

Editorial Opinion

The Paradox of Rights

The right "not to associate", is being misrepresented by those seeking to maintain the status quo in Greek affairs.

To the unwary, this defense of the infamous fraternity clauses which limit membership on racial or religious grounds could sound convincing.

In reality, however, it presents a paradox, for it is solely by the elimination of the clauses that the right of association or disassociation can be insured.

It seems obvious to us (although others have attested to difficulty in understanding) that eliminating discriminatory clauses DOES NOT bind any organization in the selection of its membership.

If any fraternity, free of restrictions placed upon it by an alumni group hundreds of miles away, desired to maintain discriminatory policy of membership selection it could conceivably do so.

However, there is no potent justification for perpetrating discrimination with these ethically and morally obnoxious clauses.

Their elimination would give each group concerned the right to decide for itself who its members would be.

The right of association or disassociation would then be voluntary, not enforced by distant, unrealistic and outdated restrictions.

As they stand now, some national fraternity clauses prevent the individual chapters from determining membership.

Any reference to this restriction as a "right" only dignifies the abuse of basic individual rights.

Earlier this year, the Stanford chapter of Alpha Tau Omega pledged four Jewish students and was promptly ordered to revoke the bids because they were in violation of the fraternity's national by-laws.

The Stanford chapter retained a lawyer and received a letter commending its stand from its brother chapter at Northwestern.

This is only a small example of a national movement by fraternities to rid themselves of oppressive restrictions.

Before adjourning for the summer, it would be wise for Panhellenic Council and IFC to set up research groups on this issue at Penn State.

The movement to abolish discriminatory clauses is growing and we will continue to support it.

But only an informed approach on the part of the local Greek governing bodies will hold weight when, as is likely, the issue reoccurs next year.

Letters

Rights of Public Defended

TO THE EDITOR: Mr. Rheim in his letter May 11 seemed to be so pre-occupied with the word 'private', that he forgot all about the word's antonym, 'public'.

He apparently has forgotten the fact that schools are public institutions even though they are run by the states. There is ample provision in the constitution to prohibit the continuation of segregated schools.

One of the functions of the Supreme Court is to interpret the Constitution. Often a court decision becomes part of the Constitution (the Constitution being essentially more than a piece of worn paper lying in a glass case).

Such was the case when the court at long last ruled that 'separate but equal' facilities were in violation of the 14th Amendment.

Mr. Rheim's criticism of the barbershop picketing is equally invalid. Quite a tragic picture was painted (although not explicitly) by him.

The poor businessman, who was merely exercising his right of 'free enterprise' (a term which became a meaningless abstraction in this country late

in the 19th century), had to give in to the nasty whims of some 'pressure group' (might I remind Mr. Rheim that pressure groups are an integral part of the 'American way').

That 'pressure group' was operating fully within the law, against an agency operating in violation of the Constitution.

Certain citizens were not receiving equal protection of the law. Certain citizens were having their privileges abridged by the barbershop.

Since no state or municipal agency corrected the situation a group of people protested.

Demonstration and protest are important factors in shaping the history of any country (there was even a revolution here in 1776).

This was not the first time in which private individuals had to act, in order to bring attention to an existing ail. One of the really substantial 'basic American rights', and I use Mr. Rheim's terms, is the right to protest and demonstrate.

There is a far cry between choosing your friends and associating with whom you wish, and denying outright the right of a person to use public serv-

ices and facilities, merely because that person is of the wrong race or creed. Public and private circumstances are greatly different.

Up to this point my criticism has been largely on legal grounds and the 14th Amendment. Little mention has been made of human rights.

If Mr. Rheim will permit me to indulge in a little 'campus idealism', might I remind him that one of the original purposes of this country was establishing a place of refuge for those who were oppressed of their religious beliefs, etc.

Anyone living in this country was to receive equal protection by the law, this law being one of principle, one which was applicable in all situations to all people, and not subject to the whims and prejudices of individuals or individual states.

People certainly may, and will associate with whom they wish; but let us hope that 'the right of freedom to not associate' doesn't allow any people to be treated unfairly before the law and in the public domain.

