

Editorial Board

Laura Parker
Ellen Yutzy
Zack Hample

Statement of Purpose

The Forum exists to facilitate dialogue and expression on matters of importance to Guilford College and its mission. Toward this end, active community participation in these pages is vital.

Editorial Policy

Every effort will be made to print appropriate submissions of editorials, cartoons, and letters to the editor. They must be signed, with the phone number of the author or artist included and turned in to the box outside the publications suite by 3:00 on Monday before that Friday's publication date. Editorials must be no longer than 400 words and letters to the editor must be no more than 250 words. The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit submissions for grammatical correctness and brevity.

Try thinking for yourself**♦ Don't mistreat homosexuals because the Bible condemns them**

By Zack Hample
FORUM EDITOR

Last week, I attended the emergency meeting that was called to discuss and reflect upon recent homophobic incidents at this school.

It was an open meeting. Everyone was free to stand and share their thoughts with the dozens of people in attendance. I was moved to do so, and I recalled an incident of downright frightening homophobia that I experienced two years ago when I was a freshman on the baseball team.

My teammate said that he would kill his father or kick his own son out of the house if he were to discover that either one was gay. His reason for hating homosexuals and believing that their lifestyle is wrong: "It says so in the Bible."

His hateful words riddled me

like bullets. I was awestruck and silenced by the ruthless ignorance of his argument. How does one respond to a statement like that?

I don't know if there is an answer, but I can tell you that it's impossible to condense all of it into an article of this length.

First of all, I am thoroughly unreligious. Though I lack the biblical knowledge to back up this hunch, I would assume that in general, the best way to please "God" would be to treat everyone else fairly.

"Everyone" includes people that coincidentally happen to be gay. And I use the word "coincidentally" because, contrary to unpopular belief, homosexuality is not a choice.

A lot of uninformed heterosexual people think it is. But they're wrong. If you're straight, you were probably born that way. You didn't flip a coin to make

up your mind. You just were, and you knew it.

It's the same thing for homosexuals, so don't blame them for being gay when they had nothing to do with it.

For those of you who live by the Bible and hate homosexuals for that reason, try living by it 98 percent of the time rather than 100. It's not healthy to do absolutely everything you're told. If you do, that qualifies you as being brainwashed. Everyone needs to think for themselves, at least every now and then.

If the Bible tells you something, or if your parents or your friends or teachers tell you something, it's not law, it's advice. You have the freedom to step back and analyze it, maybe even reject it.

If you live by the Bible to make yourself a better person, that's great. But try to be better without making others feel worse.

What's the deal with Molly Martin?

By Daniel Snyder
STAFF WRITER

During her freshman year, Molly Martin contacted security after claiming to have been chased through the woods behind

Guilford by a madman with a shotgun. No evidence was ever found to support her story.

During her sophomore year, it is reported that Martin was taken to Wesley Long Hospital after an apparent overdose of some type. There are still a number of unanswered questions regarding this incident.

During her junior year, Martin alleged that she was attacked in the Senate office by the Magic Marker Bandit shortly before Senate elections. After a lengthy investigation by police, the case was closed due to the fact that there was no evidence to support her story, but by this time she had already been re-elected.

And before her senior year, Martin left Guilford after an allegation and investigation into whether or not she took more than \$9,000 as Senate's treasurer during her sophomore year. In an open letter she apologized "for acts which were inappropriate...."

Now, halfway through Guilford's first semester without Martin, here we are talking about her again. After the Oct. 29th incident, is it possible that we see a pattern emerging? Either Molly Martin has the worst luck of anyone on earth or she really needs some professional help.

With all the questions which remain unanswered after the latest occurrence, I am leaning toward the latter.

How does one black out in West Virginia and awake in North Carolina? If she wasn't kidnapped, then perhaps she was abducted by aliens. But that does not account for her being found in her car.

I realize that since Martin no longer attends this institution, her welfare is really not Guilford's problem. However, the way in which Guilford's administration continues to sweep these matters under the rug just does not seem to be the proper way to go about handling such strange incidents.

Like Don McNemar, I also hope and pray for her future well-being. But perhaps more could be done than simply hoping and praying. Perhaps someone could take a bit more initiative to ensure that she receives the help that she needs.

I, like other students, would love to forget about the entire Martin affair. But it is hard to do so when she continues to tell such entertaining stories and exhibit such bizarre behavior.

Maybe in the near future, after Martin has had another bout of her infamous bad luck, something will be done. Until then, Molly Martin will continue to have a disruptive effect on Guilford's students. But as the college's attorney Allan Shackelford told the *Greensboro News and Record* on Oct. 30th, "As far as the college is concerned, the matter is closed."

THE GUILFORDIAN

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