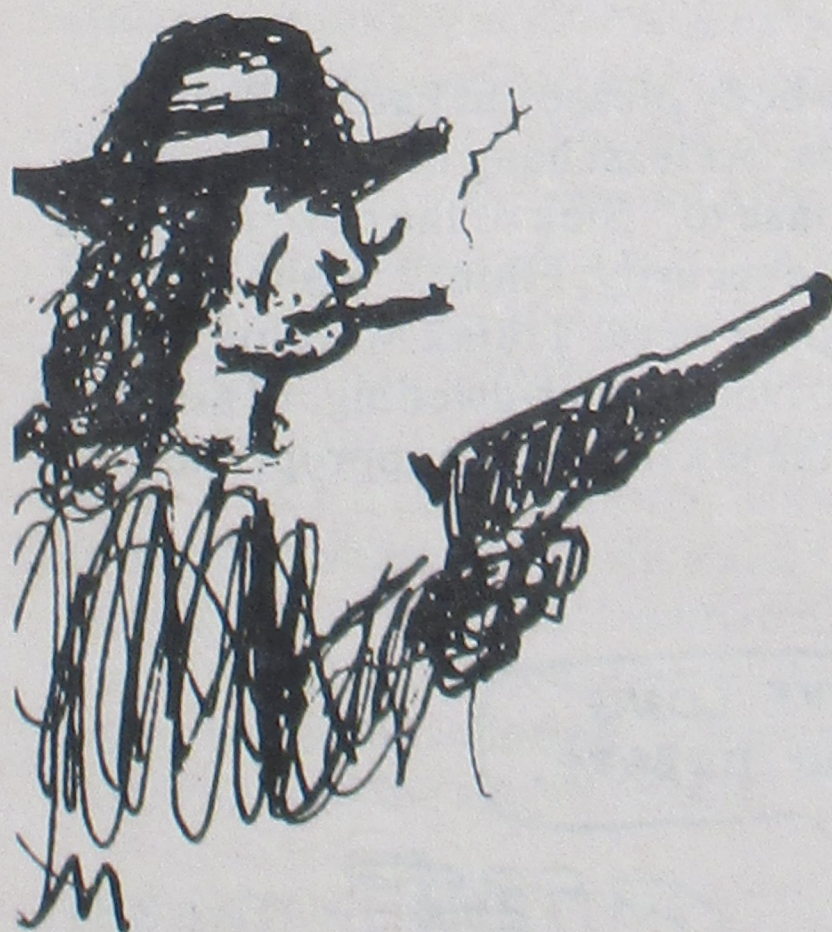


Dear MISTER Editor:

I have trouble seeing you as a person believing in equal rights in this patriarchal world when you write an article such as your Editorial Comment in last week's X-Press. Your last paragraph was the usual diatribe and so-called cute "joke" that we as womyn have to put up with. I remember being taught in English 101 that a writer should be explicit in their written work to the naive reader so the reader can really gain from the information given. You, however, have not defined your perception of "radical" or even "feminist." I 'assume' by "radical" you mean humans out 'burning their bras' or just plain 'stepping outside the norm'. According to the Oxford Dictionary "radical" means "1) affecting the foundation, going to the root; 2) naturally inherent, essential, fundamental." Based on this definition I have trouble seeing your point that not enough "average women" are speaking up or that these radicals "are helping to destroy the movements (sic) credibility." In fact, I would say that this definition says it all. To be a 'radical feminist' is essentially wanting equality in this world, changing the foundation of patriarchy to let womyn through the door. Based on the definition of "extreme" (same reference) "farthest from the centre, last" and based on present day statistics on wages and poverty levels, I would conclude that 'extreme feminist (sic)' are just 'average' womyn in our patriarchal society. Now that the technical is out of the way, I would like to look at your assumptions or miscommunications. Womyn do not want "all the power" nor have we ever stated that "all the worlds (sic) problems would be solved." When you mention that "more of the feminist energy was use (sic) in trying to give a more accurate picture of the feminist movement" maybe you too should climb on this bandwagon and find out the real mandate of the womyns' movement. (A couple classes from Vaughncliffe are in order here.) I would like the editor to think about his paragraph on how "men have messed up the world". Just a little history lesson would show you that men have been, and still are, in control of the economic and political sector. When in control one makes the decisions. Conclusion - men have messed up the economic (lack of equity), political (wars, too numerous to list), and environmental (global warming) spheres. This does not, however, lead to the conclusion that "men are 'bad'" but it does say that men have made 'bad' decisions. You state that womyn should be more vocal against these "radicals". Again you are uninformed. Womyn in this movement do not wage war against each other. We work coop-

eratively, each in her own way to achieve an end result. Some have opportunities and talents to be more vocal, others work quietly in the background in their own realm. Each womyn is as dedicated as the next, each bringing awareness and education to the masses to make changes for future generations for we want a better world for the global population, not just for womyn. Now one could say it is the editor's JOB to be controversial-calling on the readers to perk up and take notice. Well I did check my dictionary and no, it does not state specifically what an editor should write but I think an editor should be responsible and realize what he/she is putting in the public eye. Currently we are going through an unprecedented wave of violence towards womyn. Participating in this violence through an editorial such as this and the further harassment of womyn inflicted on a weekly basis in this newspaper is blatant irresponsibility and as a member of this human population I am outraged! (P.S. My English prof, bless his soul, also taught me to proofread my work!)

Sincerely,
Dawn Ambler



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