

The Daily Tar Heel

Opinions of The Daily Tar Heel are expressed on its editorial page. All unsigned editorials are the opinions of the editor and the staff. Letters and columns represent only the opinions of the individual contributors.

Tom Gooding, Editor

"A student should have the same basic freedom in University housing as he would have in a commercial apartment." Matt Forstadt, Housemaster of Granville South.

"I would like someone to explain the rationale behind the University's policy of regulating students' lives within their own rooms." Professor Fred B. Wright, Department of Mathematics.

"There is probably some rationale for the system but I don't know what it is." Miss Katherine Kennedy Carmichael, Dean of Women.

Self-Determined Policy Necessary Improvement For University Living

Chancellor Sitterson has in effect removed himself from a position of responsibility concerning the decision on next year's visitation policy.

Sitterson told the Consultative Forum Tuesday the decision will be made by the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated University if the recommendations of the Administrative Board of Student Affairs are outside the limitations already set by the trustees.

Sitterson created and appointed the membership to the Committee on University Residential Life (CURL). This committee has approved a policy under which the individual living units would be free to determine the rules for holding open house.

When Sitterson received this report he sent it to the Administrative Board of Student Affairs, saying that asking the advice of the board was the normal process since any changes would affect this segment of the University administration.

Dean of Student Affairs C.O. Cathey, chairman of the administrative board, has announced that he will make his recommendation today.

If those recommendations are beyond the guidelines established by the Board of Trustees Sitterson will have to forward the report to a committee of all six university chancellors who will then make a recommendation to President Friday.

It would then become the responsibility of President Friday to carry the policy recommendation to the trustees.

Many students believe that the current Open House Agreement is stretched as far as the Trustee guidelines will allow.

Therefore if students are to expect an improved visitation policy for next year they may have to plan on going through the Board of Trustees.

However, we feel it isn't only the students who have to be responsible for the decision. Two advisory committees to the Chancellor will have to rule on the policy. Therefore, the Chancellor, we feel, will have a certain degree of responsibility for the final recommendation.

Also discussed at the forum meeting was the "quality of University life". In an introduction to this discussion it was noted that in 1967 there was more students wanting housing than the

University could accommodate. As of this spring, there are approximately 1,000 vacancies in campus housing.

Those in the administration who are concerned with increasing the number of students living on campus should take note of the above fact when deciding on rules for University housing.

Student Body President Tommy Bello said, "It is no surprise at all to me that students want to live off-campus. If the University is going to expect students to live on campus it is going to have to make housing more livable."

We completely agree. Students are not going to want to live in a square cubical, painted a dirty landlady green, where they can't decorate their room or entertain guests without permission.

The University has already been forced to require sophomore men and first year transfer students to live in University housing. If the administration doesn't begin to improve the quality of University life they can expect more vacancies in housing.

We firmly believe that if the University is going to force students to live in dorms against their will they have an obligation to improve the dormitories.

And we can't think of a better place to begin than a self-determining visitation policy.

Last week, I was writing about the rather distasteful presentation of sex in American cinema, when another thought crossed my mind: strange that America doesn't seem to have one able pornographer, that I know of, either in art or literature.

Yea, for my sin I had great store of bliss: Rise up, make answer for me, let thy kiss Seal my lips hard from speaking of my sin, Lest one go mad to hear how sweet it is.

We have plenty of junk, in which sex is the basic ingredient—but apparently a rather bland one, since it always needs seasoning with guilt, perversion, shame, or "pornography's" staple, super-human, idiotic excess. And we have Hollywood's current wave of candor. That usually consists of vast expanses of flesh used to elicit laughter—because it's funny if someone else's pants fall down; or to provoke admiration for the isolated, passive beauty of the subject (*Romeo and Juliet*); or to depict "reality"—people do get dressed and undressed once in a while, and why not on film? Peekaboo!

But we have little good eroticism. Apparently, it's a subject which doesn't

interest our popular artists, or which they can't come to terms with in their art.

We can all get copies of *Fanny Hill* and similar garbage, all of it so bad and so juvenile that only a mind incapacitated for anything but sexual fantasizing can begin to appreciate it. Or "Playboy," which, after years and years of breasty women, seems dementedly insensitive to both its repetitiveness and its sterility.

