



## Sacred Cows

By Peter Gillis

It is said that crime does not pay. I think it pays; but it depends on what crime one commits. Follow the Guardian for a week and you will quickly see what I mean.

It does not pay to mess with our government's tax revenue, as two men in Cornwall found out a couple of summers ago. They each received \$16,000 fines for attempting to smuggle cigarettes into PEI. It is a tough sentence that most likely saved thousand upon thousands of lives from the harmful effects of cheap smokes. It certainly did not pay for one young man who refused to submit to a breathalyzer last July. He got nailed \$1,350 for failing to blow. Lost his license too. Fines and more fines.

It was not so bad for a Charlottetown native recently convicted of beating his friend and his female lover, who also happens to be the mother of his child. He won a year at "Hotel Sleepy Hollow", not including time for good behaviour, for his twenty-second act of violence. Considering his other convictions were for assault and sexual assault, it is only fitting he receive about two weeks for each crime he's been caught for.

Our real winner goes to one King's County man who, fourteen months ago, was found guilty of sexually assaulting three young girls. He was released from prison after a petition, signed by the community, attested that he was "a really nice pedophile". He obviously enjoyed his freedom because police have just laid another charge for molesting yet another little girl. As of today, there is no word on whether charges will be laid against the 300 bone-heads who let Mr. Scumlips loose.

So, what have we learned, class? If you really want to commit a crime, it is strongly recommended that you beat your girlfriend, or your

wife, until her face is unrecognizable to her own mother. Chances are, you'll be able to do this twenty or twenty-one times before someone puts you away for more than a weekend or two. Failing that, you should prey upon the innocent, and the trusting children of our province. • Damage the mind of a little girl or boy and you will not even see the inside of a prison. Your neighbours will rush to your defence so that you can walk free, a shining example to all. True freedom is reserved for the guilty. It is the victims who suffer fear and captivity.

What the hell is wrong with society today? Have we sacrificed justice to mercy so often that our senses have become numb? This would not happen in a perfect world. In a perfect world, we would have stockades set up in front of the cenotaph at the end of University Avenue. Wife beaters would be forced to spend a day locked inside, freezing their babyloons off, with a sign hanging around their necks saying "I am rat-dung". Each and every woman who has suffered at the hands of her lover would be allowed to walk up and spit in his face, just to give them a taste of the humiliation and hopelessness they so love to inflict. The rest of us would just stare and boo.

In a perfect world, con-

This is the afore-mentioned cartoon. What do you, the reader think of it. I personally find it offensive. Not to mention--it is just not funny.

victed child-molesters would be sent to a zoo. There they would spend a week, locked naked in a cell and fed with a slingshot, forced to sit under banners that say "Warning: Convicted Pedophile. Do Not Put Hands Through Bars." Teachers could take their classes on tours, letting children take a good, long look at their worst nightmares and see them for the animals that they really are. Have I mentioned electric shock treatment yet?

Oh no! I'm so inhumane! Criminals have rights. They are people too. Many of them were victims when they were young; and our penal system is dedicated to rehabilitation, not punishment. Really? Well, here's the opinion of one Peter Gillis, professional human. Take it or leave it as you will. Wife-abusers are dogs who have no sense of control. They are powerless and empty people who need to dominate women through violence in order to find the respect they can never have for themselves. Pedophiles are worthless manipulators of the young who have abandoned any claim to humanity the day they touched a child. I'm sure there is a special level of hell reserved for them when they die; but that is not enough for me. I want to see them pay for their crimes now -- payments that show human life and dignity are more important than obedience and profit. Then maybe, just maybe, I will not get so sick to my stomach the next time I read the Guardian. Maybe.

Dear Editor,

It has been brought to my attention that several members of the Panther Prints staff have some sort of problem with the comic strip "Johnny Heroin". As co-creator of the strip, I would like to have a chance to explain our reasoning and theme behind it.

First and foremost, we do not feel that "Johnny Heroin" is a promotion for drug abuse. The whole comic is based on somethings called satire and irony, which some of you may have heard of. Johnny is depicted as a strung out, filthy vagrant. In fact, we feel that "Johnny" serves as a warning for anyone who is considering the use of "hard" drugs. Any person who reads this comic and then thinks that heroin is a good idea is either blind or mentally unstable. The whole purpose of "Johnny Heroin" is for people to say "Hey, look at that loser. Ha, now that is funny.", not to grab the closest hypodermic needle.

Another "complaint" of your staff is that running a comic strip which deals with real life situations is that it may offend some of your readers. Well, pardon me for snickering, but this would not be the first time that the Panther Prints has run controversial materials. The comic section has already run a comic which shows everyone's favorite Island girl Anne shooting up heroin. Another "offensive" cartoon is one which had a picture of a big tower with the heading "Chia Penis". How is it that such things such as sex and drugs are acceptable in certain circumstances and unacceptable in other circumstances when both situations are remarkably similar? I don't have to mention the annual "SEX" issue which always gets its fair share of complaints, yet still manages to get printed every year. Could this be some sort of double standard?

In closing, I would like to say that just because some people don't like "Johnny Heroin" (and a number of your staff do like the strip, seeing how the vote ended in a tie last time despite your harsh "voting privileges" which eliminated some of the "pro Johnny" support) doesn't mean that the readers will not see the humor in it. I believe this is up to the readers to decide. The campus newspaper is supposed to be written by the students, for the students. There are please in every issue for new writers and volunteers, and now that some have offered to contribute, they are turned away because they are not part of the "newspaper crowd". Nobody complains when the paper is filled with countless inside jokes from staff members, and now I feel it is time that we were let in on all of the fun.

Sincerely yours,  
Brenton Driscoll

