University, but hurt their own cause by turning them into objects of ridicule. These outbursts were an unwelcome disruption of Bush's speech and received a response of annoyed murmuring and shushing by the remainder of the audience.

As much as some students complained about not being allowed to ask questions directly to the former president, and even though they insisted that they wanted a forum in which they could express their viewpoints, attendance was pitiful when the University provided them with such a symposium. So why then, did these so-called champions of free speech fail to attend the very forum they had requested?

Likely, they were not seeking a free exchange of thought at all, but rather attention from an ex-president and a room full of 4,800 peers. After all, their form of protesting may be counterproductive, but for them, it's a whole lot of fun. Engaging in an intellectual debate, on the other hand, requires some actual knowledge of the subject matter and the ability to incorporate both reason and logic into spoken word. Clearly, our campus protestors recognized their limitations in this capacity.

## Pay Two Fees, Get One Activity

Until recently, TCU groups have been able to double charge students for events. By funding the event with TCU money, and then charging admission, groups have been able to more easily raise money for charity. In a commendable move, the TCU senate, led by ALBO, passed a bylaw to clearly enforce honesty in student organization spending. The bylaw reads, "Any organization which does not budget income for an event may not sell tickets or charge money in exchange for admission to the event."

If such a policy were not in place, a student group could arbitrarily charge money for TCU funded events, and use it without any approval by the TCU. Activities with admission fees would become less accessible to the student body. The money could go toward funding some disallowed activities, such as donations to outside organizations. The Student Activities Fee should not be squandered. If there is no use for the money on campus, then it should not be taken from the students in the first place.

This makes perfect sense from a budgetary standpoint. All it means is that a group, if it seeks additional income, must declare its intentions to do so in their budget. This rule would prevent campus groups from abusing the system. Until February, the idea behind the bylaw was not fully enforced and was not understood by many student organizations.

The Leonard Carmichael Society, which prides itself on charitable fundraising, routinely uses undeclared income for donations. The mission of LCS is to provide opportunities for volunteer service. If students want to volunteer to work with charitable organizations, they may still do so; the new bylaw does not affect this. Charity involves some degree of voluntary action on the part of the donor. Students may not necessarily consider the admission price to be a donation, so taking money from the TCU is not an act of charity

on behalf of the student body. It is simply stealing from the cookie jar, just because it is there. Rather than relying on the crutch of ticket sales, LCS should encourage charitable donations. In the real world, people do have to work hard to get donations. It is never as easy as filling out paperwork and receiving a few thousand dollars in a yearly stipend.

Enforcing the bylaw may save the community many thousands of dollars. This savings will manifest itself in the form of better student activities for the entire campus. More importantly, the bylaw strengthens the meaning of charity—what more could LCS have asked for? The Senate is doing its job in representing the interests of the students first, not the interests of Medford, Somerville, or the communities around Tufts.



## Put That in Your Pipe

With smoking areas about to be phased out in Boston bars and clubs, it was only a matter of time before some bleeding heart proposed that the same be done in Tufts' dormitories. With smokers being cast into the cold and cooped up in airport smoking areas all over the country, this may seem like no big deal. To those who pay for campus housing and who also smoke, however, this is an outrage.

Smoking regulations in dorms are already quite strict. When smoking in one's room, one must do so with the door closed, and smoking in common rooms and hallways is prohibited. Furthermore, sensitive smoke alarms in some rooms prevent residents from smoking with any frequency. As if this were not enough, Tufts already has substance-free housing for those who cannot tolerate it. In short, avoiding the smell of cigarette smoke at Tufts is about as hard as avoiding conservative professors.

So, if one should desire to smoke a cigarette in one's room with the door closed, what harm could possibly ensue? Some might believe that the intense toxins found in second-hand smoke can take years off your life at the first whiff. Many realize, however, that while second-hand smoke may cause damage when one must spend extended periods of time with smokers in poorly ventilated areas, the occasional indirect inhalation of the scent of smoke is not enough to cause any damage worth writing home about. The amount of smoke in the halls is about as minimal as possible. Anyone who thinks he has cause to complain about excessive cigarette smoke in the halls must have been living in a bubble his whole life because smoking at Tufts is not nearly as prevalent as at many colleges.

A smoking ban in dormitories is nothing more than an unnecessary infringement on students' rights. If banning cigarette smoke is near the top of the Tufts' to-do list, students should wonder whether they are making the most productive use of their funds in paying tuition at this University. Why don't we try to focus on other more important issues—like why money is being spent on cheese castles at Dewick—before villainizing smoking? Consuming a legal product in one's own private space should be completely within the realm of students' rights.

## Boxing in bin Laden

US bounty hunters are one step closer to finding Osama bin Laden, but there is still a long way to go. The March 1, 2003 arrest of al-Qaeda strongman Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the third in command for the al-Qaeda network, is a step in the right direction for the FBI, CIA, and the Bush administration.



Mohammed has been connected to the USS Cole bombing in 2000, as well as to Richard Reid, who attempted to light a shoe bomb on an American airliner. Along with the arrest of Mohammed, officials arrested Mustafa Ahmed al-Hawsawi, who funneled cash to Mohammed Atta to pay the 9/11 hijackers. Mohammed was working on plans for a terrorist attack while in his Pakistani motel room. By capturing Mohammed, the FBI and CIA prevented his terrorist plans from developing.

Already a year and a half after the 9/11 attacks, the capture of Mohammed signifies the United States' persistence and commitment to halting terrorist organizations. Although public fervor may have died down when compared to sentiment immediately following the attacks, the United States has not forgotten the events of 9/11. The arrest shows that the United States has not slowed down its effort to find those responsible for the attacks. Also, the arrest serves as an important step in accomplishing the first of President Bush's points under his National Security Strategy: defending peace by fighting terrorists and tyrants.

The capture of Mohammed, however, is no reason for President Bush to jump the gun in the War on Terror. In a speech after the capture, President Bush stated, "The man who masterminded the 9/11 attacks is no longer a problem to the United States of America." Mohammed's arrest does not mean that the United States is one step away from finding Osama bin Laden or destroying the al-Qaeda network. The FBI and CIA now have Mohammed's documents with the names of hundreds of al-Qaeda members, twelve of whom are currently under US surveillance, and they may find links to bin Laden, but this hunt is far from over. Bin Laden is still a problem for the United States, and as war with Iraq approaches, terrorist organizations are an even greater risk to national security.

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

*Comedy is allied to Justice.*

—Aristophanes

**PS** Fraternities and sororities have historically been segregated at the University of Alabama. President Robert Witt is encouraging racial diversity in the Greek social system by starting a Turkish house.

**PS** Two freight trains heading in opposite directions on parallel tracks collided in New Orleans. Officials could not say immediately when the accident occurred, but they have since been told that one left Dallas at 8am, traveling 60 mph, and the other left Miami at 10am, traveling 90 mph...

**PS** Whites in Alabama live, on average, more than three years longer than blacks, a state health department study found. Life expectancy for blacks has dramatically increased, however, ever since the whites stopped lynching them.

**PS** A fast-growing aquatic weed called Eurasian water milfoil has choked some west-central Idaho lakes, according to Roger Batt, the State Weed Awareness Coordinator. Blatt was insistent on an "immediate joint-subcommittee meeting" and proceeded to search the room for some nachos.

**PS** Oconomowoc Mayor Gary Kohlenberg wants the city to be the first in Wisconsin to conduct elections through the Internet. Under the proposed system, the votes of elected officials will be auctioned off on eBay.

**PS** Four American Indian tribes in South Dakota asked a federal court to stop construction of a shooting range near the sacred Bear Butte site. Tribe leaders say noise from the shooting range will be a distraction to tribal ceremonies. They also voiced concern that the shooting range would draw customers away from their Wild-West themed casino.

