

**"Just Don't Get Caught"**

# Sociologist—"Go Ahead and Smoke Marijuana"

St. Louis, Mo.-I.P.)—"Go ahead and smoke marijuana," said the dean, "just don't get caught." Probably no college administrator has ever given such advice. But Howard S. Becker, a Northwestern University sociologist, believes that such an attitude on the part of deans is the only way that campus drug incidents can be halted.

Becker, writing in TRANS-ACTION, a social science publication of Washington University, does not believe that student drug use can be stopped. "Students want to use drugs and can easily do so; few college administrations will decide to use the totalitarian methods that would be required to stop it.

"One might institute a daily

search of all rooms and perhaps, in addition, inaugurate a campus 'stop-and-frisk' law. But they are not going to do these things, so student drug use will continue."

Becker believes that the deans are worried about student drug use, but they are more worried about the "great public-relations crisis" of campus narcotics raids and students on trial. Yet, Becker argues, the more administrators worry about student drug use, the more such embarrassing incidents they will have to deal with.

"All increases in surveillance, of course, multiply the number of cases that come to public attention," Becker says.

Becker's arguments are mainly based on marijuana-smoking, which he says is more widely used

than LSD. Marijuana, he says, causes student health services much less trouble than alcohol or the amphetamines that many students take to stay awake while studying. "Marijuana," Becker says, "has no demonstrable bad effects."

Becker draws on his sociological studies of drug use to note that drug-taking students of today are quite unlike earlier drug users, who learned to be careful about hiding their habit. Today's students, he says, are get caught because they are either ignorant of the precautions they might take to protect themselves from arrest, or are convinced that they have "a constitutional right to get high."

## "Politicos —'68"

Up until the latter part of this summer, George Wallace's American Party was snubbed by both major political camps as a racist-inspired, neo-fascist movement which would be no threat except in the deep South. Wallace was portrayed as an illiterate demagogue and likened to Hitler. When Mr. Wallace stated that he was against continuing welfare in "areas where evidence shows a complete waste of money", he was charged with being against welfare. When Wallace called for the public to support their local police against the rioters and looters who ransacked over one hundred American cities, his plea was distorted by newsmen as advocacy of a police state. Such misrepresentations, generalizations, and, in some cases, outright lies, would long ago have destroyed most other political candidates.

Wallace naturally became the brunt of both major political camps by pointing out: past failures and flaws in the governmental system; the socialistic trend that is threatening states', constitutional, and personal rights of each citizen; and the "do-nothing", "fence-riding" similarities in the established political parties.

Wallace support has swelled to the point that he draws crowds topping 14,000 in a neutral state like Kentucky. In spite of the fact that the strongest Unions in the nation have declared all-out war on him in all Union publications, he will likely gain support from as much as 33% of these "blue collar" suburbanites who are gravely concerned with crime in the streets, and racial unrest. Nixon recently acknowledged Wallace as a "formidable force" which may indeed cause the election to be thrown into the House of Representatives.

One wonders how Wallace was able to fight the biasedness of the visual news media (in an age when television has become an unquestionable source of influence) in such an effective and penetrating manner as to gain ever increasing support at the expense of both political parties. Until recently, interviews granted Wallace have been derogatory, full of cliches, politically unfair, and socially rude. Mr. Wallace has been intimidated in every way possible by our "warriors against prejudice and unfairness". He has met accusations and unfairness with dignity which comes from deep

conviction and patriotism. Regardless of political viewpoint, Wallace should be treated with the respect due to his station - that of a candidate for the Presidency of the United States. If he is not given this respect, it is a reflection on the American news media, and the American people who allow themselves to be robbed of the chance to see and hear all sides of the issue - which should be their right in this democratic country of ours.

Wallace's continued and mounting successes have been due to two factors. First, he has made legitimate criticisms of federal intervention in areas where it has been proven to be both inefficient and ineffective. It is one thing to say that a child, regardless of race, may attend any public school of his choosing, but it is quite another when students of one district are "bussed" across town in order to create vacancies for children of another race and district to be "bussed" over to fill those vacancies.

Secondly, Wallace has directed his campaign not to illiterates or racists, but to the backbone of American society - the middle class. He appeals to those who have absorbed the costs of the riots, those who pay the lion's share of the taxes, and those who are often the victims of crime. These factors, coupled with his "whistle stop" technique of campaigning have side-tracked his critics, baffled pollsters, and caused near panic in both major political camps.

Since mid-July, Wallace critics have become mysteriously silent;

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perhaps it is because they have done their worst, or more likely because Mayor Daley has been a fresher target, and Wallace is only experiencing the "lull before the storm".

Despite the fact that George Wallace has proven to be neither inept nor the infidel that many have tried to portray him, there remain two very serious considerations that prospective Wallace supporters should ponder carefully before November. First, could a man with no experience in foreign relations successfully lead a nation confronted by such diplomatic intricacies as arise daily in America's involvement in Vietnam, Berlin, Israel, Cuba, and nuclear disarmament with Russia? Secondly, could a minority President, of neither major political party, and a controversial figure at best, unite, and lead a divided congress, and a divided, distraught nation, plagued by a host of problems which would tax the strength of the greatest American Presidents?

## Oh Yeah (Continued from page 7)

largest tourist trap of all Europe! The ceiling of the Sistene Chapel is dirty, St. Peter's place has a souvenir shop in the side. The coliseum is small, it is hard to tell what the Romans left and what the Italians have put there. The river in the center of the city is dirty with trash flowing in it. The Trevi fountain is awfully small and located in a dirty part of the city. The only things which kept the city from being completely lost to me were the traffic cops and Mike's statue of MOSES hidden in a small church near the center of the old city. The statue looks as if it is breathing. This is truly a beautiful work of art. The blanket which lies across his knees looks as if it is warm wool, instead of cold granite. If you ever get near Rome, see it.

The traffic cops are also beautiful. They are dressed in green uniforms with long white gloves. The movements which they use to direct traffic seem to come from a slow motion film of a very graceful ballet.

Thankful for the traffic cops and THE MOSES, I bought a bottle of wine and went back to the hotel room to celebrate my birthday.

# S.U.C.T.I.O.N.

(Continued from Page 6)

of the faculty supported S.U.C.T.I.O.N. and would give unstintingly of their knowledge and experience. I think S.U.C.T.I.O.N. would've preferred money.

As all of this began to sink into my befuddled brain, foam started to form at my mouth. In my delirium I started chanting a Lamaist mantram learned from my Tibetan Scout master, but it seemed to have little effect upon the vibes in the room; I would've bolted for the door, but there were too many people in the way. In the state I was in, it was probably just as well—I would probably have forgotten to open the door before leaving.

Long afterwards the meeting ended and everyone left. Half an hour later I snuck out from my

hiding place behind the curtains and ran to my car. I drove home by way of back-streets and alleys seeing F.B.I. agents behind every garbage can. I hadn't had such a shocking experience since the time I stumbled into a room looking for the Men's room—and believe me, you don't walk out of one of those either.

(Postscript) in the year that has passed since this article was first inspired (?), S.U.C.T.I.O.N. has become one of THE campus powers, a group, to quote a Journal editorial, "to be reckoned with." It has fielded a slate of candidates, and with help put up a colorful, if unsuccessful fight for major student Government offices. It's role in the student legislature has been loud if not always effective.

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