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Loyola Law School Los Angeles

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A PLASTIC, ELASTIC, SPASTIC CONVERSATION

It was a rainy Thursday morning. It should have been predictable from the weatherman's optimistic forecast, but years of indoctrination in trusting "authorities" prevailed. It was really the wrong morning for this to happen; for this was the morning he was wearing his Penguins, his NEW BROWN PEN-GUINS. It was his last desperate effort to impress his professor. Surely, anyone who would wear penguin shoes couldn't be anything but legitimate. Alas, all would be for nothing. Why? Because he couldn't afford a parking permit. It was even questionable whether he could afford law school but for God and Bank of America.

THERE WAS A MAN NAMED QUIZBY
WHO LIKED TO PLAY WITH
A FRIZBY
HE SPUN IT A LOT
IN THE SCHOOL PARKING
LOT
WHICH HAD AMPLE ROOM
CONSIDERING ALL THE
EMPTY SPACES.

"Cynic!" cried the administrator. "We know your kind; we've dealt with them before. You know that you can talk with us any time about the parking situation. We're doing all we can."

"Yes sir! Yes sir! Three bags full."

Continued on next page

YOUR FOOD STINKS!

It is well known that the human mind functions more efficiently when its body has been properly fed. Perhaps there is even a correlation between a student's grades and the type and quality of the food that he eats. It might be enlightening to determine the grade point average of those students who patronize the cafeteria at this school, because the food it serves is atrocious.

Take, for example, that gourmet dish known as the "campus cheeseburger." Upon ordering one of these, a student may likely envision biting into a juicy quarter-pound cheeseburger topped with lettuce or tomato, all resting between a nice toasted bun. Instead, one is more apt to encounter a cold shriveled buffalo patty prepared two hours before. Fifty-five cents entitles you to taste this.

The "Poor Boy Sandwich,"

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FOOD
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alias the bread sandwich, is another epicurean delicacy. For fifty-five cents you receive two enormous slices of French bread wrapped around a quarter-inch layer of meat. Indeed, it seems that the cafeteria is wasting money. Instead of losing that thin layer of meat between the bread, they could just sprinkle some fragrance of meat onto each loaf of bread without anyone being the wiser.

Our staff feels that a lunchroom is a great idea, but not in its present condition. Until the quality of the food is improved and the prices weighted accordingly, a boycott is in order. This paper urges everyone to refrain from patronizing the cafeteria until appropriate changes are made. If you purchase a fifteen cent coke, you will soon know why.

A list of alternate restaurants which are concerned with maintaining high standards of quality commensurate with price, will soon be posted; additions to this list will be welcome.

NEVER AGAIN AT THESE PRICES!

CONVERSATION
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“You can talk with us. We trust you. You wouldn't be in this institution if we had no trust in you.”
“Last night I dreamt I hung from the testicles of Hercules.”
“Irrelevant, immaterial, and totally unreasonable.”
“My mind is being corrupted by white man’s logic.”
“Love it or leave it.”
“But can’t you see? My penguins are wet from having to walk four blocks in the rain after searching for seventeen minutes of my wasting life for a parking space in the street.”
“But we’re limited in room.”
“Quite often there are empty spaces in the lot.”
“Those are for the ones who paid.”
“But I am poor.”
“That is unfortunate. But, as we say, we’re working at it.”
“Thank you for your time sir.”
“Not at all. That’s what we’re here for.”

He sat in his class. His term for the Rule had expired. He was over twenty-one now, and his interest had failed. Under the law, it had failed from the time of its creation. He looked about him at the jellyminded individuals filled with various varieties of fruit. He wondered whether to interpret this institution of learning broadly or narrowly. Was his inner being a rule of law or a rule of construction? He loved what the law had to offer. He occasionally shivered with anticipation of its application. Yet, he knew it was only an individual effort. The profession he was endeavoring to enter was another world with another language.

BEHOLD AT HOW THE SPOKEN WORD CAN MAKE A GODLY THOUGHT ABSURD.

His mind ceased its wandering as he arrived at school, after running the four blocks. He was three minutes late for class, jeopardizing his grade. At least he thought about himself and his situation. It occurred to him that it was about time.

OMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM

WILL THE JUDGMENT GO AGAINST YOU?
"IF YOU ARE NOT PART OF THE SOLUTION, YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM"  
ELDRIDGE CLEAVER