Or you can buy a wall poster depicting a man and a woman walking hand-in-hand by the sea. Somewhere on the poster is the word "Love," in case you didn't know (which isn't likely) that in the current parlance, the couple's isolation

from everyone else is supposed to imply their closeness to one another.

Or, if you're really poorly off, you can go to the Yorktowne's Saturday night "adult entertainment." "Adult" means that if a child gets into the theater, the manager will be arrested. It also means you'll see the seething, steaming, blisteringly naked truth about man-woman love. Yawn.

Skin-flicks, *Romeo and Juliet*, "Love," these would all be funny if they were just unconnected or extravagant instances of what I'm talking about. But they're representative of an attitude which pervades our society: illicit sex, perverse sex, bestial, brutal, violent sex; sex, period: it's bad, it's undignified—let's not talk about it.

As I said last week, the roots go deep, and not only in the presentation of this one subject. Our society seems to subsist on myths, unable to digest much that is frank or honest. A perfect illustration of this is a movie like *M*A*S*H*, which I'll talk about next week. So is a recent exchange of letters in the DTH concerning Project Hinton.

In an article about Hinton, one girl was quoted as delighted that she could get to know boys just as people, and not members of the opposite sex. A letter writer promptly cut Hinton to pieces on this account, pointing out that for the college student, sex is natural, essential, and sometimes urgent. So why talk babytalk about it?

It was good to see even a glimmer of intelligence on this subject, in a college paper. But it was only a glimmer. Because how can you treat sex honestly in Project Hinton, or in any closely supervised situation?

The proximity of the sexes adds inducements for-for what? For relationships which most of the participants have been brought up to consider immoral, or "justified" only by terribly deep feeling; and which, in the context of the college itself, are taboo.

In a column before the presidential election, I asked if any candidate would defend students caught living together in a coed dorm. No one replied.

In a recent column about visitation, the closest President Bello could come even to mentioning the tabu subject was to call up the spectre of a "female peeping tom," who might upset more stolid souls. He ended the passage with a wistful "Ah, virginity!" and if you can detect an attitude beneath the sophisticated confusion, you must be psychic.

But it's no wonder that Bello makes hash of the subject when he talks about it, or that anyone is mixed-up about sex. We live in a mixed-up, guilt-ridden society, and our awareness of the problem, by itself, is not enough to cure it—even in ourselves alone.

And that—the hesitation when faced with something undeniably real—is why, when you read the Tar Heel's columns (mine included), when you read most anything, you see so much posturing, circumlocution, and stupidity.

