

The Daily Tar Heel

Opinions of the Daily Tar Heel are expressed in its editorials. Letters and columns, covering a wide range of views, reflect the personal opinions of their authors.
ERNIE McCRARY, EDITOR

Look, Ma - Cavities

As if we didn't have enough problems, there is always someone like Dr. Doran D. Zinner who makes life more complicated.

He is a University of Miami dentist-microbiologist who says that tooth decay is a very contagious disease and has little or nothing to do with number of candy bars you eat or the number of dental cavities your parents had.

"For many years we thought of tooth decay as hereditary," he said. "But now we know that if an individual does not have a certain type of bacteria in his mouth, he will not get cavities."

Zinner and four colleagues have been studying this abysmal problem for four years and they have reached the conclusion that decay bacteria can be transmitted only by direct contact.

The implications involved here might not throw the world into turmoil, but they certainly have the potential to affect our way of life. The fact that hits an exposed nerve is that the most effective way these bacteria can be "transmitted by direct contact" is by kissing, but Zinner admits, "This is not going to stop kissing."

We most surely agree and predict that no disease in history will be knowingly spread with such pleasure. In fact, a whole new approach to identifying boy-girl relationships could arise from this.

No longer will a girl say, "I have his pin."
 She will proudly declare, "I have his cavities."

Trite Questions, Trite Answers

Winston-Salem Journal

Right now, President Johnson's National Crime Commission is supposed to be examining some fundamental questions about the nation's crime problem. But an article in a recent *New York Times Sunday Magazine* suggests that the commission is not even asking the right questions, let alone any very fundamental ones.

Two of the questions President Johnson asked the commission to answer were:

— Why is drug addiction increasing among young people?

— Why does organized crime continue to expand?
 The author of the article, William M. McCord, a professor at Rice University, says that these questions are the wrong ones. For example, drug addiction is not increasing among young people; in 1915, the year after opiate addiction was declared illegal, scientists estimated that 215,000 Americans were addicts; by 1960, the Federal Bureau of Narcotics reported that there were only 45,391 known addicts in America.

Mr. McCord also suggests that if we put organized crime in historical perspective, we have to agree that whether there is more organized crime today than ever before is strictly debatable.

He observes: "New York's 'Bowery Boys' and the 'Dead Rabbits' of the 1860's the gangs of the Far West in the 1870s and Chicago's 'Mike McDonald Democrats' of the 1880s testify that organized crime has been an enduring, even a glamorized, element in American culture 100 years."

This is not to suggest that Mr. McCord takes a light view of the problem of crime, or that we do here. America, he says, is the most criminal nation in the world. "On a per capita basis, Americans commit about twice as many assaults as Frenchmen, triple the number of rapes as Italians and five times as many murders as Englishmen."

But what is apparent is that President Johnson's commission, like others before it, is asking trite but largely untrue questions. Like the FBI's Uniform Crime Statistics report, the commission's mandate is unintentionally misleading; it lacks perspective, and therefore the real relevance that we need to combat crime.

One thing is certain about crime: If we insist on pat questions, it is not likely that we will get much beyond pat answers.

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72 Years of Editorial Freedom

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"Well, If That's All You're Worried About, I'll Hold My Breath!"



David Rothman

Songs, Signs Attack LBJ

WASHINGTON — Leaders of Saturday's Viet Nam march failed to persuade left wingers not to carry extremist signs calling for the immediate withdrawal of American troops from Viet Nam.

The signs, along with Viet Cong flags, showed up anyway after Sanford Gottlieb, the protest's official coordinator, found he couldn't get radical groups like Youth Against War and Fascism to avoid parading these embarrassments in front of the TV cameras.

Even in a crowd of 25,000, ultra-leftist placards were conspicuous.

Some of the more emotional signs proclaimed:

- "Stop the Bombing!"
- "Bring the GI's Home Now!"
- "No More War — Never Again!"
- "Make Love — Not War!" (This is already a classic placard among the Viet Nam demonstrators.)
- "Don't Forget It — Americans Are Dying Too."

Perhaps the biggest farce was a dirty-faced man parading in what looked like an American Legion uniform. Several hundred persons identifying themselves as veterans attended. Like the clergymen present, they were organized into special march units.

And to really guarantee an aura of respectability, many marchers carried American flags. The mass demonstration might as well have been an American Legion convention rather than a gathering largely dominated by pacifists eager to avoid dying for "Old Glory."