BEFORE THE LAW
by Don Jones with apologies to Franz Kafka

Before the law stands a doorkeeper on guard. To this doorkeeper comes a man from the country who begs admission to the law. But the doorkeeper says he cannot admit the man at the moment. The man, upon reflection, asks if he will be allowed to enter later. "It is possible" answers the doorkeeper, "but not at this moment." Since the door leading into the law stands open as usual, the man bends down to peer through the entrance. When the doorkeeper sees this, he laughs and says, "If you are so strongly tempted, try to get in without my permission. But note that I am powerful and I am only the lowest doorkeeper. From hall to hall, keepers stand at every door, one more powerful than the other." These are difficulties which the man from the country has not expected to meet. The law, he feels, should be accessible to every man at all times, but when he looks more closely at the doorkeeper in his fur robe with his huge pointed nose and long Tartar beard, he decides that he had better wait until he gets permission to enter. The doorkeeper gives him a stool and lets him sit down at the side of the door. There, the man sits, waiting for days and years. During all these long years, the man watches the doorkeeper incessantly. He forgets about the other doorkeepers as this one seems to him the only barrier between himself and the law. In the first years, he curses his evil fate aloud; later as he grows old, he only mutters to himself. He grows childish, and since in his prolonged watch he has learned to know even the fleas in the doorkeeper's fur collar, he begs the very fleas to help him persuade the doorkeeper to change his mind. Finally his eyes grow dim and he does not know whether the world is really darkening around him or whether his eyes are only deceiving him. But in the darkness, he can now perceive a radiance that streams immortally from the door of the law. Now his life is drawing to a close. Before he dies, all that he has experienced during the whole time of his sojourn condenses in his mind into one question which he has never yet put to the doorkeeper. He beckons the doorkeeper. Since he can no longer raise his stiffening body, the doorkeeper has to bend far down to hear him for the difference in size between them has increased very much to the man's disadvantage. "What do you want to know now?" asks the doorkeeper; "you are insatiable." "Everyone strives to attain the law," answers the man. "How does it come about then that in all these years no one has come seeking admittance but me?" The doorkeeper perceives that the man is at the end of his strength and that his hearing

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ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY

"Happy (?) Birthday"
by Glen Rabenn

When the first edition of Life Magazine was published several decades ago, the cover picture was of a newborn child. Such symbology could be used to represent the birth of the Loyola Environmental Law Society, but only with certain modifications: The infant would be wearing a gas mask to protect it from the air, ear muffs to protect it from the noise, and a blindfold to protect it from the view.

A picture such as this would not only be representative of the time in which we live but also the feeling of those in the Environmental Law Society. The Society is basically a group of students who are concerned about the quality of man's environment. Our concern does not consist merely of words and gestures of despair...it takes the form of a desire to do something. More often than not when people who express concern over a social ill are asked to take a stand against it, they refuse to do so by saying, "I don't want to get involved" or "Let somebody else do it." Such an attitude is itself a major cause of the problems confronting man today. We, the members of the Environmental Law Society, are committed to being active agents of change. We believe that as students of law we are uniquely qualified to bring about a departure from the trends which, if carried to completion, will result in the destruction of man's environment, and eventually man himself.

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Maybe it is illusory to think that law school is a place for expressing our real feelings. All too often we are caught up in the motion of what tomorrow will bring. Will I make law review? What grade will I get in Torts? Did I make the moot court finals?

The striving for tomorrow's star leaves little time for today. The constant awareness of the possibility of future frustrations does not allow us to be aware of the present reality; aware of our spontaneous reactions to it, faithful to those reactions in expressing ourselves to others and in relating to them.

To give of oneself would mean that another would take, and as a result, he might "win" or get a better grade. It seems that when we make contact with each other it is to lead or to be led, but seldom merely to be with each other.

In reality we are alone in the law school environment. Our fear keeps us from engaging in conversations with someone else on any but the most frivolous topics. We long to speak directly and personally, but instead we spend most of the time talking about grades or how to get them, sports, stocks, or the latest law review articles we could have read. For the most part we think we cannot afford to make any personal statement which might commit ourselves; hence we stay aloof.

What we want and really need is someone who will be involved in our lives; to have contact with other human beings and reveal our sensitivities. Such sensitivity will not solve our problems or even attempt to analyze them; it simply offers to one human being the gift of another human being's self. It is an attempt to reach out and join hands with others in a common struggle that is life.

It could be that one person's burden is lighter, not because he gave part of it away, but because he knows that there are others with a similar burden and he is not alone. It is now all right to be afraid and confused. It is all right to be human.

It is unfortunate that there need be a class or a forum, or a newspaper to bring out basic human feelings, but this is a start.
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY
Continued from Page 4

The Society has several objectives:

1. To serve as a source of information to the student body. By means of an Environmental Law Society Reporter, guest speakers and other activities, the Society will try to inform the student body of environmental issues and, in particular, how such issues relate to the study of law.

2. To work outside the school with organizations which are combating the degradation of the environment. Numerous voluntary organizations, such as the Sierra Club, S.O.S. (Stamp Out Smog), and the People's Lobby are active in the field of environmental protection and have expressed the desire for participation by law students. Governmental agencies, such as the A.P.C.D. are also areas in which our services could be effectively utilized. The Society may also join with environmental groups from other law schools in various projects.

3. To serve as a means by which the members of the Society themselves can increase their knowledge of the problems relating to the environment. This will be done through the periodic meetings of the Society at which a general exchange of ideas will take place. These meetings will be open to any member of the student body who wishes to attend. Field trips are also in the planning stage.

