

LETTERSTOTHEEDITOR

What's happening on campus?

DEAR EDITOR,

My name is Shomika Edmonds. I'm a student here at Fayetteville State University. On campus there are many great things that take place such as programs, night events and basketball games. I read *The Voice* Newsletter and I realized there is no section that has a list of the different events or games. A lot of students ask when basketball games are and maybe there could be a little section in *The Voice* for a list of the games for the students. Also, in the newsletter, is it okay to address the issues of the Bronco Shuttle? A great amount of money is being taken out of our tuition so we could have Bronco Shuttles. Since my last semester of my freshman year, I have not seen a Bronco Shuttle for the students. So please address the issues so we can receive a better understanding on why they are not being provided for the students.

Shomika Edmonds, FSU student

Wanting transportation

DEAR EDITOR,

This is my first year at Fayetteville State, and I have noticed that the campus is extremely large, and students are walking to every class to buildings that are way across campus. This is causing students to be late. I'm proposing that FSU invest in a shuttle system that takes students to and from their next class. Of course there will have to be stipulations with this, but I feel as if this is a necessary commodity.

Ashley Collins, FSU student

Pictures and programs

DEAR EDITOR,

My name is Supriya Clark and I often times find myself picking up a copy of *The Voice* and skimming through to see new happenings on our campus. But anytime I skim through the paper I don't see many pictures of organizations or just of students doing things around campus. It always makes me wonder about Fayetteville State and what our campus life really is. I know that I as a student here have participated in multiple community service events, and attended more than my fair share of programs. But I never really see pictures from those programs, nev-

er read up-on how everyone else thought it was or find out if it's a program that will be returning next year. It would just be nice to see a few more pictures of all the students so actively involved, and to read up on some of the events I may have missed.

Supriya Clark, FSU student

The Voice works for this guy

DEAR EDITOR

Honestly I don't read the student newspaper that much because I am not on campus enough to pick it up. I have read the latest issue of the student newspaper in my mass communication class and it was pretty good, from what I read. All of the articles were for college students and not a person in their late 30s. I feel as though everyone that contributed to the student newspaper did an excellent job. Keep up the good work and I will try my best to pick up another issue.

James Jackson, FSU student

New to reading paper and loving it

DEAR EDITOR,

Hello, my name is Kendra Parker and I am a new follower to *The Voice*. Often times we hear so much negativity and criticism; I just wanted to take the time to say something positive about Fayetteville State University's very own newspaper, *The Voice*. I recently read *The Voice*, volume 2 issue 7, and the only article that was interesting to me was "Finding My Voice" by Alicia Bayat. No matter how many times I read this newspaper, the "Finding My Voice" section always entertains me. My favorite article by Alicia Bayat thus far was entitled "Fear." That was a powerful eye-opening article. Alicia Bayat writes for the common folk and speaks on reality and we need people to address real issues going on in society. Every week I make sure I grab a copy of the latest newspaper just to see what Alicia Bayat has to say. Kudos to *The Voice*, this section is phenomenal, and I think the section should be expanded!

Kendra Parker, FSU student

One color, one culture?

Is this the solution?

By L'asia Brown
FSU Voice

The phrase, color-blind, has become quite popular in this new day and age. Slowly but surely, this generation is embracing diversity and globalization. Children are taught different languages, cultures, and customs at early ages. Debates about religious freedom, gay rights, race relations, feminism, and other cultural affairs take place daily on social media outlets like Twitter and Facebook, where strangers from varying backgrounds are finally able to connect and discuss. People from differing backgrounds have lay triumphant claim to proudly being color-blind.

These people, who belong to many different races, nations, religions, and cultures, believe that not seeing a person's "color" is the best way to maintain "fairness" and "tolerance." For these new color blinded individuals seeing everybody in varying shades of gray is the best method of viewing the world and all its seven billion human beings, right? Wrong.

A person's skin color is an indicator of several characteristics. Ancestry, ethnicity, culture, personal history, identity, and even possible future struggles they face in their respective nations. In South America it is no secret that a "light skin" Brazilian is more likely to marry than a "dark skin" Brazilian. In Italy, darkened hues models are more likely to book runway shoes than their fair-skinned colleagues. Even Black Americans can attest to the fact just being Black in the US is a likely give way to the painful history of slavery. In the 1920's before being "tanned" was all the rave for the "white Americans" dark Italians faced discrimina-

tion. A visit to Without Sanctuary's Web site reveals several historical pictures of Italian immigrants being lynched. Just by these historical events along it is apparent that Color is important. Color matters. Color is unavoidable. The problem is not color, it is intolerance.

Although I doubt "colorblindness" are part of some conspiracy to deny humans of their identity, they must realize that is exactly what happens when a person's color is ignored and they are thrown into a toy chest like generic dolls.

A Black American, stripped of their color, is just a transparent American. With transparency there is no telling where their ancestors migrated from, what role they may have played in laying the foundation for this nation, what skin products are best for them, what hair products are best for them, how they might react to a Confederate flag.

A White American, stripped of their color, is also just a transparent American. What part of Europe they came from doesn't matter. Maybe they were 19th century Republicans who championed religious, racial, gender rights and helped give minorities a voice, but who knows? Their level of uncomfortableness when the word "cracker" is said doesn't matter because they're transparent remember?

It's the same with Native Americans, Latinos, Asians, Arabs, Europeans, Africans, and all other characteristics that make-up the world.

So, if you proudly sported your color-blind shades before, take them off and throw them away. See your fellow humans for exactly who they are. Recognize their color, appreciate their humanity, and learn as much as possible from their unique history, stories and experiences. But most importantly, see your own color. And love it.

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Voice is only as strong as yours. We encourage participation by seeking and printing letters to the editor. You may write a letter about any topic in the paper, on campus or in your life. Please refrain from personal attacks, instead stick to issues and ideas. Letters should be 300 words or less, signed with your full name and include your phone number for verification. You can submit your letter through our website at <http://www.fsuvoice.com/home/lettertotheeditor/>

