

# Knight views

opinions — editorials

## Voting is the Key for Democratic Society

In 1776, when the Fathers of American government were establishing a new form of government the one issue they stressed was a government for the people, by the people.

The fathers assured this democratic principle to the citizens of the U.S. by making it a basic right of all citizens to be able to vote.

Later, when the country had matured, the leaders realized that they had erred and granted blacks the right to vote.

Still later, when the fathers realized that women were human beings also, they granted the right to women. Finally, when the leaders realized that many states creating loophole laws that took away the voting rights of blacks, they created the Voting Rights Act that insured all people had the right to vote and that it could not be taken away by some obscure law or clause.

So now everybody has the right to vote, but the question that voters now ponder is what or who they should vote for. With the November 2nd elections around the corner it is time for people to take some time to think clearly about the way they wish their government to turn.

In our lifetimes we have seen the country switch from Republicans to Democrats several times and the now it is time to decide which we think suits this country best.

The most recent Republican-influenced government has been emphasizing a more controlled economy that has seen interest rates and inflation decrease, but at the same



Bill Lide

time the unemployment rate is the highest in years and there has been an increase in the military budget and decreases in several social programs that are helpful to the less fortunate Americans.

The Democratically-influenced government that preceded the current one emphasized the need for those social programs and had a strong belief in the basic human rights of people around the world, but at the same time inflation reached the double-digit mark and there was a strong sense among the American people that the government was very indecisive and lacked the aggressive backbone that had illustrated American foreign policy in the years before.

Where do we go from here? Do we keep our support to the new trend or do we go back to the old or do we need to create a medium between the two? It is up to the people to decide and that is what we must do! So if you are a registered voter it is your duty to go out and vote for the man or woman of your choice.

If you are not registered then it is your duty to go and register so that you can have your say in how the country is run. A lot of men and women put a lot of their time into securing the right to vote to all citizens and when you do not exercise that right you are destroying one of the backbones of American government.

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## Letters to the Editor

Complaints! Everyone's got one, including me, but my complaint is not about what's going on on campus but, rather, about what's not going on on campus

What's not going on on campus is student involvement in the very issues that they complain about the most. I hear a lot of complaints during the course of a day in my dual role as student and resident director and many of them express very real and justifiable concern over matters directly affecting the students doing the complaining.

I often wonder, however, why these complaints and concerns are not directed to the individual or agency most able to deal with them. It has been reported to me that very few, if any, students, other than the elected officers, attend SGA meetings to voice

their opinions on matters so dear to the complainer's heart.

Is it any wonder that their opinions aren't heard?

Student government (or any government, for that matter) can only be effective if it represents a unified (and vocal) constituency.

There are legal channels of communication open to present student views on policy decisions, but they will remain closed and silent as long as student apathy remains the dominating force on campus.

Kenneth S. Kruger  
Residence Director  
Winston-Salem Dorm

As a former student and current member of the St. Andrews Security Guard, I am making a plea for help from the S.A. community. I feel it necessary for all of you to become more cautious and

concerned.

In the past three weeks alone there have been 8 bikes (7 unlocked), 2 car tires stolen from Winston-Salem parking lot between the hours of 7-10 p.m. Three car batteries have also been stolen from the L.A. parking lot between the hours of 7-9 p.m.

Many R.D.s have informed me that student's doors are being left unlocked while the students are at classes. I have noticed many cars unlocked in the parking lots and many bikes unlocked around the dorms.

S.A. campus security is here to serve and protect you, but now we need the whole S.A. community to become involved. If you see someone suspicious or something that shouldn't be happening, give us a call at

SECURITY 276-8767  
Thank You,  
Richard V. Bland

## Roving Reporter: Abortion

By BILL LIDE

The right for a woman to have an abortion is a question that has raised several religious, ethical and legal battles throughout the history of the U.S. Women have always had to fight for what seems are their basic rights, such as suffrage, and the question that is being pondered now is whether the choice to have an abortion or not is a right or is in fact a crime. Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) has just recently attempted, and failed, to pass an amendment to make abortions illegal, so it seems that the debate is still in the hotbed of American politics. These are some the responses of the St. Andrews students who were asked their opinions on abortion.

Margaret Eckles-Granville: I feel that women should have the choice as to

whether or not they want to use their bodies to carry children. The choice is of ethical and religious significance, and it is not something that should be under legal jurisdiction. To make abortions illegal does not keep people from having abortions, it merely makes what is otherwise a simple operation a dangerous one.

John Archambeau-Winston-Salem: I see abortion as a necessary evil. In our day and age, more and more young women are falling victims to their own stupidity and carelessness, which, in turn, warrants the use of having abortions as an outlet to their unwanted pregnancies. If more men and women would think of the consequences before their actions, maybe such atrocities would not take place. It is essential that the younger

community become aware of their sexuality and responsibilities in life.

Tom Wilson-Winston-Salem: Abortion is a very touchy subject, both morally and legally. In my view the fetus is more than a group of organic matter, it is a potential person; and abortion is the prevention of a potential person. I believe abortion should not be a means of birth control, and only in circumstances as extreme as a threat to the life of the mother, would abortion be justified.

Abortion, as stated earlier is an extremely broad subject and it is not easy to summarize one's feelings in a few brief sentences. There are other extenuating circumstances, such as rape, that can not be included in these opinions.