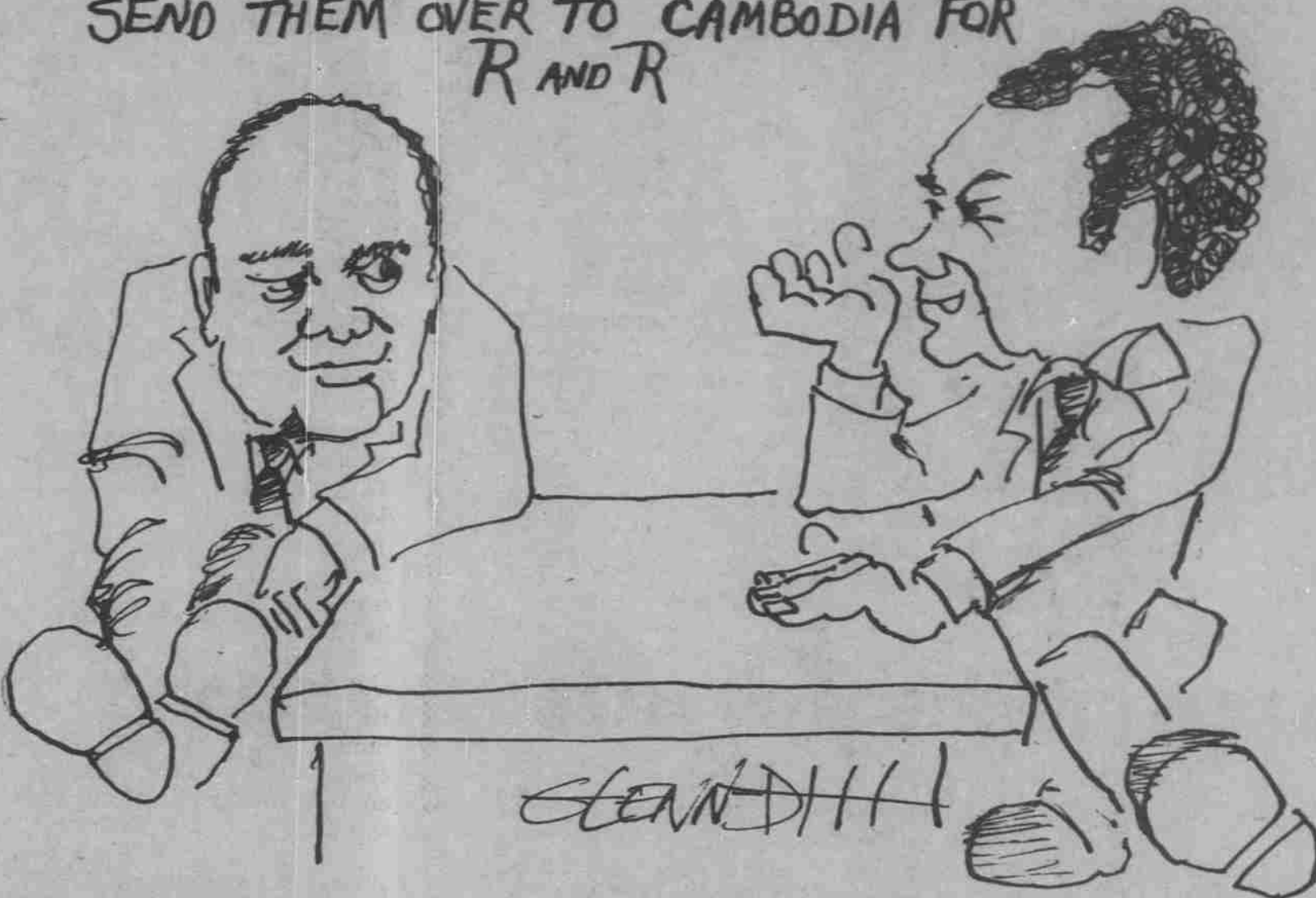
We're still puritans, you see, and we still prefer almost anything to being honest.

The Daily Tar Heel is published by the University of North Carolina Student Publications Board, daily except Monday, examination periods, vacations, and summer periods.

Offices are at the Student Union Bldg., Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514. Telephone Numbers: News, Sports—933-1011; Business, Circulation, Advertising—933-1163.

Subscription rates: \$10 per year; \$5 per semester. Second class postage paid at U.S. Post Office in Chapel Hill, N.C.

OH YES MELVIN, THOSE 150,000 MEN —
SEND THEM OVER TO CAMBODIA FOR
R AND R



Rick Gray

On Government's Regression



The American public was informed Sunday that the U.S. military has been conducting a secret war in Laos since 1964.

The war was kept a secret, according to the newspaper stories, because high governmental officials were afraid of being accused of violating the 1962 Geneva Accords.

From here, that seems to be an exceedingly flimsy excuse for expanding the mass murder which is war.

For any government, especially one which proclaims itself to be of, by and for the people, to contend that it has a right to keep secret a military action of the scope of the one disclosed Sunday, is for it to totally deny the right of the public to know what government is doing.

This government, the one in Washington, D.C., has since 1776 claimed to be a government of the people. It has thumped its chest and shouted at the world, "Look how good I am. See how I tell all of the people everything I am doing. What a good boy am I."

Well, Richard Nixon and Lyndon Johnson seem to have more than plums on their thumbs now. Sunday's announcement pretty well fries the egg in their faces.

And it does more to undermine the high status which this government has held than even the 1968 Democratic Convention and the resulting Conspiracy Trials.

Any government which, basing its power on the consent of the people, refuses to inform the public or allow the press to inform the people, ceases to have a legitimate claim to power.

People will tolerate a lot in governments simply because it takes a lot of effort and personal involvement to change a government's course.

Following the disclosure made Sunday and the previous statements made by Nixon and Laird on Laos, there seems to be little honesty left in Washington.

The time has come for the American people to let their feelings be known. If they sit back and remain silent, as they did from 1960 until now, then they will be counted as among those supporting the trend of the federal government to repress any questioning of governmental policy.

For too many years now, the American public has allowed itself to be treated like a five-year-old child. It has listened and given assent when someone told them, "I have a plan and a policy, but it will not work if I tell you about it."

