

Letters to the Editor



DEAR CADRE,

From the editorials and articles I have read written by Stan Dalton, it seems to me that Stan's vocabulary consists of only one word - capitalism, and its various forms.

Really, it tends to get rather boring.

Sincerely yours,
Bored Capitalist

Dear Bored Capitalist,
Go straight to hell!!!
Inspired Socialist

Dear Discouraged;

It's great that we have got some gut issues. I have been asking some of the same questions and I find that they are not being answered to my satisfaction. However, I think that they can be answered if you seek wisdom in the right way and if you are patient, yet critical, some of your questions can be answered. Don't give up.

Hopeful

To Very Discouraged,

I will answer as best I can. Yes there are Christians on campus but they are content to sit back in a church and listen to the minister (priest) tell them about their special religion, for the majority of them will not find out for themselves. Yes, we all live in a democracy

but we have never really had to defend our political beliefs, yes we have people who are happy but most of them are too busy feeling sorry for themselves to ever stop and contemplate just how much they have to live for.

You have some very serious questions and the answers are hard to find if there are concrete answers to your questions. I can't answer your questions nor can I tell you what is good. Perhaps the "simple things" in life are good; i.e. walking down the street with a smile and a greeting for everyone, helping others to achieve their goals while you stand back out of the lime-light and look on, or achieving your personal ambition without destroying another person. But who really wants it? Who is content to sit back? How many want fame, glory and an audience -no matter if it's just within a small community or throughout the world?
Not As Discouraged

Dear Stan,

Your reference to capitalism is certainly very wise but I am afraid it is a bit too academic and I'm sure it does not alleviate the pain "Discouraged" feels.

Your paper doesn't seem to be changing student life too much either. I think if you really listened to people you could help them get off on the right track. Most people think

the system can't be changed until they have the courage to change themselves.

ves.

In essence you seem to be saying and I agree; "To be wise is to know yourself. To have courage is to change yourself. Surrender is to accept yourself.

That is a distorted quote that a student once quoted to me under similar circumstances as "discouraged".

Be careful that you don't give a political answer to a very personal and deeply emotional question.

Dianne M.

Dear Dianne

But what you fail to see is that the emotional problem is rooted in the political-economic sphere; alienation is not possible unless that which gives rise to it (capitalism) is overcome. Until we see capitalism as the source of the contemporary, North American malaise we will continue blindly groping for solutions that will inevitably be capitalist solutions and, hence, no solutions at all. Your dictum, "To be wise is to know yourself", is not completely true since self-knowledge is no guarantee of wisdom, rather, a structural system of knowledge wherein reasons can be given for your views, attitudes, actions, etc. Your second dictum, "To have courage is to change yourself" is partly true because courage is required for self change, but, however, is no definition for courage. Your third dictum, "Surrender is to accept yourself" is vague to me. It smacks of Christian acquiescence which is, ultimately, resignation and defeat.

Strictly speaking, you're right; emotional problems should not get political answers. However, my intent was not to be therapeutic in the psychological sense, rather I was trying to point out the causes of "Discouraged's" despair and let him/her take the appropriate steps from there.

Stan

Dear Editor;

I must apologize to Don Cregier for the manner in which I phrased some of my criticisms in my letter of Oct. 31. I am sure that he will understand that in an effort to complete a rather long article my emotions were running rather high by the time that I was appraising his article.

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