**PS** Hundreds of people gathered in Boston last week both in support of and against war with Iraq. But one group, demonstrating in biker boots and chaps, insisted they weren't taking sides. They were, however, taking numbers from all the "cute college boys" passing them.

**PS** Critics say a West Virginia statue honoring women veterans isn't feminine enough. Some opponents, including several senators, say the muscular figure should have softer edges and be in a skirt. While the designer says the statue itself can't be changed, he is having an exact replica of June Cleaver's kitchen erected around the figure.

**PS** A North Dakota woman was trapped in her car after a group of turkeys stopped her from getting out in Towner County. According to officials, the turkeys were raised on a Rocklake farm but left to fend for themselves when the farm family left. Local conservative politicians say that this just reinforces their stance on the breakdown of the traditional family.

**PS** Jean-Charles Cuillandre and other astronomers atop Mauna Kea in Hawaii will be using the French-built Megacam, the world's largest camera, in hopes of discovering dozens of new moons throughout the solar system. While the first reports aren't due until 2004, inspectors already plan to ask for more time.

**PS** Locals were surprised at French involvement, noting that usually it's the Japanese tourists who carry the really, really complicated cameras.

**PS** Police have arrested five Greenwich High School students for planning to hold up a stationery store with a plastic gun. A friend of one detainee shook her head in sad disapproval, noting that kids these days will do senseless things for high quality writing paper.

**PS** Six Cuban migrants landed their homemade boat in Key West on guarded US Navy property, then wandered through town before authorities caught them. It was the second undetected landing last month despite heightened security. When contacted, Tom Ridge commented, "I *told* them it was an orange day..."

**PS** Plans have been unveiled for a proposed Kansas Underground Salt Museum. Visitors will be able to tour galleries, theaters and historical and geological exhibits. Conveniently, the new museum is located right next to the ever-popular Kansas Underground Popcorn Museum.

**PS** A Yellowstone National Park management plan allows bison that wander out of the park to be slaughtered if they cannot be herded back within its boundaries. In a related story, the SOURCE staff will be spending Spring Break on the border of Yellowstone with shotguns and a big bottle of A1.

**PS** A British marijuana campaigner, who changed his legal name to Free R Cannabis, was sentenced to two months jail time for auctioning the drug at a demonstration. Charges include drug possession, intent to distribute, and false advertising.

**PS** With war looming on the horizon, we at the SOURCE take very seriously the proposal that Saddam Hussein be allowed to live out his life in exile while the Iraqi government is rebuilt. With only Mr. Hussein's comfort in mind, we bring you:

Top Ten Places where Saddam can spend his exile:

10. Elba
9. Martin Sheen's house
8. Torra Bora
7. Tufts' Catholic Center
6. Babylonia—oh, wait...
5. Riker's Island
4. At the bowling alley with Jeff Lebowski
3. Dancing to musical numbers with Satan
2. Pyongyang
1. France



# From the Elephant's Mouth

☞ The Senate passed a bylaw preventing student organizations from double charging in order to collect money for charity. THE ELEPHANT hopes ALBO eliminates its biggest charitable donation by defunding the *Observer*... **Vous êtes en retard:** After printing Super Bowl coverage a week too late, the *Observer* boldly tried to cover another timely event. "How to Have a Great Mardi Gras" might have been relevant, if their issue had come out before **vendredi**... Even more confusing, the Mardi Gras piece appears in the table of contents under "**In Every Issue.**" Assuming they didn't make a mistake, maybe they'll eventually get the **timing** right.

☞ In the latest *Observer*, **Justin Race** writes, "Republicans, whatever else they may be, at least in one respect resemble a fine wine—they take years to develop. Liberals often need no further sustenance than their own youth." THE ELEPHANT thinks that quote is almost as hot as **Matt Edmundson's** last *Observer* cover.

☞ Jamie Lynn Sigler, aka **Meadow Soprano**, spoke about eating disorders, saying, "I ate everything in sight." Maybe she should have taken the gun and left the **cannolis**...



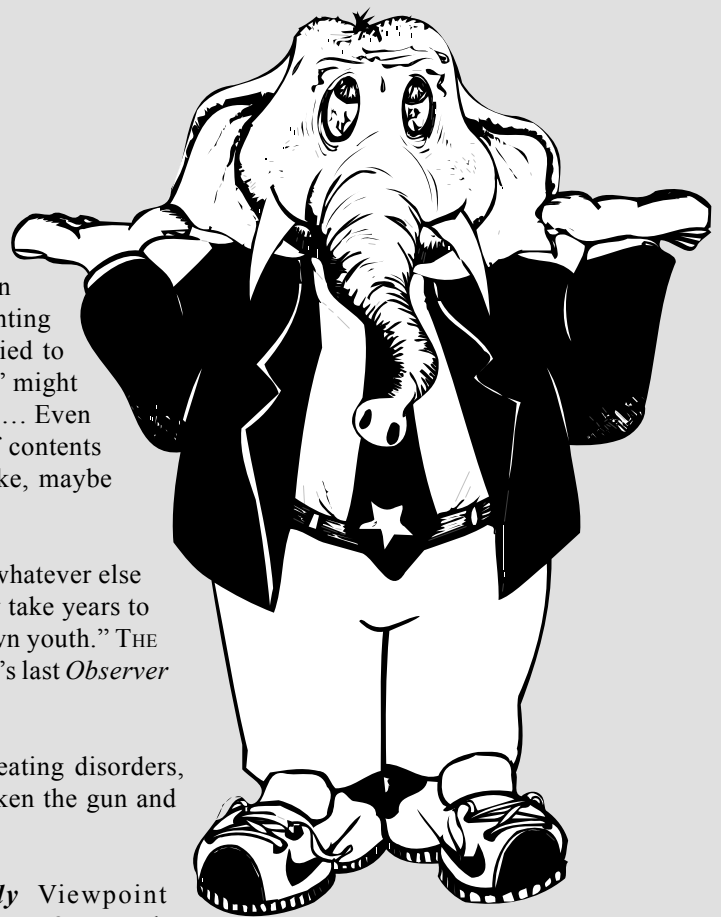
**Anti-Protestors, so hot right now.**

☞ In a *Daily* article on Jumbos being paid to send **spam email**, **Adam Cooper** proudly displayed his inbox in a front-page photo. Judging by lists he's joined, his fetishes include "**nasty moms making seks** [*sic*]" and "**proficient maniacs.**" Looking more closely, THE ELEPHANT found an urgent message about his **dog**...

☞ 67% of **Beelzebubs** are **single**. THE ELEPHANT would make a joke here, but **two-thirds** of SOURCE editors are too.

☞ Students and professors participated in a panel on the impending war after the **Fares Lecture**, but only ten students and a handful of professors were in the audience. Rather than legitimate intellectual disagreements, it seems these leftists just have a bad case of **mad TCOWI disease**... And, even if the protestors were busy that night, the rest of the campus wasn't. Even the **No Homers Club** was able to pack Hotung...

☞ THE ELEPHANT never forgets.



☞ In a *Daily* Viewpoint **Maura McCarthy** defended the proposed moratorium on classes, stating that "learning is not confined to a classroom setting." The more important lesson is that the Viewpoints are not restricted to people with **critical thinking skills**... In her column, **Amber Madison** writes that in New Orleans "fully-grown men and women scream and clamor over one another for cheap plastic beads." THE ELEPHANT thinks she meant "fully-grown, mature male men and female women scream, shout, yell, and clamor over each other for cheap, inexpensive, **carbon-based plastic jewelry beads**"... One Wednesday, a *Daily* front-page photo clearly displayed **sex toys**. Thank God Amber didn't try to use it as a **diagram** in her column.



**Campus leftists make fools of themselves on national TV.**

*The Fares Lecture might have lit the path to understanding, had anyone listened.*

# Burning Down the Bush

by J. Slavich

Former President George H. W. Bush's speech at the annual Fares Lecture was not undermined by the protests of the far left, but much of the campus wrote on the generalities of the speech and its vagueness. Caught up in former President Bush's comical response to the rude and outrageous protests inside the

Gantcher Center by members of the Tufts community, many have overlooked some interesting points of Bush's remarks.

