

The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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Bland Simpson

Zap The Communication Gap

America today has myriads of psychologists, politicians, angry parents, and angry youth all running around proclaiming the existence of an absolutely unbridgeable gap between the generations.

To be quite certain, we can easily see that communication between parents and children, students and administrators is often difficult as well as taking place all too infrequently.

But to what extent is each "side" in the so-called debate fooling itself and the other with the popular jargon of total breakdown and separation? It appears that we all have a lot more in common than we want to admit, and it would seem that we are being unrealistic in judging the gap to be "unbridgeable."

Anyone who was out at the Union

Grove Fiddler's Convention this past Easter weekend saw a good example of just why we aren't experiencing the total generational war many pop psychologists and sociologists keep talking about. Close to 15,000 people jammed into Union Grove, N.C., to both witness and participate in this highly publicized country music festival. Most of them, as one would expect, came to watch. And a good number of the fiddlers and pickers reeked of Nashville. But most of the players who journeyed to Union Grove were the real thing—straight out of the hills.

A significant portion of the spectators were students, and every imaginable New Left type was around as well. The American Legion characters had made it too, their lapels decorated with American flag pins.

But there wasn't any pitch bottle. The really great thing about the Union Grove affair was that communication between these two groups came both instantly and unselfishly.

As soon as everyone started bringing out their fiddles, fried chicken, and beer, Union Grove was just one big picnic. No one was trying to be tough or hard-nosed with anyone else, simply because there was no reason to be. Music and a good time was the common denominator, and there was no obstruction to either.

Now this is not to say that we don't have any problems in the United States today, nor is it to say that all those who were plucking banjos and drinking beer together agree on either goals or strategy for modern America.

This much is evident. If we are to

accomplish those things we feel are needed in America—bringing more people into democratic participation, providing a minimum of education, housing and the like—then we are all going to have to be willing to communicate with our countrymen. None of us, however, are entirely agreed on what form of communication is most effective. To some, it's a silent vigil on Wednesday afternoon; to others, it's a guerrilla attack on the Pentagon in Washington.

Probably the main reason that a large portion of our generation is mad at those "over thirty" is that the over-thirties all too often refuse to listen. When college students in the fifties were so apathetic as to be called the "Silent Generation," all America was confused and upset. Now that collegiates are out protesting a war, working in civil rights projects, and helping McCarthy out, adulthood is just as up in the air as before.

So there's our dilemma—stay out of things and you lack "awareness;" get involved and you're a radical. It's our part to be calm enough to sit down and explain even the radical things we come up with; in response, we expect, just as our parents do, to be listened to.

Communication between generations isn't impossible. If it could happen at Union Grove, why can't it happen in Chapel Hill? Or New York City? The great thing about America, I hope, is that it can.

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Petty Rules Cause Coed To Miss Jubilee

A large number of UNC students don't make it to Jubilee for a variety of reasons.

Some don't have dates, some don't have the money, some have to study, some prefer to go to the beach, and some don't like the performances and boycott the festivities.

So why would someone who had a date, didn't have to worry about the expenses, didn't have to study, didn't want to go to the beach, and like the performers not go to Jubilee?

Simple, the person, in this case a coed, had been campused, one night this weekend, for a violation of a rule in the handbook of rules for women.

And what did the coed do to deserve being campused one night during Jubilee?

It seems this coed had invited another coed up for the weekend a couple of weeks ago.

The UNC coed arranged for her guest to stay in her room in her bed while she was out of town for the weekend.

When she got back she found out that she had violated a rule by leaving town while she had a guest.

The coed had registered the guest as required and had paid the 50 cents registration fee as required.

She had to appear before House Council. The punishment is prescribed in a handbook given to the president of the house council but is not stated in the rulebook given all coeds.

The coed, who in violating the rule had no idea of what punishment to expect, much less knowing that she was even breaking a rule, was given a "choice" of punishment by the council. They told her she could take campusment the Friday night of Jubilee weekend or the Friday and Satur-

day night of the following weekend.

