

# Editorials . . .

## DOUBLE STANDARDS OF JUSTICE

Double standards of justice (rules and their enforcement) have always plagued mankind throughout the world's chain of history and apparently Wesleyan is no exception to this tradition. I am sure that many of us have experienced or will at some time experience Wesleyan's particular version of this. We have experienced Roosevelt's "New Deal," and Truman's "Fair Deal" — now we are experiencing Wesleyan's "Big-Bottom-of-the-Deck-Deal." Many of us need not probe our memories too deeply to recall times when punishments for certain acts have greatly varied; when enforcement of the rules ranged from none, to very extreme; and when (as is the case now) rules have been enforced although they were not on the books (Of course these are explained away by various vague and nebulous categories such as "unladylike conduct"). Most of us have learned, or TRIED to learn, to live with these things. However, during this semester this is especially true in the case of enforcement of rules which are not listed as such. When questioned, all involved parties have claimed complete ignorance and innocence of all such matters. Having presented the general situation of disagreement, let us illustrate our point by referring to some specific examples.

Case One: There is a great deal of dispute over section 6-A in Women's Social Regulations (Bishop's Law) concerning what the "immediate campus area extending from North to South Halls" actually is. Should we take this to mean that any area other than the sidewalks from the infirmary to North Hall is off-limits (In other words, the pine trees and the parking lots)? Apparently so. Couples have been directed out of the pine tree area this semester and were instructed that due to "safety regulations" this area was not to be visited after dark.

Now, it seems that since we do have a security force, and since our campus is relatively well-lighted, and since anyone entering the college must enter through our well-lighted portals — the gate (unless they climb a wall, wade through an irrigation ditch and cross 150 yards of well-illuminated, grassy space), that the pines would not be any more dangerous an area than all the rest of the campus. Viewed in this light, it would seem that the "immediate campus area" would include, roughly, that area bounded by Tyler Drive, and should be interpreted as such.

We should, at this time, also explode another often-enforced myth: The infirmary is not the southern limit of the campus for women students. During normal daylight and night time hours (6:30 A.M. to 10:30 P.M. weekdays — 6:30 A.M. to 12:00 midnight weekends) students may travel freely from North Hall to the steps of South Hall. Did you know this? Perhaps so; perhaps not.

Case Two: Sitting in a parked car. Have you or your date ever been run out of a car as you were sitting and talking a few minutes before the 10:30 or 12:00 P.M. deadline? This has happened to couples in the past and has also happened recently. It would seem that couples could have a few quiet, private moments before entering "the stage" (The stage is that brilliantly-lighted, well-elevated platform with the stark white backdrop across which you must traverse before entering Nash or especially North Hall). Perhaps this is deemed by some as "unladylike"—another vague, nebulous and virtually useless term prevalent here. Granted, there are limits to one's conduct, but the point can be stretched. At any rate, there is no such rule in effect here (about sitting in parked cars), and unless our general apathy becomes so hopeless that we completely quit voicing our opinions, there never will be. Speaking of cars, incidentally, it is perfectly legal to drive along the north portion of Tyler Drive after closing hours as long as you don't stop. Of course, since the Residence Halls are closed after 10:30 P.M. (or 12:00 midnight), there would be little occasion to ride by them after hours. It would, then, be perfectly within the rights of the security force to investigate or question any persons that should happen to ride by — but they could not actually be prevented from doing so.

These cases, containing within them various incidents, are not by any means all of the examples of our double standard "policy." I could go on to mention certain punishments concerning drinking, certain attitudes toward the wearing of slacks by some members of the community but not others (of course I dare not indicate that the latter group mentioned here happens to be students), punishments for certain public displays of passion (maybe I should say "emotion") — like call-downs for kissing a date "good-night," and many others. Suffice it to say, however, that these ambiguous situations do exist in spite of the regulations.

## LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



I would suggest that we all thoroughly familiarize ourselves with our rules as they stand and interpret them as such. If this is not done, then we the students are the losers—and when we lose, the college loses. I admonish ye to "truly think upon these things" and then pursue the proper course of action. We have a Judiciary Agency; we have a Student Government—why don't we make use of them!

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

How do you like being "in the spotlight?" Doesn't it feel nice and secure to walk along the sidewalk, carefully avoiding the pine wood — that perennial and timeless symbol of forboding evil? Isn't it wonderful to sit and contemplate the bare walls of the juke box room, feeling the comforting glow of four sections of bright, neon lights radiating above you? Doesn't it warm your heart when you count all the hallowed spots on campus where you can enjoy a few moments of privacy? — Let's see, why, there's an area right over by—ah—well, there's a place somewhere, I'm sure! After all, no one would deny that human beings have human wants and needs! Have I made my point? I rather think so. Why are we not allowed any privacy—even semi-privacy? Why are there no provisions for a spot (or spots) where a couple might be relatively alone? What has happened to the 1962-1963-1964 plans to decorate the juke box room and snack bar? What has happened to the usually recognized fact that students have emotions as well as brains? Do you have answers for these problems? I guess we can only point to the "Elephants' Graveyard" and hope for the best.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Ed:

Doesn't it seem a little odd to anyone that we are having Rock 'N' Roll bands for semi-formal and formal dance? Doesn't it appear strange when you consider the essence of the evening? Doesn't it seem more appropriate to anyone that a good dance band would suit the occasion more?

Just think about these questions. Certainly Huey "Piano" Smith or the Chantells are not considered good dance bands, and in all reality would be more fitting for a "casual-dress" dance. But why were they hired to play at Wesleyan's Christmas and Valentine Dances? Is it beyond the Social Commission to consider that the Student community might prefer a little less nerve-racking music?

This is not a strike at the Social Commission as a whole because everyone knows that they have done an excellent job in the past, especially with the Zodiac dance. But, it seems that they could have used a little more judgment concerning these upcoming festivities.

D.M.

Ed. Note: Dance bands have been tried in the past at such dances, but with little success. Apparently most of the students here do not want such entertainment. However, the issue could be reopened.

## THE DECREE

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## Old "D" Speaks

By: David James

Robert Stephens, President of the SGA, has told the student body to organize and unite. I feel the primary reason for this is that the student body is losing its voice concerning the way the students live and conduct their affairs on our campus. There is one thing that we should keep in mind when we determine what is good and what is bad for the Wesleyan student. If we note a rule that we don't like, then we should not only strive to kill the rule, but we should also offer a constructive rule to take the place of the one we are trying to avoid.

We now have a backbone to work with in discussing our problems. Every day I hear of trite and petty rules inflicted on us. Most of these seem to be aimed at the person looking at our campus from the outside. "What will Mr. or Mrs. — think if they were to see —?" I think it is time to start working in the other direction. It is then, and only then, that we as students will work more positively and with greater spirit in working out student affairs. If the students unite and are given a voice, it is my sincere conviction that we can work out our own problems far better than if our problems are worked out for us without our consent.

I must apologize for those looking for YDC news; however, I feel this one issue is of the utmost importance to you and to myself. I will use my YDC headline in ending this article for the simple reason that Your Decision Counts

## . . . Just A Few Words

By Melvin Dowdy

Conscience is a balance between moral values and conduct. Guilt results from an imbalance of conscience when conduct does not comply with values; but guilt disappears as repeated mis-conduct exhausts moral sensitivity. Such inhibition makes the work of the Holy Spirit convincing sinners of sin almost impossible and usually moral values reappear only with some shattering experience breaking down the barrier sin has erected. The Bible justly encourages that "Whatever things are honest...just...pure...lovely...of good report; if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think of these things." The call is to put our minds in gear before we put ourselves in gear. The prerequisite to sound living is sound thinking. Ps. 119