The speech, although vague, did have some interesting substance regarding his past actions and current events in the Middle East. Much of what he had to say was relatively simple and maintained an underlying theme of peace and "hope over hate." But those not expecting this were setting themselves up for a fall.

Obviously, Bush was not going to offer any new insights to the war debate or a solution to the current Iraq crisis. He would not be one to second-guess the current policy and strategies because he is a loyal member of the Republican Party. Also significant, his son is President. Bush Sr. would not publicly criticize his own son's administration nor steal the thunder of announcing new strategies in the Middle East.

Bush did add several arguments about reasons for going to war. He pointed out that many anti-war advocates, particularly those on the Tufts campus, who use the "no blood for oil" argument against action in Iraq, have faulty logic. He noted that back in the Gulf War "it was about liberating a sovereign nation...and it wasn't about the United States trying to get control of Middle East oil."

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

Bush also noted that the United States already receives enough oil to fulfill its needs from other sources and is not seeking "regional hegemony." Both Bush the elder and Bush the younger see possible war as a means to stop a ruthless dictator from his continued defiance of international law and the United Nations for the last 12 years.

This is where Bush Sr. took the usual line of the current administration, citing Iraq's failure to comply with international law and the horrible treatment of Iraqi people. Answering critics on US intervention, Bush said, "It's about making Saddam Hussein give up his insane quest for weapons of mass destruction, weapons he's used against Iran, and even his own people before something happens to make 9/11 look mild by comparison." He did not, however, attempt to tie al-Qaeda to Iraq in his remarks at Tufts. This is a curious omission, showing either that he does not see a clear link or that he thinks the issue is too contentious to bring up on the Tufts campus.

Bush did not push for war in his speech. He made sure to go out of his way to mention that his son does not want to rush to war either. What he suggested instead was that his

son was using pressure to cause disarmament of Saddam Hussein. Bush noted, "[the president] shares the innately human desire to avoid a conflict where innocent people might lose their lives."

Those critical of the current president's strategies overlook the fact that without the pressure the United States and other countries have placed on Iraq, disarmament would not even be a current option. The elder Bush drew the audience's attention to the fact that the current president "shares the hope that this disarmament can be accomplished peacefully" and that the easiest way to bring about disarmament is through united pressure from America and its allies.

Another interesting insight gleaned from the lecture is that the elder Bush saw Iraq as a way to jumpstart the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians. Bush pointed out the chance for peace in the Middle East when he referred to the Madrid talks during his presidency. He saw these talks as a result of the success of Desert Storm, and it is quite possible that the current president is taking the same line. Whether their reasoning is faulty or not, both the elder Bush and the current resident see Iraq as a major hurdle to peace in the region.

For once this year, there was at least an attempt made at intellectual diversity on campus. The Bush lecture was a chance for this liberal campus to hear a conservative

viewpoint on Iraq in a large forum. Unfortunately, this was marred by the Left's insistence on closing their ears, minds, and even turning their backs to any dissenting viewpoints. Those points voiced by former President Bush included optimism for peace in the Middle East, outreach for conflict resolution, and support for international cooperation. But for radical leftists, Bush's adherence to conservatism render his themes immoral. □





*From the makers of Anti-War Cheerleader Barbie™*

by



# Barbie's Protest Diary



*Ever wonder how Anti-War Cheerleader Barbie keeps track of all her exciting adventures with "Free Mumia" Ken and Social Justice Skipper? Well, now you can read her diary, full of amazing stories from the front lines of the most important protests worldwide! There's space for you to write your own stories about sticking it to the Man and even tips for coming up with cool new anti-establishment rhymes!*

*Take a peek at what Barbie has in store for you!*

Tuesday

Dear Diary,

Today Vegan Vanessa and I went to a totally cool rally against overthrowing third-world dictators. She's so good at explaining how war is really just the patriarchal manifestation of the link between violent male sexuality and eating meat. After getting tear-gassed, we decided to call it a day and go pick out new hair colors! I think I'm going to make mine Feminist Fuchsia tomorrow night!!

wednesday

Dear Diary,

Wow! Do I have some great things to talk about! Last night, Nonviolent Nancy and I burned down a mink farm to rescue all the animals from their oppressive and genocidal overlord. But we were totally busted! Hehehe!! After a night at the jail (AGAIN!), we went out and stole some adorable new skirts to wear to the Oxfam benefit concert next week! I sure am glad that I can look great and screw the corporate machine at the same time!

Thursday

Dear Diary,

OMG!!! Mohawk Marisa thinks Transgendered Todd is cute! And I totally know that they have so much in common. Like, Todd would so dig Marisa's new upside-down American flag tattoo, and Marisa totally respects Todd's identity as a lesbian trapped in a man's body. Ooo! Maybe I can get them together at the fast food victims vigil next week. They could share a candle so that we won't have to release any more carbon into the atmosphere than is absolutely necessary to show our unity. Awesome!!

*Someday you could be a hip, trendy, Ms.-magazine-reading, bleeding heart pinko! Just like Barbie!  
Solar Honda Moped sold separately.*

# PRIMARY SOURCE



Larry and Adele hosted trustees,  
 At Gifford House, aiming to please.  
 All went smoothly until,  
 They looked up the Hill,  
 And saw naked drunks run in the breeze.

There once was a man from France.  
 A vile dictator he did finance.  
 His name was Chirac,  
 And he wouldn't attack  
 To give the Iraqis a chance.



Ex-president Bush came to speak,  
 And his opponents refused to be meek.  
 They blew on their whistles,  
 Gave the finger to missiles,  
 But it was hardly a damning critique.

For open discussion begged Carlis,  
 As the Fares Lecture provides far less.  
 His request was granted,  
 But Carlis transplanted.  
 Rotting in a jail cell is our guess.



For war, a walk-out is pending,  
 Professors have a message they're sending.  
 They think it's against Bush,  
 But it's a kick in the tush  
 To those whose education it's offending.

# e Limericks

There once was a columnist Amber,  
 Who we think meant to use the word "clamber."  
 While her impolitic writing's abundant,  
 She ends up sounding redundant.  
 And to distant, far oblivion we damned her.



The Greek ladies and gents went a-drinking,  
 But they did so without even thinking.  
 Now their pledges are screwed,  
 Tufts'll probably get sued.  
 Our endowment is steadily shrinking.

The Republicans and the SOURCE went shooting.  
 The Second Amendment they were saluting.  
 A Radix member went too,  
 Though for him, guns are taboo.  
 We should let him know we're recruiting.



The TCU senate revised its laws  
 To remove the double-taxation flaws.  
 Some claim it threatens charity.  
 Voluntary donations are a rarity,  
 But we give it a round of applause!

We finally know the Spring Fling acquisitions  
 But it's one act short of tradition.  
 Guess Busta was too expensive  
 For the line-up to be more extensive.  
 Next year they'll have to raise our tuition.



# ENJOY SPRING BREAK WITH LARRY!



WOW, THIS OLYMPIC MONEY LAUNDERING SURE IS FUN!

**Salt Lake City, Utah, to visit Mormons, fully-clothed and alcohol-free.**



CARSON, WHATTUP? GRAB ME ANOTHER O'DOULS. THIS PARTY IS PHAT!

**MTV's Spring Break 2003, where he hosts TRL with Busta Rhymes.**



HOUSTON, WE HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM.

**Spring break is out of this world.**

**Unfortunately, Larry was denied access to Korea's DMZ, but he wrote a letter to the troops instead.**

**Havana, exploring the possibilities of Tufts in Cuba.**



SORRY, YOU KIDS HAVE TO TRAVEL OFF-CAMPUS FOR ROTC.



