

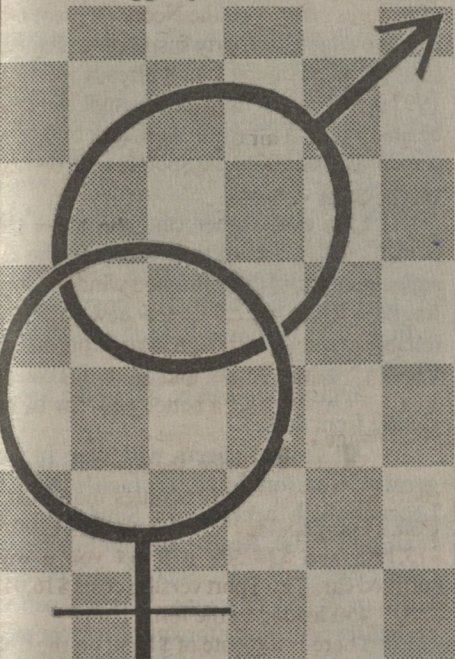
The story nobody will tell cont'...

course in law for Ontario's socially empowered.

The Ministry of Health keeps dropping the ball on the problems we have with the medical and psychiatric professions. The Ministry of Citizenship seems unconcerned, and even Bob Rae the Premier of our fine province has refused to intercede in this wonderful mess.

In short, transsexuals and transgenderists have no rights in Ontario. I can write complaints that fall well within the Human Rights Code, but there is no enforcement available.

All this being said, if you asked me today what is the biggest problem", I would tell you



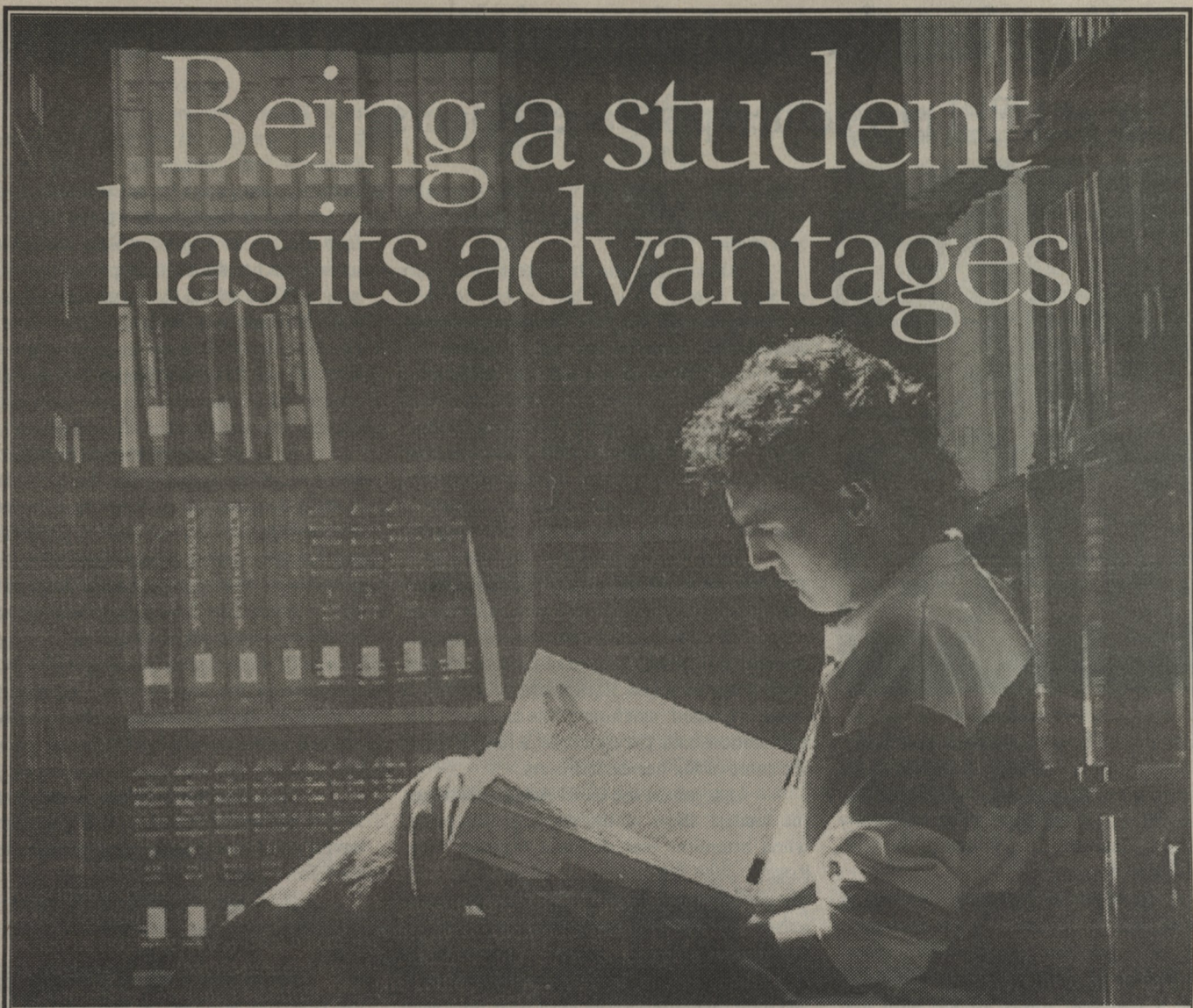
that we still cannot get decent counselling, medical care, or human rights enforcement, but this is not really the big problem. Taking a few steps back shows me that the biggest problem lies in the prejudices that permeate this country.

In my encounters with commercial news media, the most frequent reaction to what I have told you today is "yeah, so?". They would rather write a "feel good" piece about some transsexual who did something really exceptional, like keeping their job. On occasion they will talk about an individual case of discrimination, but woe befall the poor sap who tries to show them just how widespread the bigotry really is and how to tie it into the systemic sources that enable it.

It isn't big news that disregard for our rights, and consequent violations of the Charter Rights and Freedoms are occurring routinely at several levels of Ontario's provincial government. It isn't even a little bit interesting that this enables our oppression in the private sector, leaving most of us out of work, with virtually no access to society, and drawing heavily on provincial welfare. Even the notion that some of us are driven to suicide attempts by the ludicrous policies of psychiatric Gender Clinics is a bore.

Our biggest problem is the story nobody will tell. The news media of this country, by its silence on this issue, is creating an environment wherein people can be persecuted by government, medicine, psychiatry and the public sector, while comfortably hidden behind the veil of secrecy created by the media's indifference to our suffering.

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Letters to the editor must be no longer than 500 words and must have author's name and phone number to be printed. Names can be withheld upon request.