—Chester Mais, '61

Letters

Freshmen Present Budget View

TO THE EDITOR: It seems to us that the entire "budget" controversy is one-sided. There has been no presentation representing the viewpoint that the University should not expand its facilities. This letter brings forth these ideas.

We feel that there are enough students already at this school. A considerable number of those who are admitted fail to graduate. Many flunk out; others leave because they cannot afford to continue; while others transfer to better schools.

In most cases, those who flunk out should not have been admitted in the first place.

Since the administration has pledged for the admission of additional students, they will get the needed expansion funds one way or another. Therefore, if the state doesn't raise the appropriation, all students will have to pay more; some students have a hard time paying the present rates. Furthermore, the students will not get an increase in benefits from the tuition raise. We feel that we should not be compelled to furnish funds for additional enrollment at the call of the administration. We heartily state that when there are 15,000 good students enrolled, the school should be enlarged, and not until then.

There would be less transferring of the quality students and teachers to other schools, if the education presented here were better.

Therefore, we propose: that the student body should not be increased; that any extra appropriations from the state should be used to pay teachers a higher and more deserving salary. This would result in a better student body, better teachers, and a better reputation for "dear old State."

—James Good '64
—Ed Rickless '64

WDFM Schedule

- WEDNESDAY
8:25 Financial Tidbits
8:30 Stock Market Reports
4:00 Critics Choice
5:00 Music at Five
6:00 Studio X
6:55 Weathercope
7:00 CAMPUS BEAT
Seven O'Clock Report
Album Review
News, world
Jazz panorama
Forum of the air
Comedy
Sports
Obelisk
Campus news, sports, weather
10:00 Virtuoso
12:00 Sign Off
HUB

Letters

LP's Purpose Questioned

TO THE EDITOR: Lion's Paw, as defined in Penn State's Student Handbook, is "an honor society of senior men selected for their leadership potential and/or because of the positions or responsibility they hold."

If the position of President of the Senior Class is not one containing great responsibility or does not bear with it leadership qualities, I would like to be advised as to exactly what positions do connote such adherence to the code and purpose of Lion's Paw.

Dave Grubbs was recently elected to the aforementioned post; another person, competing with Grubbs for the position was not elected. This is the expressed desire of the student body.

It should be noted here that I am not doubting the losers leadership capacities. I do wonder, though, whether the fact that his being in the same fraternity as the past SGA president is purely coincidental to his various appointments, et al.

By another stroke of luck, I am sure, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is also in the same fraternity. This man

Gazette

- Today
American Chemical Society, 8 p.m., 110 Osmond
American Chemical Society Reception, 9 p.m., HUB reading room
AIM, 8 p.m., 203 HUB
AWS, 6:30 p.m., 203 HUB
AWS Pollock Council, 9:15 p.m., Pollock 5
Bookstore Committee, 9 p.m., 212 HUB
Bus Ad Student Council, 6:30 p.m., 314 Boucke
Chem-Phys Student Council, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Chess Club, 7 p.m., HUB card room
English Department, 9:30 p.m., HUB main lounge
Freshman Advisory Board, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Navy, 9:30 a.m., 217 HUB
SGA Budget Committee, 4 p.m., 213 HUB
Women's Chorus, 6:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
WYZ Committee, 1 p.m., 212 HUB
HOSPITAL
Judith Allen, Lucinda Baird, Carolyn Barten, Jeanne Chambers, Stephen Cotlar, Darlene Cotton, Judith Creed, Harris Drucker, Harriet Emdur, Thomas Goff, Fred Good, Marlene Gorenstein, Karen Hafer, Richard Heller, Duane Hemming, Edwina Hill, Frank Hugs, Gayle Kelchner, Marcia MacPherson, Benson Malkin, Katherine McManus, Jane Nemeroff, Joseph Osenkarski, Nellie Phillips, David Potter, Joann Schmidt, Bernard Schwartz, Beverly Shapiro, Stanley Tictin, and John Trojanowski.

was tapped for membership in to Lion's Paw, Dave Grubbs was not.

How can Lion's Paw contribute to the betterment of Penn State when the schools elected leaders are excluded from membership?

—Mickey Hurwitz '62

Little Man On Campus By Dick Bibler



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