

The everyday Joe should understand 'no'

Undressed from the neck up

Becky Weindorf



There are too many people in this world that get it easy.

I'm not talking about the movie stars or the musicians or the ball players who have their lives cut out for them with multimillion-dollar paychecks. I'm talking about your everyday Joe who messes up. The everyday Joe who screws himself over big time, and knows it; yet never gets the reprimand or the punishment that should have smacked him in the side of his sorry face.

In particular, this editorial was sparked by a controversy in a creative writing class. At about 3:30 in the afternoon during this class, students were stubbornly divided between the sexes about a sex scene from a classmate's story. The reason I say sex scene, and not a rape scene, is because the controversy was just that: Was it rape?

The women (including myself) were sure it was rape; on the other hand (since the girl in the sex scene did not say NO) the men said it was not rape. In a closer examination, the sex scene involved two adolescent kids who like to mess around a lot at the drive-in movie theater; the guy, however, had other intentions on this night. When they were lying in the back of his beat-up truck, he rolled on top of her and, if I may quote directly from the story, "stuck himself inside her." She proceeded to scream at him that it hurt and simply laid beneath him while he did his work, finished, and rolled off her. End of scene, simple as that.

The writer fully intended for this to be a rape scene, so from here on, I will refer to it as the rape scene. But most men won't agree; she didn't say no, so it wasn't rape. So even if the woman is completely still and not responsive to any type of sexual gesture, even if the woman may be too scared to say anything, that means that she had consented to sex? Well, the girl in the story didn't say YES either; she let him rape her because she didn't know any better.

How about this scene: a woman goes to a party slightly intoxicated (which means she still remembers everything she saw: she remembers the drive to the party, who was with her, who was wearing what, etc.). She is handed a beer and the next thing she knows, she's lying in some guy's bed with a terrible headache. She feels severely intoxicated, even though her beer is still not finished. It's been hours since she came to the party.

This is a scene of date rape, and in this scene, the result is typical: the ordinary "Joe" gets off easy. The woman doesn't want to confront him because he's an acquaintance to her, so she doesn't say anything to the police. She is still scared, because she's sure that he used the emergency condom she kept in her purse... or is she sure?

This ordinary "Joe" is the idiot that decided to roffie my best friend and rape her so she couldn't say no. She doesn't remember anything and only had pain in her thigh, where the guy might have stuck her with a needle and injected God-knows-what into her body. She didn't say no; she consented to nothing. She didn't say NO, but she didn't say YES either.

My friend is not nearly as innocent as the young girl in the story; she parties a lot. It's happened to her before. But she didn't ask for it; she didn't say "yes please rape me!" Similarly, the girl in the story was a 16 year-old virgin and didn't say "yes please rape me!" In order for it to be sex, there has to be consent; in either case, there was no consent. It wasn't sex.

Does the woman have to say NO in order for it to be rape? Some courts affirm this; but for my best friend, who will remain anonymous here, and for the 16 year-old virgins across the country who are taken advantage of, rape is when it doesn't feel right. There are too many men who have escaped what was coming to them, too many ordinary "Joes" that have gotten what they wanted without paying the price.

And for every male blockhead who thinks that NO means YES, because they think a woman is flirting with him and still wants it, they can go jump in the lake. I would be much more rude, but my editor in chief would probably have to edit my entire conclusion.

Weindorf's column appears every three weeks.



I NEED 'EM HOUSEBROKEN, FULLY TRAINED, AND READY TO PERFORM WITH DISCIPLINED, COORDINATED TEAMWORK. YOU HAVE UNTIL YESTERDAY.

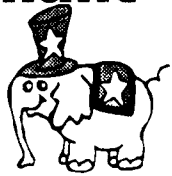
3,700 students can't be wrong.

They can't be right either, because none of them can sit down for five minutes and write a letter to the Beacon.

Send letters, both positive and negative, to the editor!
behrcoll2@aol.com

Next Week:

The Elephant says...



The Donkey says...



Every two weeks members of the College Democrats and the College Republicans will debate a partisan topic. Send your suggestions to: BEHRCOLL2@AOL.COM

The Hot Debate of The Week "It cost \$58.45 to fill up my Excursion!!"

Ever since Dubya was elected President, there has been a question as to whether or not we should drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). With the current instability in the Middle East, now is the time to tap our natural resources.

