

# Gunman Kills Fourteen University Of Montreal Students

MONTREAL (CUP) - Fourteen women are dead after a gunman went on a shooting rampage through the halls of the Université de Montreal's engineering building yesterday.

Saying he was out to get feminists, the man, dressed in hunting gear, methodically sought out women and shot them using a .223 calibre semi-automatic rifle before committing suicide, according to witnesses.

Twelve others - most of them women - were taken to hospital. Four remained in critical condition last night.

The horror of the worst mass-shooting in Canadian history began sometime between 4:30 and 5 pm yesterday - the last day of classes at the university.

Witnesses say the gunman, who has not been identified yet, was in his twenties and seemed calm when he walked into the second-floor classroom, where students were giving final presentations for a mechanical engineering course.

"He asked the men to leave and told the women to stay," said student Stephane Morin, who was in the class at the time.

"We thought he was joking - it was the last day of classes. But when he shot his rifle (into the ceiling), we knew he was serious.

"When we were in the hall we heard gunshots and we ran to phones to call the police."

Genevieve Caudin, a 19-year-old student who suffered a superficial head injury, was on the third floor when she was shot.

"I know at least one of my friends is dead," Caudin said. "I'm not sure about the others, some are in the hospital.

"I just keep asking myself why he would do this," she said.

Police director Claude Saint Laurent said there is no indication who the gunman was or what prompted the Wednesday night massacre.

Police sources say the gunman left a three page letter, which talked about problems with women, and feminists in particular.

"All we know right now is that the man walked into the classroom and said, 'You're a bunch of feminists' and started shooting."

According to one witness the man said, "I want the women" as he calmly walked through the building.

Bodies of the dead and wounded were found on three floors. The gunman's body was found near four of his victims on the third floor.

Some students on other floors panicked when a fire alarm was activated in an attempt to evacuate the building.

Sylvie Auger, a first-year engineering student who was in the building at the time, said a group of students were trapped on the sixth floor during the shootings.

"We heard the fire alarm go off so we went to the emergency stairway, but we couldn't open the door," Auger said.

"We thought it was a fire (but

## Montreal Shootings and Sexist Culture

BY RACHEL GRAY

We should not be having this discussion at all. There can be no doubt. It is time to make the connections about all of these things.

A man carrying a new semi-automatic rifle walks into a traditionally male dominated institution, and kills 14 women. In the hallways, he mainly ignores men and hunts women. In the classroom, he separates the women from the men before killing them. At some point during the carnage he has railed against feminists. He turns the gun on himself and dies with a suicide note in his pocket which identifies women and feminists as the source of much of his unhappiness. This all seems very clear. Is it not obvious who he intended to kill? Who is dead? What is up for debate?

Now, there are those who would have us believe that this is the work of a sick and demented mind, and that it is an isolated incident. There are those who would have us believe that this is a human tragedy with no more bearing on women's lives than on men's. There are those who agree that we live in a sexist society, but who say that "this thing in Montreal" has no place in a discussion about violence against women because violence can't be qualified according to sex.

On the campus at Queen's University a bunch of self-proclaimed "friendly guys" feel misunderstood. They say, "No means kick her in the teeth". They say, "OK, so it may have been in bad taste but it was just a joke. My dad says that worse things happened in his days here. It was a prank. Queen's is a great university. What are they complaining about?"

These friendly guys have a need to make jokes about women being raped. The language they use for joking about rape involves gang bangs, kicking her teeth in and tying her down. How much

then) somebody came running up and told us that a man was walking around on the third floor with a rifle. We finally got out through another exit."

Worried parents began arriving at the university soon after news of the rampage got out. Police have set up a temporary morgue in the building while the victims are identified.

Claude Ryan, Quebec's education minister, interrupted debate in the National Assembly

time would you want to spend with these friendly guys? Have they ever considered the woman who is raped - a real person - being gang banged, tied down and a mouth full of broken teeth? If rape jokes are acceptable material now, is it because women are safe; safe from rape, sexual harassment and assault, exploitative images that use our bodies to sell cars and beer, safe from violence at home and on the street,...safe from murder? These boys don't have to think about rape and therefore it's fine to joke about it. What is not their consciousness, their experience, is not their concern. And if I don't take a joke about suffering and pain and violence and hatred then I'm the one with the problem - not them.

When I walk home at night I am cautious and quite often afraid. When statistics tell me that one out of ten women will be violently attacked by the men who share their beds and their lives this affects me differently than it does my brothers. When my friends talk about being raped I know that those boys at Queen's have never thought about what it is like to be a woman in a woman hating society. They haven't had to. Don't you think it's time they did?

As long as it's okay to make jokes about rape, the "thing in Montreal" should not shock us. It illustrates the hatred and violence that is accepted and justified and joked about. For women who have been raped, who are beaten in their kitchens, who walk home at night knowing that the keys gripped tightly in hand are a poor defense, who feel hostility because of the way they dress, or the work they do, or the independence they seek, or the conventions they reject...for all of us women this is not a shock. It may be our worst nightmare come true, but it should not be a shock.

Rachel Gray is a History graduate student.

last night to send condolences to the families and friends of those killed.

Calling the killings "tragic," Ryan said the dead students had been "cut down in the prime of their lives."

After Ryan's speech, the Na-

tional Assembly, which had been debating an education funding bill, was dissolved for the night.

Montreal police are not releasing the gunman's identity, but one report said his first name was Marc.



## Student Union

### Unofficial Election Results

Graduate Students Assoc.  
Elected Representative:  
Mark Powell

## New Year's Pub

Welcome the new decade in at the Barn!  
Sunday Dec 31 9-1  
Music by HI - N.R.G.  
Sponsored by Bacardi  
Tickets \$8.00 advance  
\$10.00 door  
Food provided  
Tickets on sale at the SU Barn



## Specials

5pm Till Close

<b>Monday</b>	Order a 6" pizza with 2 toppings receive a free draught
<b>Tuesday</b>	Order a large portion of wings receive a free draught
<b>Wednesday</b>	Try our new tacos or a large order of "Mama & Papa" Nachos and you guessed it; receive a free draught

### Shooters

Mondays Tuesdays Wednesdays  
11pm Till Close  
\$1.99 + Tax  
Special Prizes

### Happy Hour

Mondays and Tuesdays  
**ALL Night!!**

"Want a break from studying" or bring the books with you

Join us at  
And Relax!!

