

OPINION

Whines & Gripes

collected by Ritika Seal

Thank You Oaks for introducing me to these huge spiders!! Now I really appreciate my time in Poteat!

With such low temperatures in SMB, I think they should provide us with a free sweatshirt upon registering!!

Dear certain professor, Please realize that your class isn't the only one we are taking this semester, so please be understanding when you assign homework. You wouldn't want us to fail everything and ace just your class would you?

What happened to having ten students per class and personal attention? So much for advertising!

Dear BDH, Could you please make the food taste as yummy as you promised?

When I said, "Don't eat my brownies roommate", I did never implied "Eat it all and if you leave me a thank you note."!

To my ex study partner and friend,

Did you just ignore me after studying together for that Cell Biology class for an entire semester? At this rate you'll be losing friends faster than BDH lost its distinction.

The Looming Question of Co-Education

Christa Riley, Staff Writer

Meredith College is most widely known for being a wonderful and challenging college for women. Ever since Peace College made the decision to become co-ed, some people have been looking toward Meredith and wondering if it will do the same. In my opinion, Meredith should not begin admitting men into the undergraduate program because of the essence of tradition, loss of funding and publicity, and the loss of community on campus.

If Meredith started admitting men into the college, we would jeopardize our foundations and traditions. For example, how many men would want to participate in Tea for Two or Guardian Angel dance? Since these events were thought of and carried out with women in mind, we would have to either add more events catering just to men or scrap them all together. After all, in the event that we DID become co-ed, we would want the experience to be the same for both men and women on campus.

I have been reading the reactions

to Peace College's decision from alumna and current students and the reception has been less than cold. Most of them are outraged, mostly because of the fact that they were not informed before the general public: there was no poll, no debate, not even a mention of the change until this summer. A lot of the alumnae have said that they will not donate to Peace any longer. If we were to implicate the change, would we receive as much funding and sponsoring as we do now? Without the "all-women" label, we would not bring in as much publicity as we do now.

One of the most important things about Meredith to me is the community and the unity that I feel while I'm on campus and during class. Where else could you leave your wallet, purse, and laptop unattended on the table while you go and get your food? My friends who often visit Meredith are always surprised and think that I'm crazy when I do this,

but it is just an everyday thing for me. The classroom would be very different with men. Would we still have that confidence to speak out during class? Many girls and young women have said that they usually feel overshadowed by their male classmates.

Some critics say that we should be going to school with men to prepare us for the working environment; they believe that we are not having any male interaction while at Meredith. This is not true. We are in contact with men very often, whether it is at our jobs, in our classes with professors, or at social events. We will be well prepared to work with men when we graduate and are applying for jobs.

How many things would change if we were to adopt this co-ed principle? Would we have to adjust or throw out the honor code? Would we still have the same number of students coming in, or would we have to expand? Would class still be an intimate setting as it is now? While I am scrolling through all of the historical women's colleges in the United States, I notice that most of them have either closed or have become co-educational. I do not want another girl to lose her opportunity to go to an all women's college and make something of herself while working in a friendly and understanding environment.



WILLIAM PEACE
UNIVERSITY
Your Success. Our Mission.

image via nccollegefinder.org

Uniforms or Uniformity?

Samantha Biswas, Staff Writer

A women's college often brings to mind strict rules, curfews, and, of course, no boys on campus! This stereotype raises the debate of whether or not Meredith College should have required uniforms. I went to public school all of my life, and going to a private school is a big change; I am not yet accustomed to the smaller classrooms and the emphasis on the honor code, rules, and attendance. Though these things are important in school, one thing that has always been controversial about public school is the ability of students to express their individuality through their clothes. Private schools often enforce a strict uniform policy, as it suggests conformity and unity within the group – but the biggest criticism about uniforms is that they suppress individuality and creativity. Most of the time, uniforms come in bland colors such as gray, white, and black – nothing bold. In addition to the limited colors, students aren't allowed to accessorize those uniforms which restricts students' ability to express the way they feel. I have realized

that uniforms restrict students from displaying their personalities and self-confidence, encouraging students not to be leaders but to become followers. Social psychology teaches that some type of control over people is needed in order to advance, but uniforms are a symbol of obedience and a means for the authority to combine many into one. Do uniforms represent unity? Yes, they do, but uniforms hold a deeper meaning than unity; they show that the wearers are willing to be one by wearing the same clothes.

Clothing, especially for girls, is a form of expression. Through pieces such as jewelry, t-shirts, and pants, we illustrate our tastes and our self-confidence through our image. A lot of parents believe that school uniforms looks nicer and that they prevent distractions, while others feel that school uniforms help to build school spirit. On the other hand, having and showing school spirit requires creativity in the outfits that the students

wear. Uniforms force us to be someone that we aren't. They are a way of forcing rules and discipline onto those who don't necessarily wish to be one with everyone. Sometimes I see people who dress provocatively, which uniforms would help prevent, but uniforms also hinder our ability to be creative. They inhibit the part of our brain which explores the events in our lives. Through our attire, we display our feelings and, anthropologically, humans make traditional clothes, tattoos, and art in order to record history and form cultures. Even in the 21st century, we are making history by recycling designs and by creating new ways to wear those designs. Just like everything else, school uniforms have pros and cons. In my opinion, uniforms are a means of creating conformity and hindering our creative abilities and critical thinking skills – and if our society encourages creativity and critical thinking, we should step back from enforcing uniforms in colleges and private schools.