Taking advantage of our resources in the ANWR is a viable alternative to purchasing foreign oil from unstable Middle Eastern countries, some of which could be supporting terrorism. The most powerful nation in the world being held at the mercy of OPEC's price and production changing whims is unacceptable, especially in this time of war.

Some quick facts: 55percent of our nation's oil is imported and 75percent of Alaskans support drilling the A.N.W.R. If usable oil is found, less than 8percent of the area will be developed.

The majority of the people who complain about the ANWR being tapped are 40-something soccer moms. I personally have no problem with 40-something soccer moms. What irks me is the fact that they drive around in 3.5-ton Ford Excursions with towing packages to the local grocery store, getting 10 miles to the gallon and belching smog out past their Sierra Club sticker prominently displayed on their bumper. "But they're safer for my kids!" the overprotective soccer moms cry. Unfortunately, the roll-over deaths in SUV accidents far outweigh the fact that you can easily crush a family of four in a Civic.

If Americans are interested in conservation, each and every one of us needs to personally try our hardest to protect the environment. Driving a veritable school bus to work every day and complaining every time gas prices rise above \$1.30 is hypocritical at best, and just plain ignorant at worst. America is dependent on energy because Americans are dependent on energy. I say drill.

-B.Kundman

Times are getting tough - the U.S. is entering a warlike situation and no one knows how long and how intense this thing could be. So what are people worried about? How much it's gonna cost to fill up their gas-hog SUVs. Obviously, our priorities are in order (note sarcasm).

We might be entering a drawn-out conflict with the Middle East, a main supplier of U.S. fuel. So, while we are destroying the environment over in Asia, let's screw up our own land as well and start drilling in the Alaskan wilderness. That makes a lot of sense.

One argument in favor of drilling in Alaska is that the projected area is a tiny percentage of the overall land in Alaska. Therefore, what harm could it really do? Enough. And what happens when that tiny area needs to be expanded a little bit more? And then a little bit more after that? Hey, we don't really need Alaska, do we? Let's just turn the whole state into a giant oil rig.

Yes, we need to prepare for the possibility of limited petroleum supplies in the future. But digging up more somewhere else isn't the right solution. That's a big problem with the American ideology - when it starts to run out, just take more from somewhere else. But eventually there won't be anywhere else to take from.

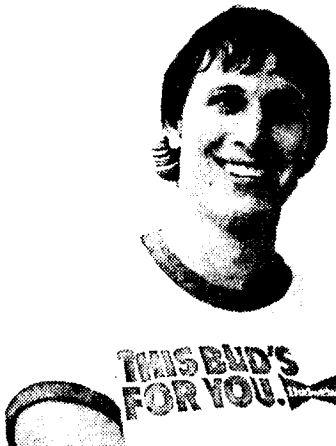
We have been hearing rumors about alternative fuel sources for most of our generation's lifetime, and those sources have probably been out there even longer than that. Why don't we look at the current situation as a chance to really work on utilizing those alternative sources?

Our generation has never faced the prospect of war conditions. If the current conflict does evolve into a full-scale war, things will get tough. We may need to re-familiarize ourselves with the word "ration." Believe it or not, there are more important necessities in our everyday lives than gas.

-L. Hayes

Every week, two editors from the staff will debate a topic that is hot. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to email suggestions for the hot topic. Send ideas to behrcoll2@aol.com

Don't let a bastard ruin your day



Oh, you didn't know?

Karl Benacci

around it? Yeah, that word. Cut it out with a pair of scissors and insert it everywhere you see a blank. How do ya like that, censor? You're going to have to wake up pretty damn early to stop ol' Karl McKool.

Now that we've made this editorial into an interactive learning experience... well, let's get started! I think that we can all agree, bastards often make it a point to ruin our day! Agreed?

So why do we mope around and act sad when a _____ ruins our day? After all, the _____ wants us to be miserable! Why let he/she/it/them/all of the above win? Seeing us sad will make a _____ happy! So what can one do when feeling down in the dumps because they got fired or received a bad grade on their exam? Easy!

Throw a _____ party to celebrate their _____ness! It's as simple as that! The type of party is up to you. One may do anything from getting hammered and throwing a _____ tribute session to going to church and praying for the sorry _____.

Do whatever you'd like, as long as it cheers you up! As far as I am concerned, _____s are people with some sort of anger (perhaps an inferiority complex or some sort of general unhappiness) and they feel the need to spread this anger around to other people, for _____s feel better when they make others miserable. A piece of advice: Never fall to a _____'s level. You're better than that (unless you're a _____ of course, and if this is the case, quit reading my column for I am trying to begin a _____ upheaval!)

