

VISITATION

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being abused to be the "party pooper." I believe that the responsibility lies with each of us to have respect for and not to abuse the rights of those we live with. I have even had students threatened with bodily harm simply because they desired to sleep in their own beds. This was more evident when freshmen were paired with upper classmen. These students were sincerely afraid to even seek help in reacquiring the half of the room they paid for. I want to make it clear that I don't put two cents worth to the argument that if you don't stand up for your rights then you lose them! "Chicken George's" son Tom pumped water from the well for the white men - but I surely hope none of us would argue that since he acted like a slave he had lost his rights to be free! When a child is abused by his parents society steps in to stop the abuse even if the child has not complained. According to your argument if a police officer saw a non-violent protestor being beaten on the head with a pipe he should do nothing unless the individual being beaten asks for help. I don't buy it. In order to have a truly free society the rights of

the minority, the weak, the timid, and the immature must be preserved and held inviolate. If not we have the rule of the Bully!

5. Finally, I am sick to death of the morons who continually invoke Quaker principles to justify the doing away of all regulations and the institution of a state of anarchy. You demonstrate as much knowledge of Quaker principles as you do of common sense - in other words - none!!! Everytime some student is dissatisfied with a situation here at Guilford he/she mouths off about how phony we are about our belief in Quaker principles. Not once have I found such a student who had the faintest concept of what Quaker principles were. My advice to you is that if you are dissatisfied with something, formulate a logical, intelligent argument to back up your position. Don't balme the problem on Quakerism - it only demonstrates your ignorance, and your inability to think clearly, and intelligently. If something bothers you, formulate a positive alternative and bring it to your Student Senate.

On balance I think that there are good reasons for having visitation regulations. I think they allow the student, for at least part of the day, the privacy he/she has paid for. I have seen the very serious abuse of some individuals by

their roommates even though we do have visitation regulations. My heart goes out to the sensitive, the young, the weak, and the immature should visitation regulations be dropped across the campus.

Sincerely yours,
Frank Keegan

To Gary Farlow:

I apologize for my misstatement of Quaker principle, and hope that I did not come across as petulant, unduly adamant, or obnoxious. I think, however, that it is time to reweigh these decisions. I believe that it would be more just to remove the unnecessary consequences that exercising this particular freedom would bring about.

To Frank Keegan:

You yourself have just pointed out repeated examples of abuse. The regulations do not guarantee the privacy you pay for. Only you can do that; and to do it you must speak up. It does very little good for your heart to go out to the "sensitive, the weak, and the immature," for despite your good intentions, these people are sleeping on the lounge floor.

I agree, no roommate should have to be in bed and listen to the moans and groans of a couple a few feet away. No one should be locked out

of his room. No one should be locked out of his own room. No one should be threatened with bodily harm. And no one should stand still to have his rights taken away from him by a bully. These problems must be brought to the attention of someone with the authority to handle them, if you are unable to deal with them effectively yourself. But these problems arise despite visitation rules. They will continue to arise until bullies disappear, or we learn to be responsible for ourselves.

To Abby Ott:

1) A High School diploma is also not an automatic ticket to college.

2) Everyone on campus is capable of dialing a telephone.

3) If you believe that getting rid of visitation will result in men screaming up and down the halls at 3 a.m., this is a big issue. But I don't notice it at 12, and don't expect it at 3.

4) I'm quite certain that you are exaggerating.

Barbara Gottfried

Editor's comment:

First, my notions of freedom are two-fold. We should be free "to" do something, as well as free "from" something. Shouldn't we?

Second, I have lived in dorms or gone to school and been somewhat familiar with the visitation rules on two other campuses, and at those

places the rules were not as strict as Abby Ott might believe them to be at "most" institutions.

Third, regarding Frank Keegan's concerns - what if the individual has a single room, and therefore no roommate to abuse?

Fourth, regarding Gary Farlow's explanation of the Quaker principle of individual freedom - where does the justice lie if an individual is expelled from this institution for choosing not to adhere to a rule that is designed for but is not appropriate to his/her particular situation?

