

Letters to the Editor

"Ugly" is hurtful

Dear Editor:

While reading the article in the Feb. 2 issue of the Clarion entitled "Attack of the Ugly Couples" I was extremely saddened by the writer's view of others. I consider the article to be despicable, disgusting, and that it has no place anywhere, especially not on the campus of a liberal arts college. Although the writer has every right to publish his opinion, I see bigotry and disrespect in spades here. As living creatures among all living creatures, humans might consider the worldview that we're all in this together.

Some of my very dearest friends whom I feel quite fortunate to know are actually some of the banjo-playing folk who have enriched the culture of this area for decades. I have chosen to omit my view of the writer's reference to "that *Deliverance* movie". And the reference to 'porn star's genitalia'...need I say more?

The very lame disclaimer in the last paragraph warns me that I may be offended. And "But I write this article for entertain-

ment." Yes, I was indeed offended and I was not entertained and certainly hope that this is not the latest version of entertainment among young college students. And if the writer is simply attempting to be funny I, for one, think he failed miserably. I am truly sorry that he has decided that this is his "life's purpose." So just what is ugly? From where I'm sitting, this article is ugly.

My favorite Einstein quote (1954) says all this so much better than I can:

"A human being is part of the whole called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. We experience ourselves, our thoughts and feelings as something separate from the rest. A kind of optical delusion of consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from the prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty. The true value of a human being is determined by the measure and the sense in which they have obtained liberation from the self. We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if humanity is to survive."

Ralphene Rathbone, M.A.
Lab Instructor

BCE 410 woes

Dear Editor,

I thoroughly appreciated Matt's piece on BCE 410. I am positive that I am not the only one, but perhaps one of the few, willing to publicly come forward. I believe the class has some value, but not in my curriculum.

From what I have experienced, the class is about leadership styles, knowing yourself and where you fit into a leader driven society. Personally, I have known since I was twelve years old that I am artistic, independent and self sufficient. Filling out endless self evaluations that resemble job applications to Food Lion are unhelpful and insulting.

Perhaps this class is enlightening for those not fortunate enough to have such a strong understanding of themselves as I. For that reason, I believe the class should remain, but become an optional course to help students reach that goal. I personally have no intentions to become a "leader." Furthermore, if I end up working in the corporate structure that this class seems geared towards, I will consider it a personal failure.

I am aware of and appreciate the countless hours of work faculty has put into building this course. I hope that those who have worked so hard on this project do not take this article as an insult. I just feel that Senior Capstone was prematurely thrust upon seniors as a requirement for graduation from Brevard College.

This course takes time and energy away from my real goal this semester: putting together a senior exhibition. Perhaps it hasn't come up yet in the semester, but I fail to see how this class will benefit my artistic career.

As an artist, I have always been disheartened by how little or vaguely my core education links back to art. It may be because artists are misunderstood or thought of as "different." We really aren't. We are seeking answers to the same questions "regular" students are. Unfortunately, due to different requirements: blanket tactics cannot be used when assisting us with resumes, job interview

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