Then came the singing at the Washington Monument:

"As . . . the boys fight you'll hear the newspapers say . . . gotta kill . . . gotta joy kill . . . Most of the world says killing's all right . . . It's the only way . . . fun kill, joy kill."

Everybody liked the music. But there was other entertainment, including a procession of black-robed figures carrying skulls across the stage of the Sylvan Theater while a protester mocked President Johnson. The imitator LBJ solemnly intoned: "I am impressed by a classroom of healthy children, but guns and battle ships are also good . . . Often force is necessary." He yelled himself hoarse.

Ronnie Dugger, editor of *The Texas Observer*, piously assured the audience that he spoke "not for burners of draft cards, and not for those who want the Viet Cong to win (boos from some of the crowd)."

Dr. Benjamin Spock, the baby doctor who claims to have established himself as a foreign affairs expert, announced the sending of a "peace" telegram "To Pope Pius." "He's obviously not a Catholic," somebody in the crowd acidly commented. The present pontiff is Pope Paul.

Spock eventually corrected himself. Other messages went to President Johnson and Ho Chi Minh.

The pediatrician called the Viet Nam fighting "a war which has earned us the scorn of people everywhere." He labeled the Saigon government a "puppet dictatorship."

Spock said the Johnson administration "has become a victim of its own propaganda and intimidation."

Norman Thomas, whose main profession seems to be running for president (he did it six times on the Socialist ticket), said the government has forced "our boys . . . to kill, kill, kill . . . And we call this saving liberty."

"I'd rather see America save her soul than her face," he said. In saying these words, Thomas came close to tears.

Joseph M. Duffey, assistant professor of English at Notre Dame University, blasted American action of Viet Nam, but drew boos from certain members of the audience by criticizing "the inhumanity of the National Liberation Front (the Viet Cong)."

Rep. George Brown (D-Calif.) urged free elections throughout Viet Nam, as well as the creation of a peace force to promote Vietnamese neutrality.

Mrs. Martin Luther King, wife of the civil rights leader, associated the U. S. bombing of the Viet Cong with the terrorism of Alabama racists.

After Mrs. King's speech, folksingers crooned: "I ain't going to study war no more" — as if they were ROTC members protesting their military drills. "Everybody's got a right, yeh everybody's got a right," they sang.

Carl Oglesby, president of Students for a Democratic Society, called the Viet Cong's insurrection "a revolution as honest as they come." He related the recent Los Angeles racial riots to the struggle against American "imperialism" and pleaded for acceptance of minority opinion.

Near the end of the rally a youth sneaked onto the stage and shouted into the microphones: "Before we leave, we must not assume that the (Johnson) administration's foreign policy completely lacks rationality."

The dissenter was booed, and dragged off the stage by the protest leaders, who thought they had achieved a consensus.

Big Mo Welcome

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel:

It has come to our attention that Craige dormitory, sometimes known as Maverick House, has become a Residence College. We at Morrison College wish to make it known that we both sanction and welcome this occurrence; as a matter of fact, we are very happy to welcome our little friends across the street to the ranks of the college men. Furthermore, we are glad to see that the leaders of Craige have finally done the right thing — to follow in the footsteps of "Big Mo."

"H" House Officers
 John Ellis, President
 Morrison Residence College

Liberal Comment

Students Need Freedom

By TERRY FOWLER

A desire for the liberalization of the Campus Code has been manifested this fall by the report of the Ad Hoc Judiciary Committee appointed by Paul Dickson. When proposals to change rules that so directly affect the life of everyone are put forward in this manner, the basic rationale behind those rules should be reexamined.

There are at least two possible rationales that could be used to justify women's rules regarding curfews, signing out, and so on. One set of reasons involves the argument that it is proper for a young lady to be in by a certain hour, period. The Carolina gentleman should exercise a certain measure of moderation in her search for the Good Life.

A second rationale is that it is practical, for instance, to keep track of students (male as well as female, it might be added), or to have residence halls reasonably impregnable from unpredictable invasions of the opposite sex.

The first rationale, it should be stated flatly, grows out of parental rules. Home situations, however, vary widely. Parents who have kept offspring on strict rules and then send them away to college might be dismayed if that college did not have some rules that continued to restrict activity until the youngster is old enough to know better. When some people go to college they suddenly find themselves far more free; others subject to the same rules have a gay time at home.