Once, while fuming over a _____, I decided to take a walk in the woods. While doing so, I met a kindly little frog. We had a wonderful conversation about his cousin Kermit, which led to Kermit's friend Gonzo. I asked the frog if that was really Gonzo's nose or a... wait this is not relevant to the story. Moving on... after that, he gave me some wonderful advice. He said, "Karl, you and all the other non-_____s out there need to look at yourselves in the mirror and say aloud, "(_____s name) is a _____. I will not let them bring me down." I thanked the gentle frog and went on my way. The frog ribbited at me as he watched me disappear, and to remind me of his lessons, he stuck out his tongue and caught a fly (not just any fly but a filthy _____ fly.)

_____s are unhappy and sometimes jealous people. To further investigate this, lets look

at some of America's most well known _____s: Tom and Rosanne Arnold (these two were such _____s they decided to marry. Thank goodness they divorced before they had a chance to procreate). They also include Johnny Rotten (this guy made cool music, however, he was an imported _____ no one liked). Finally, there's the grand _____ of them all... Benedict Arnold (this guy was such a _____ that they named an egg dish after him).

Funny how most of America's most well-known _____s have the same last name. Is there, by chance, a _____ gene? If so, we must destroy it! Finally, I want to tell you how to defeat a _____, so I made a list: Here are the top five ways to infuriate a _____:

1. Smile around them and be cheerful.
2. Call them by their first name.
3. Ask them how they're doing.
4. Annoy them.
5. When they want to talk to you... ignore them!

If we stick together we can triumph over _____s and taste the sweet nectar of victory. _____s come and _____s go, but one thing for sure: Every time a _____ dies an angel gets its wings. Always remember that.

Benacci's column appears every three weeks.

Playing video games & having a major boinkfest



A tale told by an idiot
Liz Hayes

ing for the newspaper!

So, you have a job to do. And it's a fairly important job. People are depending on you to get things done. And rather than tell them up front, "Hey, I might not have time for this," you proceed to simply blow them off and the job doesn't get done.

And then they get upset and treat you poorly. Do you really have to wonder why that is?

When you sign up to do a job, you know ahead of time what that job will entail. If it requires you to oversee another group of people, then guess what? You are going to have to work with those people on a daily basis. So coming to work now and then is usually a good thing. It's just more conducive to getting the job done. Staying home and sleeping all day, playing video games or having a major boinkfest may be more fun, but coming to work is what was expected of you when you agreed to do the work.

If you volunteer to do something, make sure you can do it. This isn't like telling your mom you'll clean your room and then you don't clean it. We have to grow up a little here. If you can't do something, don't volunteer to do it in the

first place. Hey, that's a concept!

And guess what else? We are all in college. By definition that means we college students are all busy. Everyone has 21 credits, everyone has a job, everyone has 14 extracurricular activities, everyone has significant others demanding time. That's how it goes. So stop whining about how much you have to do and why you aren't able to do what you said you'd do. You had the credits, the job, the activities, and the gf/bf before. Unless they all materialized in the last week, which they did not, you should have known what your schedule was.

I don't want the excuse that someone can't do something simply because they don't have time. I don't have time either, yet I manage to do my work and help 10 other people do theirs every week. I'm sure someone can take time out of their busy pants-dropping schedule to help a friend out now and again. And you know what? If you can't, I guess we aren't really friends, now are we? Interesting.

Now let's move on a bit and talk about initiative. When you are out there in the real world, you don't just sit around all day and wait for the bossman to come around with an assignment every hour or two. They aren't going to pay you so that they can wipe your ass every

minute of the day. You gotta learn to wipe it yourself at some point.

You see, it works like this: You are hired to fulfill a job description. You get a general idea of what you are supposed to do. Your boss will give you projects periodically, but they won't necessarily fill up your time. You therefore figure out what you can do to improve the workplace. And then you do it.

I think our generation is severely lacking in initiative. There isn't anything to do on campus? Well, find something! It isn't that hard. Find a few people with similar interests and organize something. The school will even give you money to do it a lot of times. The same things goes within an organization. If you want to be productive, just take a look around and see what can be done. Don't sit in an office for four hours playing Snood because there's nothing to do. There is ALWAYS something to do. Organize something. Clean something. Help somebody else. Just do something. Sitting around isn't helping anyone, even if you are physically there. You may as well be back at home having that boinkfest.

Hayes' column appears every three weeks.