

## Editorial

# Equal Rights Ammendment

Reprinted from Today's Education, written by John Ryor, President, NEA.

There is a tendency, in times of economic and social uncertainty, to withdraw from unfulfilled commitments, to back away from our promises to include in our structure the forgotten and neglected who have been shut out of job opportunities, who've been denied a proportionate voice in decision making.

Time is running out. We cannot afford the luxury of sitting back and waiting for someone else to bring reason out of the morass of hysterical nonsense that this simple constitutional amendment has inspired. Some people seem to want to cloud the issue by raising one preposterous notion after another, all in an effort to make the ERA sound like some incredibly complicated document. The rest of us are so snakebitten by governmental documents that we fail to look up the original for ourselves, to see how uncomplicated it really is.

Here is the text of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment:

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the day of ratification.

That's the entire document. And I sincerely doubt that it could have been written more clearly, more succinctly, or in any way that could possibly be more obviously compelling. Equal rights under the law shall not be abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. The laws of our nation shall be applied equally to all of us. That's what this country is all about.

We are the educators of this nation. We cannot stand idly by and allow an amendment so basic to everything we believe and teach about our nation to be destroyed by the scaremongers who run around shouting that the sky is falling, crying that the ERA is all about forcing men and women to use the same latrines, warning about women being drafted in a draft that doesn't even exist anymore.

It doesn't matter whether you approach the ERA from a dollar-in-your-pocket or from a so-called idealistic point of view. It's right, it's necessary, and we've got to work harder than ever to achieve its ratification as the 27th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

## Letters to the Editors

# SGA Candidates Speak Out

Dear Editors,

"If its true say it, if it is right do it". The time has come when the student body of MHC wishes to be heard.

When you look at what MHC really needs, no one is better qualified to say than you.

You have many good, constructive and innovate ideas that need to be employed by the SGA and the Administration of MHC. When your suggestions are given a chance, we will move forward in greater stride.

If you wish to feel that your voice is heard and recognized in your student government association, support Richard Heaton for the Vice-Pres. of the Student Government Association.

Richard Heaton

Dear Editors,

The time has come for me to officially announce my intent to run for the office of President of the Student Government Association.

During my three years at Mars Hill I have been very active in its campus life. I feel that I have the necessary experience to do an effective job as President.

I believe that in order to lead, one must serve. I intend to serve to the best of my ability the students of Mars Hill College. I love our school, and I desire the opportunity to help make it even greater. Thank you.

Sincerely  
Wright Culpepper



## In Retrospect

By Wright Culpepper

During January 1977, I was walking to my minimester class a few minutes late due to a cold I caught the day before. Everyone was in their own classes, and I had the whole campus to myself.

The school was beautifully covered with a blanket of freshly fallen snow which provided me with a sense of peace and serenity. I was truly enjoying this walk to class.

As I approached the steps in front of Melrose Dormitory I remembered from past experiences that they were covered with ice. I paused for a moment contemplating whether or not I should walk down the steps or go around them. Shortly, I decided that it would be best to go around.

As soon as my feet left the path, they also left the ground. The next few minutes seemed as if they were an eternity. I landed on my back which caused all my wind to be expelled from

my lungs. I quickly stood up only to have my knees buckle from the pain I was in.

While gasping for breath, I tried in vain to call out for help, but no one was around to come to my rescue. In my panic, I feared the possibility of freezing to death on that frozen ground.

After a while, I started regaining my composure. I was able to catch my breath, and soon I was on my way to class. However, I suffered much pain in my lungs for several months thereafter.

In our daily walk through life many situations arise that tempt us to get off the path which is before us. The way around looks easy, but in the end it only brings pain and suffering. We must keep our eyes on God and the way He has given us through Christ Jesus.

Our Father will not desert us, and He is constantly sending His Spirit to renew us from within. The closer we follow Him, the better our life will be.

Have a glorious day!

## The Hilltop

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