YES, ELIAN, NOW YOU CAN ATTEND TUFTS WITHOUT EVER HAVING TO FLOAT YOUR RAFT TO THE US.

# Resident Evil

by Megan Liotta

We Americans hear the word “evil” a lot these days. The media throws it around, and President Bush uses it regularly to describe our military foes. Even many Jumbos use the term to refer to particular economic systems and cultural traditions, yet many people agree that the word is used too loosely, that somehow its meaning should be more confined, its utilization limited to only the *really* evil. When discussing world affairs—a world where morals, philosophies, and human nature vary widely—no one can determine empirical evil as opposed to subjective evil.

Some people are calling the impending war in Iraq evil. President Bush and his supporters consider Saddam Hussein and his regime evil. Multiculturalists might say that they are both incorrect, but no one seems to be considering that they might both be right. Both sides of the debate are, understandably, trying to convince the other side of their respective fallacy. Neither is bringing the two together to look at the war from a third perspective. Those who oppose the war because they think America itself is evil will never be convinced of much, but those who oppose war on principle might find in this article a role for military action, not only in Iraq, but in the general world.

“Moral evil” refers to whatever causes suffering as a result of a conscious human decision. When tale after tale of atrocities flow from the mouths of the Iraqis themselves, the existence of torture, murder, deception, and even

*Miss Liotta is a senior majoring in English and Comparative Religion.*

environmental ruin under Saddam Hussein can hardly be disputed. These are all moral evils and are all hallmarks of his dictatorship. For the United States to stand idle while basic human rights are trampled is itself an evil—it too is a conscious decision that enables suffering. On the other hand, a US-led military campaign would bring with it all the horrific destruction that already characterizes Saddam’s brutality. All potential



**For the United States to stand idly by while basic human rights are trampled is itself an evil—it too is a conscious decision that leads directly to suffering.**

American courses of action are evil. The situation becomes, then, quite literally, a question of choosing what might be the lesser of two evils. Is employing evil (going to war) to eliminate evil (Saddam’s regime) better or worse than employing evil (willful neglect) to allow evil (Saddam’s regime)?

The media is flooded with images of protest, and despite the protestors’ juvenile tactics, that the US has everything to gain from a war is a difficult idea to ignore. After all, we are significantly stronger economically, and few citizens can even begin to imagine the lives of average Iraqis. Further war in their homeland would exacerbate their situation, while the US walks away with its security intact. To an extent this premise is probably true, but military action is hardly without American risk or Iraqi

gain, and all four will likely coexist. We might come away with better national security but with fewer people to enjoy it. The situation feels like a catch-22.

No matter America’s actions, Iraqis will suffer. Professor David Isles’ recent Viewpoint (“Trinity’s Light,” February 20, 2003) suggested that the US act as we did with Stalin, waiting until Saddam dies and letting Iraq figure itself out. Isles conveniently ignores (or maybe he doesn’t) the sixty years of terror, poverty, and starvation that marked Stalin’s *legacy*. He is essentially suggesting that we sit back and allow a huge number of Iraqis to be slaughtered, to allow potential subsequent genocidal dictators—and Saddam certainly has a few lined up—to take their turn until Iraq’s government works out its growing pains and becomes capable of reason, meanwhile at the likely expense of the nation’s future economic well-being.

Because predicting the level of suffering in either scenario is impossible, they might as well be equal. In either case the suffering might be long-term. So far the evils are equivalent. Any argument then—for or against action—must rely heavily on potential. If America stands idle, Iraqi suffering is guaranteed, for now. No indication that Saddam is on his way out or that the Iraqi people can fight him alone exists. If America acts, the possibility of alleviating suffering in post-war Iraq is very real, though not quite as certain. But the naïveté that drives anti-war activists to believe that inaction will erode evil is morally equivalent to allowing it to perpetuate indefinitely. Saying that anything is better than Saddam is however just as naïve. Giving Iraq a new government may be quite a challenge; with a power struggle among many well-represented minorities, the land might split into several, smaller states, as witnessed in the Balkans. Ensuring stability—and limiting evil—will be a complex project and may take years, but we can only begin that process by ousting Saddam as soon as possible. □

*Sound economic advice.*

# An Interview with AEI's Kevin Hassett

*Conducted by Steve Bleiberg*

*On Wednesday, March 6, Dr. Kevin A. Hassett of the American Enterprise Institute gave the inaugural lecture of the Marvin and Carolyn Birger Lecture Series in Economics at Tufts. THE PRIMARY SOURCE was able to sit down with Dr. Hassett before the lecture to ask him a few questions about tax policy and the economy.*

**“By the end of this year the US will have the highest tax on corporate earnings in the world, a combined tax of about 70%.”**

**PRIMARY SOURCE: We’d like to start off by asking you about tax cuts. What do you think of President Bush’s current proposal?**

Kevin Hassett: Well, the Bush proposal is, I think, long overdue. The United States is playing catch-up on tax policy in a big way. Right now, there is only one developed nation on Earth that has a higher tax on dividends. That country is Japan. I’ve just gotten word that Japan recognizes the stupidity of really high dividend taxes and is reducing its dividend rate. So, by the end of this year the US will have the highest tax on corporate earnings in the world, a combined tax of about 70%. For every dollar earned, seventy cents of a corporation’s earnings are paid in taxes at either the federal or state level.

**PS: Do you think it matters which side a tax reduction is on? Is there a difference if cuts are made in the dividend tax or the corporate income tax?**

KH: Only in terms of compliance cost. If you give corporations a deduction for dividends and then you try to limit that deduction so that they don’t get it if they pay to a nontaxable entity like a charity, then the bookkeeping becomes incredibly

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*Mr. Bleiberg is a junior majoring in Quantitative Economics.*

onerous. If there are millions of shareholders and the names of the shareholders change everyday because of trading, the company needs to know whether you’re taxable or not. It’s just too hard a problem. But if you make the individual keep track of whether the dividends are taxable or

not, it’s not that difficult because individuals can keep track of their own finances. They won’t have millions of companies to deal with, just the ones they own. Also, the individual can make the decision whether the dividend is a concern or not. The fact is that high dividend taxes introduce all sorts of terrible distortions. It’s not even a subject of debate in the economics profession. They subsidize debt finance because debt interest payments are deductible but dividends are not. So, firms have a lot more debt, and there is a vast literature that says that firms with high debt are a lot more prone to bankruptcies and layoffs and things like that. It makes our economy riskier. It’s stupid. If investors have equity when times are bad they don’t do well, when times are good they do great. On average they do better. If there is debt when times are bad, firms have to keep paying out money, and that’s why they go bankrupt.

**PS: Okay, that explains the need for a reduction in dividend taxes. But why should we have an across-the-board personal income tax cut?**

KH: When you reduce taxes, you generally get more economic activity. Nobody really disputes this, although there is some debate about how much more. When you tell people that you are going to change tax law in the future,

then you introduce weird distortions. So, for example, if the income tax three years from now is five percentage points lower than the income tax today, then if you have a lot of money you have a strong incentive to delay your income. One of the reasons why the Bush team decided to try to accelerate the rate reductions that have already passed into law into this year is that they want to put off certain distortions, those delaying tactics, and maximize the economic incentive today. I think one of the reasons why they want to do that was spelled out fairly carefully by Marty Feldstein in the *Wall Street Journal* a couple days ago is that the war and the high price of oil together will likely significantly hurt the economy this year, and if we don’t do something to offset that, then we’ll have a recession. The best medicine against a recession is some kind of permanent policy that makes things better, and that’s what they’ve proposed. The Democrats, on the other hand, have basically proposed nothing. They have a few ridiculous short-term spending programs, basically. Even their tax cut is really just a spending program. It’s just giving money to people. Every textbook that Tufts University students use to study economics teaches that temporary measures like that are not effective. Milton Friedman taught us why, but he apparently didn’t teach the Democrats.