The practical rationale grows out of living in a college community. The rules are concerned with making a particular institution work, rather than with making it work in a different way. It is assumed that to a certain degree the men and women come from a society at large bringing their own rules for conduct with them and adapt them when necessary to the particular community. It is further assumed that norms are largely internalized; they no longer need overt pressure for conformity.

In essence, of course, the rationale of parentally inspired rules is also practical. Morals are essential to any kind of organized society. One example of their practicality is that pre-marital sex is morally banned because the children likely to appear are deprived of a stable family environment. The inertia of such norms is powerful enough to have overcome at-

tempts at rational use of contraceptives. In any case, rules that have proved practical are imposed on children because at that time they don't know any better. They would be incapable of seeing the essential practicality for society and therefore for themselves of not lying, stealing, being sexually promiscuous, or cheating on exams. The child does not see the alternatives to moral behavior.

The adult, however, is usually conscious of the choice he is making. I say usually because occasionally moral rules can be so powerful that they can preclude choice for an individual. Human experience, though, is too diverse for moral precepts to give us unambiguous guides for behavior. More than one rule will apply to any given situation, or no rules at all. Adults should learn to see alternatives.

Now, if parents and those presently responsible for redefining the Campus Code have any respect for the individual, they should, with grave consideration of the consequences, give young men and women the opportunity to make choices, to learn that few (if any) rules are universally valid.

A woman governed by a curfew must go at one o'clock. Her choice is made for her. A woman with no curfew who tells her date she must be in by one may be unthinkingly following the dictates of her parents, she may want more sleep, or she may want to get away from a crummy date. At the age of 18 or 19 people should be learning to make choice between social life and studies, between deep emotional attachments and less disturbing relationships.

Many people try to escape the constant tension between conflicting rules that characterizes any intelligent man. Those who see communism and anti-communism as black and white, or those who see pre-marital sex or abstinence as black and white — these people are taking the easy way out. The substance of their particular position makes little difference to their ultimate desire — psychological peace of mind.

If rules concerning social life at the university do not give the men and women the chance to face difficult alternatives themselves, then it will have failed in its function of providing society with responsible citizens, who will themselves be making rules one day, presented with situations where no rules or conflicting rules apply.

Letters To The Editor

Craige Needs Investigating

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel:

"Craige has won," was the cry from my friend across the hall as he read the Nov 20 DTH. That Craige could win the prize for the Best Dormitory Float, I find highly amusing since they missed the end of the Dook Parade by almost twenty minutes. I feel as do most people at Ehringhaus that this is an injustice. Like most people,

I had always thought that the judging was done at South Building, the last stop on the parade route. And I had always believed that the prize was given for parade participation and showmanship as well as construction. How, therefore, could the crumbling blob of wire and paper, which had fallen apart three times and be over a half hour late reaching South Building possibly win. The only logical conclusion that comes to mind is that Craige might have been given the award before the parade ever began or, even yet, before their float was ever finished.

It seems that once again exceptions are being made for this group as they have been in the past. But what then can one expect when they are allowed to show movies of a disputable nature with the consent of South Building as they did last year; or lease beach cottages while still spending more than they are allotted by the MRC as they have done this year. With the present crackdown on dorm activities, how can such actions as these be so flagrantly overlooked. While committees are investigating I most heartily suggest that they look in Craige.

Allen Shepard
 535 Ehringhaus

In Appreciation

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel:

On behalf of the Garden Club Council of Chapel Hill, I would like to thank the young men who picked up the bottles, cans, paper and other trash along the Airport Road and Franklin Street approaches to Chapel Hill.

The Council greatly appreciates their effort to beautify our town and hopes more groups will follow their fine example.

Dorothy Muir Mullen
 (Mrs. James J. Mullen)
 President,
 Garden Club Council
 Chapel Hill

LETTERS

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes letters to the editor on any subject, particularly on matters of local or University interest. Letters must be typed, double spaced and must include the name and address of the author or authors. Names will not be omitted in publication. Letters should be kept as brief as possible. The DTH reserves the right to edit for length or libel.

Needed: A Way Out

Editor, The Daily Tar Heel:

I was interested to note in last Wednesday's DTH that it took the combined weight of eight student intellects to devise a Thanksgiving message to our soldiers in Viet Nam. I wonder what this portends for our ability to figure a way out of this mess, once and if we turn out thoughts from buoyant euphemisms.

Buck Grinter
 379 Tenney Circle