And what is the case with male students who bring friends up to UNC? In the first place they are not restricted to having guests on just the weekend; they can have them any day of the week and no one will pay them any mind. Secondly, they don't have to register their friends, much less pay 50 cents to register them. And finally, it doesn't make any difference whether you leave town while the guest is visiting.

So why rules for women and not for men? You've got us. In the first place it is hard to understand why women students at Carolina are any less responsible than the male students. If anything, judging from the fact that coeds here have higher college board scores than males, one might guess they are more responsible.

Secondly, granted that there might be semi-sound reasons for imposing some rules on women that aren't imposed on men, there is certainly no quality about women that would require such absolute control over the way the coeds lead their lives here on campus.

While debate over the question of no-closing hours for women gets the greater attention, the minor rules which make life for women more miserable than that of men stay on the book. Abolition of these petty rules must be given as much attention by the WRC as the abolition of the major rules, for they are just as much a denial of the responsibility of the coeds here.

Certainly it must be a source of happiness to coeds here to know they are outnumbered by the males but what good does that do them if they have to spend their weekends in the dorm because they were out of town while they had a guest?

U.S. Sets Aside Pride In Going To Paris

Talks are finally going to take place between the United States and North Vietnam after a month of haggling over sites. The place the two nations decided on finally was Paris, a town never mentioned officially by the two nations as a possibility.

Paris had been discounted as a possibility because of a little problem of pride. General De Gaulle had been one of the most vociferous critics of the American presence in Vietnam and offered to help negotiate a settlement between the two countries.

Therefore, for the U.S. to agree to talks in Paris, by all other standards the logical place, would have seemed like conceding to De Gaulle's demands, and therefore, humiliation for the U.S.

But Johnson has apparently now set aside these artificial objections to get on with the business of settling the war and extracting the U.S. from Vietnam so it can get to work solving its domestic problems, which it seems, cannot be settled at the same

time that a war is being fought. Johnson in the past month has shown himself to be aware of the real problems our nation faces and the problems of our involvement in the civil war in Vietnam. First he decided not to run, eliminating one of the major causes of divisiveness in the country. Secondly, he offered to negotiate and limited the bombing of North Vietnam. Now he has set pride aside in order to get down to the business of negotiating.

The next step is the ticklish business of deciding the conditions for full-scale negotiations between the country.

The negotiations with the North Vietnamese over the war are needed very much. To negotiate is not a sign of weakness, only the results of the negotiating signify whether a nation is weak or strong. Therefore it is important that the country go into these preliminary talks with at least the same spirit that has taken the nation this far towards settlement in the last month.



Letters To The Editor

DTH Editor Should Be Elected

To the Editor,
Re Mr. Amlong's parting editorial advocating selection of Daily Tar Heel editors by the Publications Board.

Democracy, it is said, is the worst of all possible forms of government—except for all the others. Perhaps, by the same token, election of DTH editors by the campus is the worst of all possible selection processes—except for all the others.

Granted that the electioneering process is one in which most candidates for editor (being introspective, intellectual, undemagogic souls) find themselves distinctly uncomfortable. Granted that the campus on rare occasions, has made "mistakes" and ignored the "best-qualified" candidate for the editorship.

But consider the alternatives: (1) selection by the incumbent DTH staff; or (2) selection by the Publications Board. By both processes one can insure that the unruly influences of the campus will not intrude upon the Inner Sanctum of Graham Memorial. By the first process one insures that the incumbent staff can perpetuate its way of doing and saying things; one insures that no "outsiders" with different ideas and marching to the beat of different drummers will horn in. By the second process one hands to student government officialdom—so lovingly portrayed for the past year by Bruce Strauch—control over Daily Tar Heel policy. Before you embrace selection by a student government publications board as the best system, you should check with universities which have had unpleasant experiences with such a system—e.g., University of California in the early '60s.

Election of the editor by the campus means that the day he takes office he is free to "play God" for the next year, without always having to look over his shoulder at the student government board which gave him his job and can take it away from him if he steps out of line. (And this regularly happens on other campuses). If enough people become sufficiently enraged with the editor, under the present campus election system, they can seek to recall him and he can fight it out with his enemies in public.