Any plan which would be rendered inoperative by public disclosure is not the type of plan which should be put into effect by a government based on the ideals of Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, et al.

For this government to be a

democracy, or even a true republic, there cannot be any secrecy in governmental circles.

The people have the right to know what government is doing. If the people do not know what the government is doing, then they cannot intelligently vote on who is to be the government.

The basis of this present government is one of intelligent selection of leaders by the populace. Those who claim to be leaders in the government will not hesitate to say that they believe in the electoral process. Yet, they will be among the first to defend the right of the government to keep such operations as the one in Laos secret.

To do so is to deny all that is pledged in the oaths of office.

There is only one solution to the situation in Vietnam, to the situation which, more than any other situation in American history, threatens the future of government.

That solution is total, immediate and unilateral withdrawal of American forces from Southeast Asia.

Until such time as Nixon, John Mitchell and Mel Laird have withdrawn all U.S. forces from Asia, they have no legitimate base of power.

Their power has been founded on lies to the American people, and therefore it is not legitimate power.

Legitimacy of power is a vague thing in the history of American politics, but there can be no doubt that the present administration has less legitimate power than any other since 1789.

Richard Nixon is a minority president, elected by less than half of the American people, supported by less than half of Congress and a member of a party with less than half of the people as members. Nixon was elected because Johnson had blatantly lied to the people, and the voters thought Nixon offered change.

We have found that Nixon is not change.

He is not progress.

He is the status quo.

He is regression to an era which most Americans would like to forget—an era when a demagogue took the floor of the U.S. Senate and whipped the public into a violent furor with lies.

Now the lies are beginning to come again.

Maybe this time, the American people will not believe them. Maybe this time there will be a victory for humanity.

Maybe, but we don't really believe it.

Howie Carr

Remembering General College

What is a "general college?" Or, to be more specific, what is the General College?

British psychiatrist R.D. Laing described it when he wrote, "We are driving our children mad more effectively than we are genuinely educating them. Perhaps it is our very way of educating them that is driving them mad."

Professional "outside agitator" Jerry Rubin described it when he wrote, "I lost my interest in books in literature class. I lost my interest in foreign languages in language class. I lost my interest in biology in biology class."

But "Introduction to Physical Geography" described it best of all in Chapter 9. "In the annual rainfall range between 40 in (100 cm) and 100 in (250 cm) the Am climate can exist with progressively lower values of driest-month rainfall, beginning with 2.4 in (6 cm) and declining to zero."

All these statements concern, however indirectly, that soon-to-be-extinct Carolina phenomenon, the General College. Sure, it will limp along for a few

more years, to be given the final coup de grace by a new generation of fed-up students, but the Merzbacher reforms guaranteed its eventual doom.

Since the old GC will soon be gone, maybe we should think about what it meant to us, the last group to really know it.

One thing to remember is its omnipotence. Perhaps the only effective way to deal with it would have been to levitate the South Building (as the Yippies tried to do to the Pentagon in 1967) to a height of 300 feet and then watch all the evil spirits depart.

The other alternative to this would have been, as Professor X writes in "The Sociology of the Absurd," "to intimidate the faculty with guns and knives." But, contrary to the belief of the Trustees, few students had the bowie knives, dirks, daggers, sword canes, machetes, repeating rifles or pump guns necessary to implement their desires.

So the General College couldn't be stopped, but I didn't have to tell you Bud was the King of Beers either. You know that.

To me, what the General College really is, is a third cut in p.e.; it's five eight o'clock classes; it's running an exam; it's trying to rationalize dropping a course.

The General College is an instructor who gives tests every Friday afternoon; it's waking up on a rainy morning on South Campus; it's a course that runs on a five-point scale; it's finding out how worthless quiz files are; it's leaving Dey Hall for the last time.

The General College is an advisor whose voice sounds like a pre-recorded message, and the needle is stuck; it's an advisor who says, "I know it's ridiculous, but what can I do?"; it's an advisor who says, "Don't blame me if you can't graduate with your class."

The General College is an advisor who doesn't say, "I'm only a dumb bureaucrat, and I couldn't care less about you. I only work here."

Nobody can really describe the General College, but it does seem safe to say that, like a movie released a few years back, "it has something to offend everybody."