**PS: You advised John McCain during the 2000 election. Why has Senator McCain opposed the tax cut plan?**





KH: I don't know if he's come out opposed or not. I haven't spoken with him about this. I think that whether he votes with what the Senate produces or not is still up in the air. But Senator McCain is a deficit hawk, and he always has been. I think that, to his credit, he's usually very precisely identified the culprit when deficits are a problem and that's runaway spending. He's been a champion against pork barrel spending. I think that there are deficit hawks in both parties that worry when deficits are increasing that cutting taxes will make deficits worse. For me, it's just a question of whether the tax policy is going to be one that is likely to be helpful. In the end, what determines whether we have money is mostly how healthy the economy is.

**PS: Here's a quote from an interview you gave to the AARP Bulletin in 2001: "My first choice would be to privatize some of Social Security and to use the extra revenue and to make sure you had transition costs covered, but absent that, I think that we have learned that ... when there is no money around, then there is nothing to waste." Why are tax cuts your second choice?**

KH: I wrote a book called *The Magic Mountain: A Guide to Defining and Using a Budget Surplus* with Glenn Hubbard, the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers until last Friday for President Bush. Glenn and I laid out those two main options that we thought were the best uses of the surplus. One would be using it to fund as much as possible the transition to privatizing social security, and the other would be to fund the transition towards a consumption tax.

**PS: Why did tax cuts win out?**

KH: Because I think that's what President Bush decided to do. I've spoken with the



President in a small group setting on this issue, and I believe that he is firmly committed to accomplishing both, but I'd guess that the Social Security measure would be something that would be forthcoming in the future. He's built support for that gradually over time. Now, it's a much less radical idea than it was a few years ago, and I think that might be a pretty good strategy.

**PS: What do you think about Glenn Hubbard's replacement, Gregory Mankiw?**

KH: Greg Mankiw is a wonderful guy. Some conservatives, Steve Moore, for example have wondered if he is a person who understands conservative dogma. I think he is very similar to Glenn Hubbard in that he's a part of the new generation of conservatives who believe things because they've been demonstrated scientifically to be true. I

**"The changes in the deficit that we're looking at in the United States are so small relative to the world stock of debt securities that are likely substitutable for US debt that it's just not possible that you would see much of an interest rate affect from changing deficits."**

think that's a thing that distinguishes them from the conservatives of the 1980s. At times the conservatives of the Eighties almost seem like mystics to me. Since Reagan came in the early 1980s a lot of work has been done sort of showing that a lot of what Reagan was saying was true. Mankiw is in the set of people who reads the academic literature and then decides what's true. I think there is still a very large set of academics

that are left-leaning who don't do that. They are basically interested in redistribution at any cost. I think that in the 80s there might have been equally dogmatic Republicans around, but I think now the President is leaning on people who are just students of the economy. I think that's part of a metric of the health of the movement. I think the fact that the people whose basic commitment is to figuring out what the truth is are on your side is a good sign.

**PS: Some professors have told us that the debt from cutting taxes would lead to high interest rates. What would you say in response to this?**

KH: They don't have a leg to stand on. Right now the debt to GDP ratio in Japan is around four times that in the US. Government debt from many countries are substitutes for debt from other countries. When you're thinking about what changes in deficits should do to interest rates you have to keep in mind what the marketplace is. The fact is that the changes in the deficit that we're looking at in the United States are so small relative to the world stock of debt securities that are likely substitutable for US debt that it's just not possible that you would see much of an interest rate affect from changing deficits.

*At this point Dr. Hassett discussed budget deficits and compared the American and French economies. He voiced his displeasure with French economic policies, saying that he placed great faith in the US stock market, but none in the French stock market. This confirmed our feeling that Dr. Hassett is a talented economist and good guy. Thank you, Dr. Hassett. □*

# Assume the Original Position

by Jason Walker

On February 27, 2003, Harvard's Philosophy Department held a memorial service to commemorate John Rawls, who passed away last November. Sanders Theater was only about two thirds full, belying the importance of the man who died. Rawls single-handedly resurrected political and moral philosophy in the early 1970's, and it would be no exaggeration to call him the most important political philosopher of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

I attended knowing full well that I may have been the only libertarian in the room. Some of the biggest names in philosophy were in attendance, but like Rawls himself, in almost all cases their ideologies were decidedly left of center. No shock there; finding a libertarian or conservative in any random sample of academics is difficult. I feared that the memorial would nosedive into a philosophical version of the Paul Wellstone funeral. Fortunately, other than an aside about Truman's decision to bomb Hiroshima and a worry expressed about politicians selling the "public trust to corporations," it was a very touching, tasteful tribute.

With Rawls' passing (and Robert Nozick's a scant ten months prior), the question remains for what libertarians—and conservatives—are to make of the Rawls legacy. For political scientists, legal theorists, economists, and moral and political thinkers, Rawls is a figure no one can afford to ignore. It is just as true now as in 1974, a mere three years after *A Theory of Justice* was published, when Nozick wrote, "Political philosophers now must either work within Rawls' theory or explain why not."

Before considering whether libertarians should do either, I'll attempt to summarize the essentials of Rawls' theory for the uninitiated, though capturing the subtly nuanced system Rawls left behind is impossible in a 500 page book, much less in an article.

*Mr. Walker is a graduate student in the Philosophy Department.*

**It would be no exaggeration to call Rawls the most important political philosopher of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.**

Noting that justice is the first virtue of social institutions, Rawls argues that we must first have a coherent idea of what justice is before determining how they should operate. Arguing against Marxists and utilitarians, Rawls contends justice must respect all individuals. As he puts it in the opening of *A Theory of Justice*, "[T]he rights secured by justice are not subject to political bargaining or to the calculus of social interests."

To define justice, Rawls entreats his readers to a thought experiment called the "Original Position." The Original Position is a state of pre-existence, where individuals look upon the world behind a "Veil of Ignorance" that obscures for them the place in society into which they will be born, to assure impartiality.

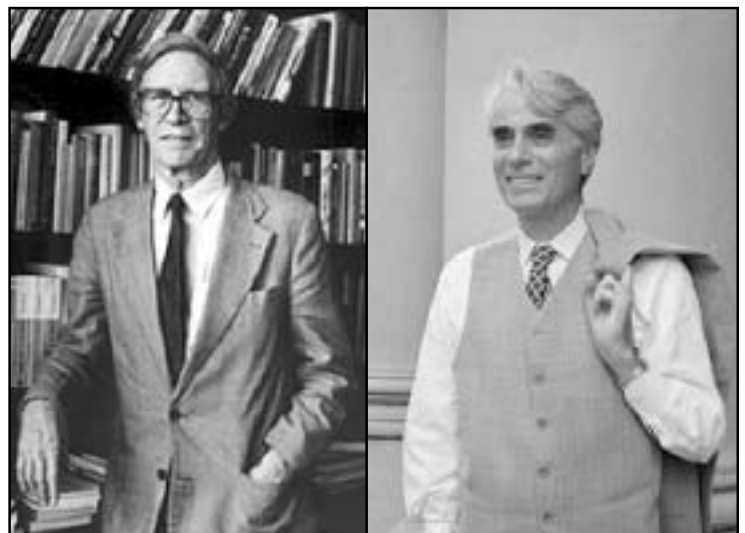
The disembodied spirits behind the Veil of Ignorance, as rational, self-interested, and well-informed agents, ultimately negotiate three principles of justice. The first principle holds that liberty must be granted to all individuals; the second, that equality of opportunity must be guaranteed. Most controversially, the third principle is the "Difference Principle," which holds that inequalities of wealth and power are justified only insofar as they benefit the least well-off since the negotiators know they could be born into society as the least well-off. Hence, Rawlsians

reject pure socialism or utilitarianism for welfare-statism, with its "rights" to health care, welfare, and the like.

