

ROTC -- Yes or No

When many Grimsley students came to school on August 27, they were handed an anti-ROTC pamphlet. There has been a lot of argument both for and against the ROTC program here. We were fortunate to interview the instructor of the ROTC program at Grimsley and we feel the program is wrong and has no place as a separate course at the school.

The main purpose of ROTC is leadership training with minor purposes of teaching patriotism, the National Rifle Association safe hunter program, History, hygiene, drug abuse, and first aid.

We cannot see how leadership taught by commanding a drill team that will offer no dissent and that must obey their superior's every order will ever benefit anyone who wants to lead in a democracy. This leadership is the restricted leadership of a dictator who expects and relieves no questions. We do not feel that this is the right preparation for a person living in our world today.

The teaching of patriotism is superfluous. All through elementary and junior high school we have gained an appreciation of the American culture and way of life. A student taking ROTC already has an appreciation of his country.

To instill patriotism, ROTC members are shown comparative films of the good way of life "here" and the bad way of life "there". Yet, they aren't informed of the nations that we back militarily who are worse than "they". We must have patriots, but we need the patriotism established on the principles on which this nation was founded.

The National Rifle Association safe-hunter program may be an excellent course, but why can it not be taken under NRA auspices by the interested student, or why can it not be offered under the physical education program, the way archery is taught. The student who wants to learn marksmanship can always find a civilian program to suit his needs in this area.

The place to build our democratic leadership and patriotism should be in the academic classroom. Why can't discussions in social studies classes not take the place of leadership through drilling? By listening and participating in these discussions, people take stands and become leaders. They become leaders able to choose a side while remaining receptive to constructive suggestions by others whose opinions differ from their own.



ROTC Beneficial

A man stands before a small group of interviewers in a former radio room beneath the auditorium. Many questions will be raised. Are students of this course taught to destroy human life? Should guns, non-operational M-1's and "live" 22's be permitted on the campus of Grimsley High School? Does drill and rank develop leadership? How about the course title; might it not be misleading?

Attitudes are the key factors. Opposing attitudes have brought this assemblage together. Now, together, pro and anti-ROTC ponder the same question, all asked of one individual Colonel J. V. Booker.

He and Sergeant Zales are no different from other men trying to resolve problems put forward by humanity.

Colonel Booker explains the program. This is comparatively simple, for the explanation deals with facts, not theory of right and wrong. But overtaking and obviously overhanging this is the basic issue—a philosophical one.

School Ugly

Nobody wants to hear about School Beautiful. This article is not concerned with School Beautiful as a result. In its place, this article will concern itself with a better known aspect of school life, School Ugly. School Ugly could easily be placed before us as a model school activity. It has almost the full participation of the student body. The work days occur spontaneously five days a week. No outside urging is needed to arouse enthusiasm. School Ugly is a fine example of spirit. Seriously, we think it's better to be involved in tearing down the campus than to remain passive. But, conversely, it takes a certain amount of guts to be wishy-washy. So, to sum up, it takes no initiative to be involved in pro-rightist affairs such as School Beautiful. It takes no guts. No doubt this is the valid excuse used by many to rationalize their behavior, or, rather, justify.

Is the military a morally justifiable institution in society?

War is an evil creation, stemming out of prejudice, hate, fear and ignorance, themselves evil creations of man's failure to treat his fellowman as he himself would be treated. Until this harmony is established on earth man will continue to distrust one another and he will coin something to do his "dirty work", someone other than himself to accept the responsibility for his ill will.

The military has not and never has been, the cause of war. The military is an institution run by men. At worst it is a result of mankind's suicidal struggle against the brotherhood of each one of us. Understanding and distinguishing cause from effect is vital to the ultimate realization of our social environment.

As a member of the Marine Corps Junior ROTC, but primarily as a believer in the betterment of the human race I feel compelled to defend this leadership program and its co-ordinators. Able leadership is the essence of success for any movement especially social reform. Though not perfect by any means, I believe this course to be a good thing.

CCSC -- What Is It?

Undaunted by two previous failures, two reporters set out a third and more successful time in search of a CCSC meeting. This organization, the Central Committee for Social Change, is a group of anti-military students of both high school and college ages. Merely attending a meeting as observers was a worthwhile experience.

The meeting was informal and all present were invited to contribute to the discussions. We were impressed by the group's sincerity concerning its cause; they are quite genuinely disturbed over the situation in Vietnam. These young people are protesting war because

By Steve Grossman

Once again it is about time for the sophomore rush by the service clubs on campus. This means that it is about time for the usual beefs claiming that Grimsley's service clubs are social clubs. Before I go any further, let me state that I am not a member of a service club by my own preference. I have not applied for membership ever because of conflicting hours with my job. I say this because I want to make it clear that I have not been asked to state what I'm about to state by a club and that I am not an "outcast" from a club.

Grimsley's service clubs are very definitely not social clubs. They are clubs sponsored by a parent organization. Social clubs are specifically not permitted on this campus.

This is an annual event. About mid-October or early November, those sophomores who have applied to the respective clubs and have not been accepted begin their arguments that "only popular people get in" or "She knows somebody". Service clubs here do not operate that way. Whether one is accepted in a club or not is up to ord. So, let us not have the usual his past attitude, service, and rec-

they believe it is wrong, not because pacifism is a popular or novel movement.

The members of CCSC whom we either met or saw appeared to be friendly, intelligent persons. They seem well-informed as to laws and ordinances which might apply to their undertakings, and they are aware of the legitimate procedures they must observe in order to register their complaints.

Te believe CCSC is a constructive organization with a justified grievance. Its members have the courage of their convictions, a quality uncharacteristic of too many Americans today.

Editorial Briefs

bickering if not selected this year. There are still two more years to apply.

It looks like our football team has the potential to make a good match out of the Reynolds game this year. After all, we beat Broughton 13-0 and Reynolds only beat them 14-0. Fly high, Big Blue.

Congratulations to Carl McNeill as pep board chairman. He has really revived the Whirlie spirit from its mediocre state last year. The Electric Trash Can Band is a stroke of genius, Carl, but can they play "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida"!

HIGH LIFE

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