Fifth, I think it is unfair to discredit someone's position simply because they choose not to sign their real name. It is all good and well for someone to be willing to "take a stand" and by doing so to sign their name to the piece. But, I think it best to remember that some particular individual might just want to "have a stand known," and not to have him/herself identified with the stand. There may be a multitude of reasons why someone would not want to have themselves identified with a particular stand on an issue and I think it is narrow-minded not to consider this and thereby discredit their position. We at *The Guilfordian* certainly prefer to announce the authorship with any piece we publish, but we are tolerant of private concerns known or unknown to us.

Richard Phillips

Attitudes on Conservation

BY JIM HOOD

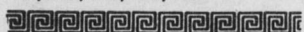
A number of recent occurrences, most notably the shortage of heating fuels, have brought to mind what I find a simple yet hard-to-deal-with concept of why the environmental problems that exist in this country are so hard to begin to solve. What I have to offer here is a thought, a suggestion if you like, about the cause of these problems. Their solutions are way beyond the scope of anything I might dream of writing, yet I think what I have to say represents a valid reasoning - one that we need to give serious consideration to.

My thoughts are grounded in the idea, which I am surely not the first to bring up, that environmental problems in this country are, at the deepest level, caused solely by the attitudes about natural resources shared by the nation's inhabitants. Of course at other levels the problem takes on a multitude of other facets, but these only serve to cover up the real cause.

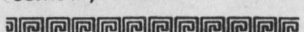
We tend to treat any natural resource, like water, wood, food, fuel, as some kind of God-given right that allows each of us to use that resource in whatever way we see fit. Water is just there for me to use, for my wants, for my needs. If one wishes to search for a reason why this attitude is so persistent, the Judeo-Christian tradition of dominion over the fowl of the air and the fish of the sea is a fine place to start. Now, however, the reasons behind this attitude are not as important as is the fact that it exists and must be dealt with.

Only by changing this attitude, this selfish way of thinking, can true progress be made in the saving of our planet. Ecological catastrophes can be averted, and have been, by governmental intervention, but real change can come only by changing attitudes and lifestyles. If you think that any corporation has stopped environmental destruction simply because

that company has a genuine concern for the world and its people, you are probably mistaken. Progress has been achieved in this area only because in some way a change profited those initiating it. We seem only to be able to think in these terms: what is it going to do to benefit me, look at the sacrifice I am making, why me and not him, me, me, me, me.



Biophile meeting this Wednesday, February 9 at 8:30 p.m. in the Boren Lounge. We're working on a big community service project and need some more help. Please come if you can!!



Conservation must begin with individuals but cannot stop there. Communities must also begin to change their perspectives. Guilford wants to think of itself as a community and thus must begin to alter its attitudes. Guilford, too, has been

blessed with the gift of existence, and should be very thankful for that, thankful enough to stop first considering its own wants. As a community Guilford can accomplish a great deal.

I was a bit leary of writing this little piece because I had, and still have, serious doubts about whether it could accomplish anything. But if it makes a few people think more about their actions, that is all it need do.

I would like to put a challenge to every person on this campus. I want to ask everyone here to see if he or she can begin looking at natural resources in this new way. See how much scrap paper you can save and use constructively. See how little water you can use. Silly as it may sound, it becomes more necessary each day.

I would also like to put a challenge to Guilford as a community. Guilford wants to be innovative, it wants to be known as an institution where a good education can be had at a good price. But if Guilford

really wants to be unique, I dare it to become a school that puts education and conservation on the highest level of priority. I dare you, Guilford, to write memos and letters on scrap paper, to stop sending notices to students in wasted envelopes. I dare you to require students to type papers on two sides of a sheet. Inconvenience is a small price to pay for life. Most of all, I dare you to conserve not because it is good for you, but because it is good for the world.

What you will do, I cannot say. You may think that used paper is improper. But survival has dictated that doing what is proper be replaced by doing what is necessary. Guilford has been bestowed with a great privilege and honor: to educate students. We must begin to recognize all the privileges we have and we must become committed to the wise conservation of resources. To think otherwise became insanity long ago.