

little girls doing.. starving themselves?"

Studies have shown a high positive correlation between viewing pornographic material and committing sexually aggressive acts. There certainly is not much to distinguish Madonna's videos from pornography, only the roles of subordination are reversed.

Little girls who admire Madonna might long to be like her and to possess her body. With eating disorders and compulsive exercising on the rise, Madonna adds gasoline to an already burning flame.

The Canadian National Eating Disorders Information Centre estimates that 10 per cent of young women between the ages of 14 to 25 have either full-fledged eating disorders or definite symptoms. In addition, women with eating disorders outnumber men nine to one. Madonna is only exacerbating these statistics with her unnaturally toned body. She has fallen prey to societal pressure while creating some pressure of her own -- the pressure to achieve the "ideal" body. Madonna is exploiting her body, perpetuating eating disorders, making oodles of money, and is proclaimed feminist. Something is seriously wrong with this situation. If we "deserve the best in life," why settle for her?

The right to fight back letter to the editor from the Carleton

Clubs and stones may break my bones, but words can be just as dangerous.

Moderate fascist" David Irving is returning to Ottawa Oct. 6. Remember him? He's the man who says the Holocaust was a Jewish fabrication and that women are intellectually inferior to men. He's the one who said "Carleton students are cowards and fascists" when he was not allowed to speak on campus 10 years ago.

To most people, his views are disgusting and degrading. To most people, David Irving is simply wrong. If that were the issue, we could rest assured that his senseless views would ultimately be defeated. David Irving could be free to speak wherever and whenever he pleases, the public could challenge him. In the end, truth would prevail. Of course, that would be assuming that each and every

person would take the time and effort to listen to arguments on both sides, weigh the evidence, then decide whether there is any validity to his arguments. Will that really be the case? There will always be individuals who will point to his academic background as sufficient proof of his legitimacy: after all, is he not a published historian? Those individuals will ignore the fact that what he is saying now contradicts what he has written in his own books. It's not a matter of people being swayed by his arguments, but by the letters after his name.

Perhaps that would simply be a risk we'd have to take if he were talking about Sunday shopping or Triple A baseball. But he's talking about people, and what he is saying is putting people's lives in danger.

Irving is verbally attacking people: Jews and women. He is not the first to do so, and he won't be the last. Demonstrations outside the halls where he has spoken in the past prove he has overwhelming opposition. But it is not a matter of majority rules.

Can we, as people who have been fighting for the rights of women, for the rights of minorities, allow this man to foster hatred in anybody in the name of freedom of speech? Can we take the risk if Irving's presence in Ottawa convinces 50, 10, or even one person that violence against another person is okay?

It goes beyond one man making outrageous statements. It is not an issue of some people being offended that David Irving thinks women can't compose symphonies, or that gas chambers were used simply to kill lice in clothing. It is allowing this man to make these statements in a public forum which could encourage somebody to take action on his words.

I cannot, as a woman, as a member of a visible minority, as a compassionate human being, support this man's right to speak. I can't sleep at night knowing I'm advocating his censorship. I can't sleep at night knowing he's convincing people around me I have no right to be here. Forget his right to freedom of speech-we have to fight for our right to exist.

\*note: If you would like to come and help write stories for campus women leave your name and phone number or come down on Friday afternoon.

Quote of The Week

"don't compromise yourself. You are all you've got." Betty Ford.