

EDITORIAL

Much has been said about Lt. William Calley's escapade in the small village in Viet Nam and about the verdict of premeditated murder handed down by the court that sentenced him to life in prison. At first I was shocked to hear that a man would shoot "innocent" men, women and children; however, I considered what the word innocent means in a country where even children sometimes threaten the lives of our men. Who is to say that an old man — or even a woman or child — would not kill a G.I. if he had the chance? Who is to say he would?

It is hard to realize what a man would do and what thoughts would race through his mind when he is in a life or death situation. Sometimes the results of a decision can plague a man for his lifetime. Apparently the decision Calley made at My Lai will affect him as long as he lives.

Taking another man's life cannot be Godly. A man cannot be excused for murder just because he wears a uniform; however, in a wartorn country in a battle situation, deeds such as this should be looked upon from a different viewpoint. Calley should not be bound while hundreds more, guilty of equal or greater crimes, go free. For me to say that the jury at his trial was right or wrong, I cannot, for I am not God. But to state my opinion on his conviction of premeditated murder, I feel that this is a poor way to treat a man who was just doing his job. He is truly a pincushion designed to absorb the needles of wrath of the military.

Everyone Is Silent

EDITOR'S NOTE: Danny Welborne observes man in his relationship to his fellow man.

Everyone is silent, they won't talk to one another,
Everybody's all up-tight, they won't love their brother.
"Do unto others before they do it to you first;"
The modern-day Golden Rule, the old one's been reserved.

The white man hates the black man, his brother;
The black man hates in return, is there any other?
There're the millions who, keep to the middle of the road,
No commitment, no caring, nobody's sowed;
If noboby sowed the seeds of love, nobody will reap.
As men are, so are all the nations,
All of them are faking friendly relations.
Walk softly, smile nicely, carry a big stick,
I've heard it all my life, now I'm growing sick.

Homo-Sapiens are something more than beasts,
And the wily animals we'll remain, until released.
No one can give us freedom but we ourselves,
There'll be no help from heaven, nor from helpful elves.

Come together, mankind, let's all work together.
Before the fabric of our souls toughens into leather.
Come together brothers, try co-operation;
We could all relax if we were all one nation.

The Cougar Cry

THE VOICE OF WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Editor	Maurice Craven
Sports Editor	Vicki Higgins
Social Editor	Sandra Russell
News Editor	Scot Rigby
Business Manager	Wanda Barlow
Staff:	Wanda McGlamery, Debbie Elledge, Jim Billings, Reid Jones, Jodi Patton, Betty Jo Dancy, Peggy Byers.
Photographer	Gary Hendren
Typists	Jackie Johnson, Eyda Bennett, Sherill Lowe
Advisor	Mrs. Essie Hayes

Letters to the Editor

Capital Punishment

Who is to say when an individual can or cannot condemn another man to death! Perhaps the truth lies in mankind itself.

From the very beginning of time, there have always been people who felt superior to other people. Superior even to the extent of deciding whether a man should live or die.

As for me, I am against capital punishment. I do not feel that I could assume the responsibilities that would surely have to come with condemning another human being to death. This seems to be more of a task than I feel I could handle. I would have only time to think of all the tortured nightmares and sleepless nights, wondering if maybe I would get my just reward when it was my time to meet my Maker. How a person can live with thoughts like

these is beyond my comprehension.

In our free America, freedom of speech has helped the people to speak up for what they think is right and wrong. This we need, to help us prove our beliefs.

There are many heartless, uncaring people in the world — people who feel they have no need of others. These are the people who should take the place of the hangman.

I feel capital punishment will, in time, be abolished. In its place, there will be a system that can separate the guilty from the innocent. Our earth, they will pay for their crimes. Who knows? Maybe they will again pay for their wrongdoings in another dimension — another realm of an unexplainable sea known as heaven. Who now can judge the path of fate, and feel they are right??

STUDENTS BEWARE

By Alice Barlow

Within our college there are a group of students more dangerous than any of the FBI's ten most wanted men! These desperadoes don't murder, rob banks, or steal cars. Who are they, and why are they so dangerous?

They are the magazine bandits and their territory is the Library. They wear the disguise of students at Wilkes Community College and even go so far as to carry books!

As a student and as a member of the library assistants, I became aware of their presence about one hour after I started work. As a student, I witness the trail of their work as I do reports and try to find information for myself. This problem is serious; it is not a laughing matter!

Each quarter approximately 150 issues of magazines are taken from the library without being checked out. Some are returned; many are not. You may feel this isn't such a big thing but it is not just two or three magazines, and the consequences are felt by all library users at WCC.

In the first place, their crime is stealing. The magazines they steal belong to the library. These magazines are loaned to students who wish to use them through a process called check

out. Magazines are checked out for 24 hours and have to be returned or a fine is paid by the students.

In the second place, these students cheat their friends and fellow students. The magazines we subscribe to have many interesting articles on topics discussed in classes and in current events. The students who don't get an opportunity to read these articles are being deprived of a broadened education and of new ideas. Also, there is the old story of term papers and missing magazines with the needed article. What would your friends do if they knew they had to spend extra hours doing research, change to a less interesting topic, or take a lower grade, because you slipped the magazine they needed out of the library to do your report and you "forgot" to check it out or to bring it back?

Please help the library to help you by returning magazines and by checking them out properly.

Had A System

Dodd: "I notice that in telling about that fish you caught you vary the size for different listeners."

Rodd: "Yes. I never tell a man more than I think he'll believe."