

# Letters to the Editor

## The Excessively Evil Things We Do

YO PEOPLE! TIME FOR YOU TO ACT! Last week I sent a letter to the editor mentioning the hurt and humiliation people suffered when the *Panther Prints* printed a list of the "Sexiest Profs at UPEI" and put the pictures of the top two directly in the middle of an entire section based on sex. I also mentioned the blatantly malicious attack this university's paper conducted against certain parents using a "Stupidity Quiz" asking "How stupid are you?" and giving "Special thanks to all the parents who inspired this quiz." Question one was directed to all parents, but also very personally at one woman, mentioned in "Jane Resigns" on page three, and question twenty told the parents that this "stupidity quiz was meant to test" "a - your stupidity" (obviously the correct answer as noted by its low number). The paper's staff still refuse to print an apology to the people they hurt, not by expressing controversial ideas, but by personally ridiculing and humiliating them as individuals. They refuse to admit that they were wrong to do this and continue to joke about it. Above the letter that I sent they printed "The Evils That We Do". Giving what they did such a vague term as "evil" is a pathetic attempt to dilute the seriousness of their actions. That's why the warring sides in Bosnia like to refer to raping women, murdering men, and blowing little children to bits as "ethnic cleansing".

Something else *The Panther Prints* did to my letter, which I believe was quite possibly intentional taking into account their proven record of ignorant arrogance and spiteful immaturity, was to alter a sentence that had said that social irresponsibility led to "hurt, anger, distrust, misunderstanding, generalizing and stereotyping, immaturity, and disregard for the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of other people." They cut out the words "stereotyping, immaturity, and disregard for the physical." Try reading the sentence without those words and see how it sounds. Sound like a simple mistake on

their part? I'm not so sure. PLEASE LISTEN! I am taking six courses this semester and I live in Kensington and work in Summerside. I just don't have the time to start a petition right now as I have two tests and three papers to currently work on. I am ashamed that I waited so long to act but I simply underestimated the remorselessness of the paper's staff and the impotence of the student union. THIS IS NOT ABOUT CENSORSHIP OF IDEAS! This is about hurting, humiliating, and ridiculing specific human beings and then refusing to apologize for it. *The Panther Prints* is YOUR university paper. It speaks for YOU. Is this what you want to say to the world: "It is my right to cause other people pain and not have to apologize or answer for it. I ask EVERYONE reading this article to show it to as many others as possible and then go down to the student union office in the barn and DEMAND two things: 1) that apologies to the professors and parents who were hurt by the personal attacks on them be printed in the very next issue of the *Panther Prints* and 2) that Aldera Chisholm the paper's managing editor and the individual who is ultimately responsible for the attacks to be removed from the staff of this university's paper. DO THIS NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE! Tell the union to hold the presses until those two demands are met. Do not go to the paper's office as they WILL NOT take your complaints seriously. Go to your elected representatives at the student union and demand action to be taken and that your complaint be recorded. People are hurting as we stand silently by and watch. Please put a stop to the pain, because the attackers do their crimes in your name.

-- Steve Smith

*Managing Editor's note: No professors have come forward requesting an apology. I would like to encourage any professor to do so, if they so desire.*

## The Wonderful Things We Do

I'm writing in support of both *Panther Prints* and Jane Lucretia. I had hoped all of the fuss would have died down by now, but as it obviously has not here I am to throw in my opinion also. I am a student of UPEI and therefore have a right to praise or criticize something that was written for me (note: the none to subtle allusion to parents and community members who felt they had a right to comment on content of a paper not targeted for them.) *Panther Prints* is a student newspaper not an alumni paper and not a newsletter for parents.

Anyone who is capable of rational thought would have been entertained and interested by what was contained in the sex supplement. All of the articles dealt with issues important to students, such as STDs other than AIDS and articles

dealing with the subject openly and responsibly.

The only thing that anyone could reasonably object to was the Corruption Quiz at the end of the paper. Lets face it, if it had been called a Purity quiz, no one would have even read the thing. I Found it to be amusing and blunt enough to make people sit up, pay attention, and hopefully laugh. The only thing I was uncomfortable with was the rare use of profanity -- and that was a typo!

I enjoyed the stupidity quiz even more than the corruption quiz -- it was a fitting retribution to those people who can not take a joke and who's nose was to big for their own good.

And last but certainly not least -- bring back Jane!!! She was great and we miss her!!

-- Vicky Laporte