The alternative—Publications Board selection—would (1) prevent the campus from having any say in choosing or getting rid of an editor, but more importantly, (2) it would hush the strident voice of the Daily Tar Heel editor, and would make him beholden to student government officials. The editor, now the watchdog of student gov-

ernment and administration behavior, might well become a tame house pet.

Jim Clofelter
Cop Editor, Daily Tar Heel
1962-63

JXGYCR

To the Editor:
We have noted the letter of Mr. Desmond P. Ellis of the Department of Sociology in your April 25 issue. We do not take issue with Mr. Ellis' attempt to defend the Friday boycott of classes, but we are appalled at the gibberish that he uses to express his ideas.

For example, the second sentence of the letter reads, "As I see it, the primary responsibility of a disciplined scholar is to ascertain the validity status of the existential facts about which one expresses normative feelings before the dissemination of the 'contents' of one's limbic system." Since the meaning of this statement is unclear to the profane, one wishes that Mr. Ellis had translated his sociological jargon into English.

To our great loss, the news media, bureaucratic agencies, Madison Avenue, and the pseudo-sciences have invaded the public at large and the academic community with their tasteless, often meaningless, cant. The time has come for those who cherish the genius of the English language to recognize as counterfeiters those who pass off garble as intellectual currency.

The university can have no greater responsibility than to foster the clear expression of well-formed thought.

James B. Graves, Jr.
Ian McDonald
John Barrett

Rap Right?

To the Editor:
After the past summers of bitter racial discontent and with the summers to come, the response of American white leadership to the nation's most critical domestic problem can only be described as disappointing.

Capitol Hill's most popular actions have been to punish agitators, strengthen the police and cut some of the funds that are easing some of the distress in the Nation's slums through the anti-poverty program. The approach in Washington only serves to divert attention from plain causes of the riots, which is the goading misery in which Negroes live in the Nation's slums.

Nothing less than a Marshall Plan or a multi-billion dollar anti-poverty

program for the cities can make any lasting contribution toward a solution to the problems that have driven Negroes to riot. The dollars are going to Vietnam instead of Chicago or Raleigh, and Capitol Hill is not making the sacrifices to get the billions that are necessary to end the war at home.

The response of America's White Leadership has been exactly what the Black extremists have always said it would be. Whitey talks a good game, but you have to shake him up before he will do anything. Once you take off the pressure, Whitey will go right back to business as usual and forget that Black people ever existed."

It is hard to believe that the White leadership of the United States has not been sufficiently shaken by the events of the past summers and the death of Dr. King to respond in a constructive and permanent way to the needs in the slums.

The response has been foolish or irrelevant. American white leadership must move and decide what is necessary so that the nation will not have to be shaken further.

John Fikes

Read Hit

To the Editor:
The situation has apparently gotten out of hand. Mr. Read (whose name I did not mention in my previous letter out of a spirit of keeping personalities out of it) has gone a little too far, and I'm afraid, is not quite correct on his facts.

1. The "Israeli dance or nothing at all issue"—This came about after I announced to Mr. Read that we intended to do an Israeli show. I will not justify that decision; to anyone who feels that it needs a justification, I feel sorry for you. Suffice it to say that I have done in the past, potpuri shows (from many nations), Greek shows, Balkan shows, and am contemplating a Scandinavian show.

Mr. Read expressed a reluctance about this, not for himself (although he admits to strong sympathies for the Arab position), but for the others, who, he said, might object. At this point, I to him that I considered dancing non-political, and that if told we could not do an Israeli show, we would do no show at all.

2. The next move was Mr. Campbell's—He informed me that the Israeli show would be all right, if I announced that the dances had come from different countries. I interpreted that to mean that, in his eyes, Jewish dances were OK, but Israeli dances were not.

Disneyland has more comfort stations than Latvia

The Daily Tar Heel accepts all letters for publication provided they are typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters should be no longer than 300 words in length. We reserve the right to edit for libelous statements.