Although this theory in its pure form is incompatible with libertarianism, Nozick's disjunctive, that thinkers must either work within the Rawlsian framework or offer reasons to reject it, is still pressing. Most libertarians, like Nozick and Ayn Rand, have taken the latter route. Nozick extensively (and fairly) critiqued it in his masterpiece, *Anarchy, State & Utopia*. Others, like Richard Epstein, have compellingly argued that Rawlsian libertarianism is possible. Epstein notes, for example, "Nothing that Rawls wrote repealed the law of unintended consequences." Because social welfare experiments have failed, and free markets benefit the least well-off and talented, libertarianism can be defended on Rawlsian terms.

Epstein is right, of course, that Rawls' theory provides ground for libertarianism to be argued along these lines. Even accepting Rawls' principles, a solely empirical case for libertarianism can be defended; it should not be surprising that the least talented in relatively capitalist nations tend to be far better off than under other systems.

Libertarians, however, give up too much to entertain the debate on Rawls' terms. While Rawls' first principle of liberty is refreshing, as Eric Mack puts it, that notion of liberty is only "the impoverished notion of contemporary liberals, for whom liberty consists in the expressive or lifestyle freedom to say what one wants and have sexual relations with the species of one's choice." A 95% tax, for example, would not count as a violation of liberty. Conceding the morality of this framework, even to argue for



**John Rawls (1921-2002) and Robert Nozick (1932-2002).**

libertarianism, reduces property from a right to a privilege, granted only because certain empirical considerations are favorable to keeping the State's hands off of it.

Moreover, talent drops out of the Rawlsian picture as an individually developed set of skills, refashioned as a "morally arbitrary" feature of life's lottery. One literally has no right to the rewards of one's own talents. This is akin to a "golden goose" slavery, to borrow Mack's example. What the talented are allowed to keep is not determined by their actual work, but rather by whatever minimum amount will provide them enough incentive to stay productive while maximizing resources for the untalented. Importing Epstein's libertarianism into Rawlsianism changes nothing about the talented's moral status; it only mandates that allowing the talented to keep their earnings because it just so happens that it's useful to do so. This is not justice. This is expediency.

Besides, the leftist Rawlsian can easily respond to Epstein's political realism by arguing that a theory of justice should not be based in the contingent features of abuses in the current system. Even if previous social experiments have failed or politicians have abused their power, justice can still require them to *try* to implement social programs, just as justice can still require that courts try to prosecute mafia bosses regardless of whether the system ever makes that happen properly. "Let justice be done, though the heavens fall."

There are other problems. The notion of reasoning about justice without reference to values or the wisdom of experience is paradoxical, for example. Fortunately, even if Rawls' compatibility with libertarianism is questionable, it cannot be denied that he left political and moral philosophy in far better shape than when he found it. Libertarians owe a debt to Rawls in several ways. *A Theory of Justice* revived political philosophy from the doldrums of utilitarianism and linguistic analysis and once again returned the individual and her rights to front and center. Rawls also paved the way for Nozick's libertarianism, which established libertarianism as a credible political position in the academy, even if it is not a popular one yet. But Nozick, it should be remembered, fought a more uphill battle against entrenched leftism. Rawls' system, for all of its genius, merely provided a new, stronger foundation for leftist beliefs already taken for granted in most of his audience. Rawls' place in the canon of philosophy is established, but the vitality of Nozick's and Rand's libertarianism will assure their influence for the long-term. □

# books

*Why the Left Hates America*

by Daniel J. Flynn

Prima Publishing, ISBN 0-7615-6375-X

\$23.95, hardcover

Daniel J. Flynn tackles something that is on the mind of every proud American: why do leftists, in America and abroad, hate our country?

Flynn has not written a unique book—conservative books dealing with many of the same issues have been topping the bestseller lists for quite some time. Conservatives are tempted to quickly assign praise to each of them, not just because they espouse viewpoints frequently in alignment with their own, but because they tend to be written in a refreshing, direct style that cuts through the insipid political correctness found elsewhere.

Flynn's book is written no differently and is definitely worthy of praise. In *Why the Left Hates America* Flynn goes to great, even unnecessary lengths to bring across the true depths of the hypocrisy and deceit of the Left. Flynn somewhat arbitrarily divides his book into two parts, the first devoted to exposing the true depths of leftist rhetoric, and the second serving as a rebuke to all their lies.

The first thing we learn from Flynn is that leftists can easily be categorized. Flynn distinguishes between mainstream liberals, most of whom do love their country, and true leftists with an irrational and burning contempt for America. Flynn starts early with a long list of truly dismaying stories and experiences that tell us just how serious the situation has become. We know colleges are hotbeds of leftism, and we know political correctness is deteriorating the quality of education in our schools, but we truly have no idea how destructive and pervasive it has become. One chapter leaves the reader in disbelief and worry so great that it eats at the mind for days to follow. So entrenched have self-hatred and anti-Americanism become within the school system that even official government teaching guidelines for American

history instructors make only one mention of George Washington, compared to 17 mentions of Joe McCarthy and "McCarthyism."

Just as disconcerting, but perhaps less surprising, is the recklessness with which the Left makes up, exaggerates, and distorts facts, figures, and statistics to suit their own purposes. The number of Japanese interned during World War II magically jumping from 10,000 to over 100,000 is just one of a perplexingly large number of examples. And how many people know the Japanese American Citizens League sued to keep the internment centers open after WWII was over? Needless to say, these places bear little to no resemblance to German concentration camps, to which they have been endlessly compared.

One of the strongest and most gratifying parts of this book is Flynn's "Five Big Lies" about America. Armed with extensive research, the author refutes the widespread notions that America is an environmental hazard to the world, a racist society, an imperial power, discriminatory to women, and that "the rich get richer while the poor get poorer." It is a powerful chapter that would make for productive required reading in a good number of college classes.

*Why the Left Hates America* remains effective as it strikes down claims from multiculturalists and moral relativists, though it is sometimes repetitive, focusing a bit too much on descriptions of abhorrent social practices in other cultures the leftists like to think rank above ours. Flynn remains, however, focused and fact-based throughout. Rather than attempting to rally conservatives in rabble-rousing Ann Coulter fashion, the author presents a sobering, non-inflammatory, yet extremely unsettling account of what exactly the leftists are doing to obscure our nation's greatness.

—Nicholas Boyd



*New York's kosher laws are not good for the Jews.*

# Unkosher Kosher Laws

*by Jordana Starr*

For millennia, Jews have had no problem figuring out which foods were safe to put on their plate; they simply relied on reputable religious authorities to determine kashrut. In 1915, however, the state of New York decided that ancient scripture was insufficient and put a set of state kosher laws into effect. Under these statutes, state inspectors were required to visit kosher retailers to certify that food products were processed in accordance with "Orthodox Hebrew religious requirements." Last May, the Second Circuit Appeals Court ruled these laws unconstitutional on the grounds that they resulted in an excessive entanglement between state and religion. The United States Supreme Court upheld this ruling on February 24, 2003, much to the dismay of Governor George Pataki.

Perhaps the governor is unaware that the separation of Church and State, as outlined in the First Amendment of the Constitution, prohibits the participation of government in religious affairs. Requiring that food labeled as kosher satisfy a specific set of religious requirements is certainly not the business of the state, but of the companies who permit their stamps to be printed on food packaging. The only power the state can rightfully exert is to protect consumers from fraud, and the only acceptable way of doing so is preventing businesses from claiming certification they do not have. The certification itself can only come from private companies such as the Orthodox Union, Organized Kashrut, Triangle K, or Star-K Kosher Certification. These brands, among others, are widely

*Miss Starr is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.*

recognized among the Jewish community with familiar "OU," "OK," "▲K," and "★K" stamps. Sure, any company can proclaim their foods kosher, but only products which have been approved by these organizations can rightfully bear these logos. Jews know this, and are perfectly capable of making grocery-shopping decisions based on that knowledge.