Like any other new organization, the Loyola Environmental Law Society will require time to mature. At the present time it is still a floundering infant. But we desire and anticipate a rapid progression from childhood through adolescence to maturity. This growth will be fed by the members' belief that man himself is responsible for the gradual destruction of his environment and that only man can prevent this destruction from continuing. The following phrase, one that has become very popular within the ecology movement, might serve as the Environmental Law Society motto:

WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY...HE IS US!

BEFORE THE LAW
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is failing so he bellows in his ear, "No one but you could gain admittance through this door since this door was intended only for you. I am now going to shut it."

The man from the country stayed by the door to the law because he had faith that eventually he would be permitted to enter. Where do we fit into this parable? Are we to be the doorkeepers, or are we the faithful waiting to be admitted into the immortal radiance of the law? In my view, law school acts as the doorkeeper to the law.

For many years the law school, acting as a doorkeeper to the law, has kept the faithful waiting at the door, sustained by faith alone; fragile human faith that "things will get better" and "you have it better here than any other place in the world."

The minority students at this law school have the experience of being told that the door was made for us; that if we were faithful we would be able to share the law. I started school with a man who had the pride to ask the doorkeepers questions and who expected answers and not utterances to "keep the faith."

WHERE IS JOHN TENNEL?
Misuse of Statistics
by Stanley Stern

In the current "anti-crime" clamor, considerable emotional public criticism has been leveled against the United States Supreme Court for allegedly encouraging crime. Now the Court's detractors have found apparent support from a respectable quarter in a recent article, "Crime and the High Court" by statistician Louis H. Bean. (Opinion Section, Los Angeles TIMES October 11, 1970) Unfortunately, Mr. Bean's article is a classical example of the often repeated comment that statistics can be used to prove almost anything.

Based on statistics alone, the author concludes that the increase in the rate of violent crime over the past decade has, to a considerable degree, been caused by a number of Supreme Court decisions enunciating the Constitutional rights of the accused in criminal trials. Since the reported crime rate was lower in the time period before these decisions were handed down, Mr. Bean reasons that it must certainly follow that "...a substantial and considerable amount" of the increase is attributable to the decisions.

There is an obvious fallacy in attributing any statistical trend to an event or a series of events just because the events occurred during the same period of time in which the trend was established. To select a particular explanation from among the myriad possible alternatives based simply on a statistical correlation is a futile and misleading exercise. The same kind of reasoning applied by Mr. Bean in his article could be used to draw equally valid conclusions that a consider--

able portion of the increased crime rate was caused by the recitation of religious prayers in the public schools, the escalation of the war in Viet Nam, or the rising trend in women's hemlines. If tomorrow's statistics indicate a downturn in the crime rate, would it be reasonable to attribute the result to the introduction of the Midi and the Maxi?

While it is, of course, arguable that the much criticised Court decisions, collectively, tend to create a sociological and legal climate that encourages crime, that position is not strengthened by the fanciful use of statistics. Thus, it cannot be concluded from the increased crime rate, with any degree of certainty, that the Court decisions have been a more important factor in increasing crime than any of the almost infinite variety of other potential factors, such as, e.g., shifts in the density and distribution of the population, unemployment, or the growth in pervasiveness of the mass media. Nor can such a misuse of statistics be relied upon even to dispute the possibility that the crime rate might even have been higher today had such Court decisions never been rendered.

OUR COUNTRY RIGHT OR WRONG.
WHEN RIGHT TO BE KEPT RIGHT;
WHEN WRONG TO BE, PUT RIGHT.

...CARL SCHURZ
Address in Congress, 1872
The recently proposed Loyola Consumer Protection Journal (L.C.P.J.) is now entering its final stages of organization with a specially selected staff of students from the day and evening division. The staff members were selected because of their experience in the fields of accounting, public relations, tax, advertising, artistic design, copyright law, photography, writing and proofreading. In addition to the students, several faculty members have volunteered their time and efforts toward the success of the Journal.

According to Cary Medill, editor-in-chief of the publication, the Journal will contain the following:

1) Student articles proposing consumer legislation
2) Reviews of recent consumer legislation and case law
3) Interviews with prominent figures

The editorial board feels that the purposes of the Journal are twofold. The Journal proposes to publicize those fraudulent business practices in which the consumer is vitally interested. In addition the publication hopes to significantly diminish the influence of those lobbyists who continually oppose the interests of the consumer. Mr. Medill hopes that the ideas presented in the Journal "will be an aid to consumer protection organizations and legislators."

One of the problems the Journal has to surmount is providing adequate funding for the anticipated circulation. Several potential sources have been suggested. Student body funds, money raising events, foundation grants, advertisements, honorary memberships and advancement subscription sales are just a few of the alternatives that have been considered.

It has been projected that the Journal will be published in the early part of next year. Any articles or suggestions are welcome and should be submitted to Cary Medill or Dean Grant.

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