

Opinion

Editorial...

Crystal Clear. That is the idea. To be able to see inside a person, beyond their physical appearance and philosophical beliefs is the ability to combat prejudice.

Right now we need to see the truth.
Right now we need to be open-minded.
Right now is the time to become educated about other cultures, races, sexual preferences, creeds, lifestyles, etc.

Right now is the time for understanding.
 Understanding of others. We need to realize that we have so much to learn from each other. We need to reach out and make peace where tensions presently exist.

Right now we are too quick to prejudge others.

Who is to say what is right and what is wrong? Individuality is good, but the whole is better than the sum of its parts.

We are all physically together on this Earth. We need to come together not only physically, but also spiritually as the human species.

Right now we need to accept others with open arms.

We need to accept what others have to give us, and not expect more than they have to offer.

Right now we have to understand perspectives.

Now is the time to stop talking and take action. Be aware of others. Listen to your conscience. Judge people by the standards you set, not by other's preconceptions.

Right Now!



Letters to the Editor

Ethics Questioned

I would like to state for the record that the eight other Greek organizations hold philanthropic, fundraising and campus wide events. You might not know this, because the only Greek organization that receives front page coverage is Delta Chi, (could this be because a Delta Chi is one of the Co-editors).

Alpha Sigma Alpha held their annual Mr. Penn State Erie Pageant last week. You might not know this because you would have to have excellent vision to make out the unrecognizable picture hidden on page three amongst a public service ad and the snowball ad. Since you can not make out any of the faces, you probably skipped right over it. If you did stop and read the caption, the only information you received was the winner, the runners-up (however, this information was printed incorrectly), and the sponsor. You were not able to read anything about how the contestants were judged, who judged the contestants, who the contestants were or even how many contestants there were or even how many contestants participated. I know for a fact that Alpha Sigma Alpha submitted a press release for printing last semester containing all previously list information. Was it printed upon receipt? No! Was it printed in conjunction with the picture? No!

I thought one of the basic responsibilities of the press was to remain unbiased. I suggest that *The Collegian* remember this responsibility of journalism and give all organizations,

Greek and non-Greek (referring to ignoring the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebrations), professional and equal coverage. (Not just YOUR organization Mr. Cissne).

Leah Daw
 7th Semester
 Psychology Major

Learn Don't Judge

I am deeply affected by a problem I see on this campus. I don't quite know what to call it. It's racism, but it's more than that. It's sexism, but it's about more than gender.

I worked for ten years before I was ready for college. Education means learning things you don't already know. I haven't seen many people here willing to learn about other people. As a faculty member said, the college experience "has become only a means to an end," seen as "a way to get a high paying job." His college years were a time to open your mind to other cultures, ideas and people.

What I see on this campus makes me very sad, because college is where it should be different and better. Everybody is so defensive about other people not being just like they are. I've seen people afraid to walk by a gay person. I've seen whites against blacks, blacks against whites, blacks against blacks, women against men, men against women, women against women. I don't see it as something that happens only here at Behrend -- it's everywhere. It's people plain refusing to accept other people who are different. Why should anyone worry about a person's

sexual preference, or what sex they are, or what race?

Unfortunately, oppressed groups demonstrate prejudice against other oppressed groups. That's the saddest thing. I see people screaming oppression and then persecuting other victimized people. I can almost hear the fat cat power structure laughing in the background. And the power structure is not this college administration, which is trying its best to help students encounter diversity.

I am Native American. I know about prejudice and being judged by skin color. I am proud of my ethnic background. I have feelings of anger about the suffering my people went through at the hands of the power structure. So I'm not a white male telling minority groups to stop whining -- but white people shouldn't be seen as automatic enemies either. It hurts when I see the fear of difference on my campus. It hurts me to the point of angry tears when I see the oppressed against the oppressed. Nothing will be accomplished this way. Things are bad enough out there -- college should be where we learn not to do this to each other. This is the time to learn about other people, not judge them.

Bernie George
 1st Semester
 Psychology Major

Editors Note: *The Collegian* always welcomes the opinions of our readers. We have a strict policy against responding to letters. If you have a concern that needs to be answered, feel free to stop by the office.

The Collegian

Published weekly by the students of
 The Pennsylvania State University at Erie, The Behrend College

Co-Editors
 Matthew D. Cissne
 Alicia Hartman

Business Manager
 Darlene Stranic

The Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editorial staff, with the editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are not necessarily those of *The Collegian* or The Pennsylvania State University.

News Editor
 Gary Johnson

Features Editor
 Danette Parrott

Entertainment Editor
 Rick Kastan

Sports Editors
 Matthew D. Cissne
 Keith McFall

Copy Editor
 Alicia Hartman

Advertising Manager
 Loretta Russ

Office Manager
 Lori Anna Dyer

Photo Coordinators
 Arnel Balcita
 Kristie Guldner

Smith, Jennifer Toibakar, Sedat
 Usman, Tamara Wiley

Photographers: Tim Barr, Daniel
 Jaacks, Christine Long, Darren
 Schilberg, Christine Wilson

Advertising Representatives
 Terri Swanson
 Jen Watkins

Typist
 Dylan Sousa

Advisor
 Cathy Mester

Letter Policy: *The Collegian* encourages letters on news coverage, editorial content and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by no more than two persons. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Letters should include the semester standing and major of the writer. All letters should provide the address and phone number of the writer for verification of the letter. *The Collegian* reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters. Letters should be submitted to *The Collegian* office no later than noon on the Tuesday prior to the desired publication date. Letters submitted to *The Collegian* become property of the newspaper. *The Collegian* is published every Thursday during the academic year on recycled paper.

Postal Information: *The Collegian* is published weekly by the students of The Pennsylvania State University at Erie, The Behrend College; First Floor, The J. Elmer Reed Union Building, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563. 814-898-6488 or 814-898-6019 fax.

Collegian Staff: April Bogdanski, Craig Campbell, Hal Coffey, Kent Drum, Matt Duddy, Eric Kesselring, Jeff Johnson, Rob Moffett, Sarah Melchiorre, Joe Mottillo, Tarsha Proctor, Vince