Once the power to determine kashrut is removed from the hands of private organizations and consumers, the state must then attempt to take up that responsibility. Because a secular government cannot accurately define and label all of the many different forms and varieties of kashrut in accordance with Jewish law, tradition, and practice,

the New York state government chose one set of guidelines to be a blanket definition of kosher. Discrepancies between the various definitions of kosher led the government to choose one of the more strict set of kosher guidelines reasoning that, after all, if it's kosher for more observant Jews, than it's still kosher for less observant Jews. However, items considered kosher by Reform and Conservative Jews, but not Orthodox Jews, are still deemed non-kosher under this law. As a result, foods prepared under Conservative guidelines for kashrut may not be labeled kosher by law, or the producers will find themselves facing hefty fines.

This problem leads to the case of the kosher butcher on Long Island who filed the initial suit against the State of New York. A Conservative rabbi, and

not an Orthodox rabbi assigned by the state, had been overseeing his business. Since this did not satisfy the kosher laws, the butcher was repeatedly cited and fined by the New York Division of Kosher Law Enforcement, even though his meat satisfied requirements for kosher preparation by Conservative Jewish standards. The debate over the standards of kashrut *could* have become a heated quarrel between Conservative and Orthodox Jews, if it weren't for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court's ruling, rendering the issue moot. The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment prohibits government from giving any preference to a religion or a religious sect, which naturally applies to discrimination against Conservative and Reform Jews in favor of Orthodox Jews.

Regardless of this decision, Governor Pataki feels that these inspections are necessary for protecting consumers from fraud and has announced intentions for the statutes to be reworded. Essentially, the inspectors themselves would still go about their business as usual, confirming that kosher businesses received a seal of approval from an Orthodox authority. In other words, Pataki intends to use legal rhetoric to circumvent the Court's decision and continue with the state's unconstitutional, discriminatory practices.

It may take a repeated beating over the head with a Cato Pocket Constitution for Pataki to recognize the illegality and unjustness of such statutes. Simply put, government regulation of religious practices is unconstitutional for a reason: it institutionalizes bias. Instead of enforcing a government definition of kosher, let the

free-market reign and arm citizens with the power of the dollar. Kosher is in the eye of the consumer. □



*PETA calls it the Holocaust on your plate; I call it tasty.*

# Soup Nazis

by Robert Lichter

While I was entering Star Market in Porter Square last fall, I saw a woman with a poster-size photograph of kittens. One man walked by her, and she shouted sternly, "Sign the petition!" After he walked past without signing, she ran after him, petition in hand. Unfazed, he continued on his way—sure, the kittens on the poster were cute, but they did not appeal to his sense of guilt. The woman failed to get the man's signature

because "cute" did not shock him into an emotion-based submission. The folks at PETA, however, know how to turn truth upside down and inside out in order to achieve the greatest bang for the emotional buck. The organization recently launched their most vicious and most unfounded assault on reality with a new "Holocaust on Your Plate" campaign.

German Jewish philosopher Theodor Adorno stated, "Auschwitz begins whenever someone looks at a slaughterhouse and thinks: they're only animals." Of course, he's right—they are more than animals; they're food and clothing too. But Auschwitz? It seems more like a good Thanksgiving—with Turducken instead of Tofurkey—than like a German death camp. Still, PETA insists on comparing Himmler, who did not consider his victims human, to owners of processing plants, whose victims are *not* human—a minor detail they conveniently overlook. There is also the small detail that livestock are not unhappy in a pen. Pigs are happiest when lounging in a lovely puddle of mud, and there is no innate cruelty in confining cows in a pasture. The same is not true of humans. Humans yearn for freedom; chickens do not yearn for anything.

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PETA's "Holocaust on Your Plate" campaign is made all the more outrageous by the increased danger of a backlash against mainstream humane organizations, which have accomplished much to improve animal care

**PETA insists on comparing Himmler, who did not consider his victims human, to owners of processing plants, whose victims are *not* human—a minor detail they conveniently overlook.**

over the years. These organizations have a long and honorable history in the United States, serving as educators and advocates for better treatment of all animals. There is now, and always will be, need for open discussion

on guidelines for humane animal treatment. Mainstream humane organizations, however, do not propose that chickens have the same rights as people. Nor do they provide financial support to those who kill and destroy property in the name of animal rights. PETA, which professes support of a pro-animal-life agenda, is more than willing to provide funding for the legal defense of protesters who bomb research labs. Providing de facto support of terrorists who murder innocent people is not persuasive for the undecided.

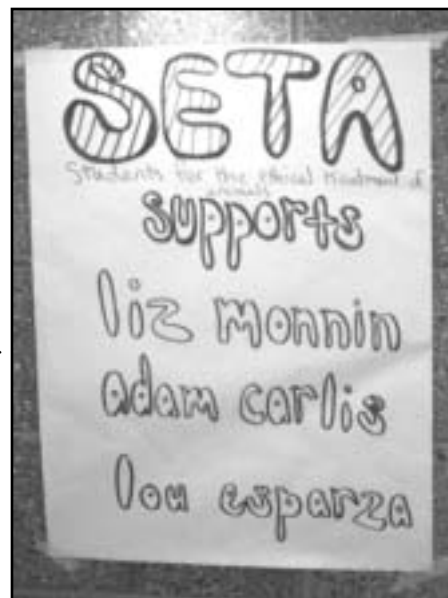
Reasonable people can disagree on whether it is humane to raise animals for their fur. It is nothing short of ridiculous, however, to say that mink ranchers are like Nazis running concentration camps. Aside from it being a despicable affront to the memory of millions of Jews and others who died at the Nazis' hands, it is also a ridiculous as-

sault on common sense. The Nazis' goal was to inflict intense pain and finally death on their victims, thereby eliminating an entire people. Their intent was the promotion of evil. A mink rancher's or a chicken farmer's goal is to earn a living. Some are nicer than others, but all are intent on the pursuit of a profit. These farmers do not hate their animals; they just don't believe their cows have a right to sovereignty. Farmers take pride in the condition of their animals. They want healthy animals that will be sought-after in the market. A starved, dirty, unhappy mink will not produce the beautiful, soft, high quality pelt needed for a fur coat. Stressed, diseased chickens will not bring a profit to their owners.

As for medical research, it benefits animals as well as humans. My family's cat will have a longer life because she is immunized against feline leukemia and other fatal diseases. The vaccines that protect her are the result of medical research. Our dog lived longer with less pain because of arthritis medicine that was prescribed for animals several years before it was approved for human use.

The lack of factual support for their favorite arguments has led PETA down a horrible path. Past campaigns, like their anti-milk ad series, have encouraged children to poke fun at other children (and even directly mocked then New York Mayor Giuliani) for medical problems that are not necessarily associated with milk. Their latest campaign, however, abandons any pretense of good taste, comparing the slaughtering of animals to the extermination of a people.

Extermination is a key word. Farmers do not seek genocide. Of course, PETA sees nothing wrong with the comparison and, in all seriousness, suggests a day when your children and grandchildren will ask where you were during the animal holocaust. Well, I don't think my grandchildren will ever be dumb enough to ask that. If that day does come, however, I'll know where I was—at the barbecue grill, stirring the special sauce. □



**SETA thought these students were animals, now PETA's claiming that Jews are too.**

# Kim Jong Wrong

*by Andrew Sinatra*

The nuclear crisis in North Korea has slowly gotten worse since North Korean officials confessed to their prohibited nuclear weapons program last October, but the US has been too busy with Iraq to put its full attention on the problem. Meanwhile, neighboring countries, including China, Russia, and South Korea have left the burden of diplomacy to the US. Combine this lack of initiative with a bored dictator with nothing better to do than fire test missiles and threaten nuclear holocaust, and it's hardly surprising that things are a little tense on the Korean peninsula. Many problems have arisen in the region over the last four months, and they must be addressed soon.

