

# SOAP BOX

## ON TALKING AND YOU

Given that discussion is the backbone of the acquisition of knowledge, then why is it so lacking here?

My main disappointment is not with faculty but with students. **YES YOU!!!** You, who entirely refuse to speak out and "make an ass of yourself in front of a group of your peers." Instead, you would rather cloister yourselves in small rooms turning out highly secret documents called term papers. Is this your only means of showing your intellectual and scholastic competence? Then there are others among you who believe in the theory of "God on Earth", who in His multiplicity shows His presence in the form of college professors; and damned are those who question his knowledge or show their ignorance by speaking His presence. Why are you here??? To learn, or to pick up a paper crutch, a college degree. If the latter, you are not only wasting your time but mine as well. I am not here only to learn from books and the tongues of intellectuals. I could succeed in this endeavour on my own. Rather, I am here to learn from you. I respect you and your ideas, but how can I learn if no one is ready to communicate? You are like unopened books and the benefits derived are equal.

Why do you sit in class contemplating your navels? Can't we learn from each other? Or, is it that you feel that I am not fit to share in your knowledge, or is it a sense of domination by a forceful and articulate student; or is it even a sense of inferiority; or is it etc., etc.? I think not. Rather, I feel you have a sense of despair in that you feel you are wasting your time in discussion. Instead you would like some concrete evidence of your work; a paper, so you will feel a sense of pride and achievement. Why can't you cherish an hour of conversation in which you have been both a learner and a teacher? This, though not concrete, is still a great possession because a discussion will become a property of your mind which you can share with others.

**WAKE UP!** You must start somewhere, so - in your next class say something - anything! When asked if you agree on a point just don't nod your head, SAY yes or no. Then tomorrow you will be able to say a couple of words or perhaps a sentence. Then you will be able to communicate, I will learn from you and you, in turn, will learn something of yourselves.

Richard O'Brien.

# ORACLE

Oracle.....

1. Whenever I ask from people "Which came first, the egg of the chick" I am often perplexed with the answers received. Most people say, "the chick comes before the egg" others say "the egg comes before the chick" But I would say "Why worry about which one comes first, take them as they come."
2. Love is the most selfish of all feelings.
3. If we had no faults we would not take so

- much pleasure in noticing faults in others.
4. The good people to us are those who agree with us.
5. Moral apathy is the sickness of highly educated people.
6. When one gives, one must give not from his or her pocket but from his or her heart.
7. To "give" is a lasting pleasure than "receiving" because the one of the two people who gives is the one who takes a longer time to forget than he who receives.

By  
Joseph Ajayi King Fashagba

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