

Letters...



Dear Editor,

I believe Lori Ann Heckbert's point regarding the MARY BROWN advertisement to be well taken. That the ad is sexist is obvious. What I fail to understand is why you, as editor of the newspaper, need to seek confirmation on this matter from CUP and the university community? After last year's public outcry about sexism in the Gem I would think that public opinion at UPEI is rather clear. Surely we learned something from that fiasco.

As editor, you have the power of discretion over what is printed in the Gem. Following Ms Heckbert's letter you invited readers to comment on the ad in question. Of the three responses to your request, one response was a comment on Ms Heckbert's state of mind, another concerned itself with human beings as "nothing but a special kind of commodity", and the third dealt with the issue; Sexism in the Gem. I real-

ize that everyone is entitled to their own opinion. Personal prerogative is but a component that makes every person a unique individual sharing in a larger societal whole. As such, the MARY BROWN as does, in fact, reduce our exchange value by making reference to an anatomical part of over half of the world's population, women. Ms Heckbert's article did not deal with verbal sexism at all, but printed sexism. This individual believes that any form of sexism is of great consequence to our lives that is only propagated by advertisements like the one referred to here.

I question your judgement, Mr Editor, for failing to recognise an issue that was well documented last year and for printing a letter that was more a personal attack on Ms Heckbert than a response to the issue. In closing, I commend Lori Ann Heckbert for having the courage to publically express her views by signing her name to her article.

Paul Peacock
UPEI student

Mr. Editor

In regards to a letter submitted 2 weeks ago about the "torture devices" and the "bored security guard", I would like to make a few comments. First, the display at the AVC is a history of vet medicine tools. Ms. Manderson, have you ever been in a dentist's office? He has

many 'torture' looking devices. Have you ever seen the dentist display at the heritage foundation. They look more like torture but are smaller than those at the AVC. Many animals probably owe their lives to the devices at the AVC. Even at the doctor's office there are many weird looking devices.

Second, sure the secu-

rity guard probably gets bored; but he is also helpful for lost students in the AVC. If you say, "Hi," or, "Good morning," he always smiles and replies back: compared to some people on campus who on a sunny day can warm up to -10 degrees celcius.

Animal Lover

Dear Mr. Webber,

I have three complaints to lodge against the letter written by "Carla, with a k" in the October 16 issue of the Gem.

First, Carla unnecessarily insults Ms. Manderson by referring to her as "a fellow 'student' (and I use that term lightly)." This is a blatant ad hominem on

Carla's part and denigrates Ms. Manderson's academic abilities to the point of insulting her.

Secondly, Carla refers to "Ms. Manderson's blatant attack on the integrity of the Security Guard..." Jill simply mentioned that the guard was "bored looking." I challenge Carla to illustrate the logical connection between Jill's triv-

ial and irrelevant comment and the blatant attack on the unnamed guard she is accused with.

Thirdly, if Carla is going to insult Jill Manderson and create such ridiculous red herrings, she should have the integrity to sign her real name to her letters.

Mark Jordan.

Editor,

I wish to respond to the anonymous letters which attacked Ms. Heckbert and her request to have Mary Brown's "legs" advertisement pulled from the pages of THE GEM.

Not only is it immature to personally attack someone expressing an opinion and then refuse to sign one's own name, but it is distressing to see people support sexist advertising - although anonymously. Could it be that these people are a little embarrassed to admit to holding sexist views in today's society.

It is obvious that Mary Brown's is using sex to sell chicken and objectifying women in the process. Yes, I would be just as offended to see Bob Brown objectified in such a manner. Sooner or later com-

panies will realize that the majority of people do not wish to see ANY PERSON degraded and will halt sexist advertising. Perhaps THE GEM's refusal to run Mary Brown's ad would help to enlighten some of these companies.

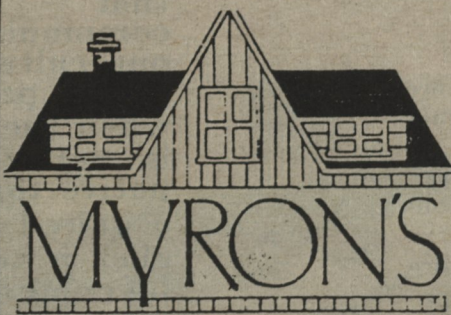
I would encourage anyone who feels offended by this advertisement, or any other, to express their feelings. DO NOT LET YOUR SILENCE IMPLY ACCEPTANCE.

Chanda K. Stevenson

Gotta beef?



Write a letter.



UPSTAIRS

WE OFFER MORE
7 DAYS A WEEK

MONDAY

SELECTION CONNECTION

let our computer find your perfect date

TUESDAY

Student Night half price night

Rock to the Hits of the past

9-10 9" pizza and all the beverage

on tap you can drink five dollars

WEDNESDAY

CARIBBEAN NIGHT
CHANCE TO WIN 8 DAYS IN
MONTEGO BAY JAMAICA
other giveaways and prizes

THURSDAY

Gong Show featuring
SHORTCUT

FRIDAY

HAPPY HOUR 4-8

free food

SUNDAY

CHEM FREE

dance to the top 40