The primary problem in the Korean nuclear controversy is belligerent North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il. The man presents his country as a threatening military power, yet simultaneously as a poor, victimized nation being attacked by the US. He maintains his status, not by the vote of his people, but by force. Thus, his primary goal is ensuring the survival of his regime, which he inherited from his father. In a recent interview, professor of Korean History Sung-yoon Lee states, "For the dictatorship that is the Kim Jong Il regime, the greatest priority as they've demonstrated to the world is not taking care of their citizens but staying in power." Basically, Kim Jong Il wants to ensure that things stay his way in North Korea. Having things "his way," however, has meant widespread famine, a crumbling economy, and mass propaganda to make citizens believe things are just dandy. Both the US and South Korea are prospering under democratic government and capitalist economies. Good relations with such countries would allow North Koreans to see the prospects

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found in a government free of tyranny. This is why Kim Jong Il feels so threatened by most of the outside world.

Kim Jong Il, however, is no longer just a problem for the citizens of North Korea. Since admitting to its nuclear program, North Korea has expelled UN nuclear arms regulators, and

**Combine lack of initiative with a bored dictator with nothing better to do than fire test missiles and it's hardly surprising that things are a little tense on the Korean peninsula.**

the US government has evidence that North Korea has restarted its Yongbyon nuclear reactor. Since North Korea has not been very forthcoming on its course of action, the US has increased surveillance activity in

the area. Kim Jong Il, of course, takes this to mean the US plans to invade and has stated that any military action against his country would result in "horrifying nuclear disasters" around the world. Kim Jong Il tries to victimize himself, yet his enormous military lining the DMZ along the border of South Korea is not there for defense. Most of the troops are offensive commandos, and artillery consists of long-range weaponry that can reach far beyond the border. Kim Jong Il's goals involve keeping any threatening nations at bay—while simultaneously receiving economic aide from said nations—and, if at all possible, "liberating" South Korea from the "evils" of economic prosperity when nobody is looking.

To make matters on the peninsula worse, South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun has taken an anti-American stance to win his new election. In recent statements Roh Moo-hyun has stated that he will not support any US military action against North Korea. While this dislike for America is the trend lately, it is deplorable that South Korea would turn its back on the nation that prevented it from being wholly taken over by the North during the Korean War. Professor Lee notes,

"South Korea, with its distorted romantic view of North Korea today and its widespread anti-US sentiment, is a great obstacle in finding a coordinated policy in dealing with North Korea." Additionally, if South Korea has such a problem with the US, the 37,000 American troops defending the DMZ could probably be more useful elsewhere. While it's understandable that South Korea is afraid of obliteration by its new nuclear neighbor, turning its back on America is not the solution.

Neither China nor Russia nor Japan has stepped up to quell North Korea's actions, though all three will be directly affected if North Korea gets trigger-happy. Kim Jong Il wants a deal where North Korea will not blow stuff up as long as the US removes all military presence from the Korean peninsula. Then, North Korea can basically do what it wants, and the US won't be able to intervene. But solving major problems in East Asia while everyone else just sits around is not really the US's responsibility. China, as North Korea's largest supplier of aid and a close communist ally, could easily put pressure on North Korea. Everyone would rather hand the problem over to America, an easy scapegoat if the situation gets hairy. A multilateral approach against North Korea is not only fair, however; it is also the only solution that would work in everyone's favor.

The nuclear crisis in North Korea isn't going away on its own. America is too busy to deal with it right now, and no one else wants to be bothered. Left unchecked for too long, North Korea has become a volatile, aggressive nation, soon to be armed to the teeth with nuclear warheads. Once North Korea becomes a declared nuclear power, it will be very hard to prevent Kim Jong Il from doing what he likes and to avoid a nuclear war. If North Korea doesn't already have a nuclear arsenal, the world powers should be placing all of their resources toward preventing this rogue nation from becoming the destructive force that it wants to become. □



# separated at birth



*Physics Professor  
Gary Goldstein and...*



*...musician  
Jerry Garcia?*



*Econ Professor  
Marcelo Bianconi  
and...*



*...SOURCER Steve  
Tempesta?*



*Fares Center  
Director Leila  
Fawaz and...*



*...actress  
Kathy Najimy?*



*Econ Professor  
Karen Eggleston  
and...*



*...Frau  
Farbissina?*



*TCU senator Adam  
Koeppel and...*



*...actor Elijah  
Wood?*



*TCU senator  
Andrew Potts and...*



*...the Invisible  
Man?*



*Chem Professor  
Robert Dewald and...*



*...late Cubs broadcaster  
Harry Caray?*



*Sam Dangremond  
and...*



*...Lloyd  
Christmas?*

## NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

Confronted with the choice, the American people would choose the policeman's truncheon over the anarchist's bomb.

—Spiro T. Agnew

In order to become the master, the politician poses as the servant.

—Charles De Gaulle

Shut up, you monkey. Curse be upon your mustache, you traitor.

—Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri to a Kuwaiti during an Arab Summit

Frenchman: Bonjour, Monsieur  
Edmund Blackadder: Sod off.

—*Blackadder the Third*

War is not nice.

—Barbara Bush

We've found another real good use for that duct tape.

—George H. W. Bush

The ballot is stronger than bullets.

—Joseph Schumpeter

Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

—George Bernard Shaw

At least one way of measuring the freedom of any society is the amount of comedy that is permitted, and clearly a healthy society permits more satirical comment than a repressive, so that if comedy is to function in some way as a safety release then it must obviously deal with these taboo areas. This is part of the responsibility we accord our licensed jesters, that nothing be excused the searching light of comedy. If anything can survive the probe of humour it is clearly of value, and conversely all groups who claim immunity from laughter are claiming special privileges which should not be granted.

—Eric Idle

Dictators ride to and fro upon tigers which they dare not dismount. And the tigers are getting hungry.

—Sir Winston Churchill

If you think of yourselves as helpless and ineffectual, it is certain that you will create a despotic government to be your master. The wise despot, therefore, maintains among his subjects a popular sense that they are helpless and ineffectual.

—Frank Herbert

If all mankind minus one were of one opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind.

—John Stuart Mill

Ask yourself why totalitarian dictatorships find it necessary to pour money and effort into propaganda for their own helpless, chained, gagged slaves, who have no means of protest or defense. The answer is that even the humblest peasant or the lowest savage would rise in blind rebellion, were he to realize that he is being immolated, not to some incomprehensible "noble purpose," but to plain, naked human evil.

—Ayn Rand

There's only one basic human right, the right to do as you damn well please. And with it comes the only basic human duty, the duty to take the consequences.

—P. J. O'Rourke

The way to virtually eliminate genocide and mass murder appears to be through restricting and checking power. This means to foster democratic freedom.

—Rudolph Rummel

A society that puts equality ahead of freedom will end up with neither equality nor freedom.

—Milton Friedman

The justest dispositions possible in ourselves, will not secure us against it [war]. It would be necessary that all other nations were just also. Justice indeed, on our part, will save us from those wars which would have been produced by a contrary disposition. But how can we prevent those produced by the wrongs of other nations? By putting ourselves in a condition to punish them. Weakness provokes insult and injury, while a condition to punish often prevents them.

—Thomas Jefferson

War is evil, but it is often the lesser evil.

—George Orwell

The strong must protect the sweet.

—Homer Simpson

I have a better chance of getting a date with Julia Roberts than Iraq has of complying in ten days.

—Anonymous diplomat to the UN Security Council

The most certain test by which we judge whether a country is really free is the amount of security enjoyed by minorities.

—Lord Acton

It is the threat of the use of military force, even the very large number of American and British forces on the border of Iraq, which make Resolution 1441 credible.

—Stefan Tafrov

Don't ever take a fence down until you know the reason it was put up.

—Gilbert Keith Chesterton

It is not my intention to do away with government. It is rather to make it work—work with us, not over us; stand by our side, not ride on our back. Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it.

—Ronald Reagan