with John, I shared his vision of a university in which students are not simply sheep lead by patronizing administrators. It is my hope that contemporary students will gain such a vision, one which can only materialize through student action and militancy.

Perhaps we can draw a lessen from the students in Prague, Czechoslovakia and Paris, France during 1968, whose struggle for democracy and free speech encompassed not only the universities, but also the factories and the working class. Perhaps we can learn from the students of China, who have continued a fight for democracy at the cost of thousands of lives. In Korea, Burma and South Africa, student's struggles have taken to the streets. It is time that the complacent "Canadian way" of accepting the status quo is shown as a strategy of defeat which will only result in power being held in the hands of the tiny elite who currently control our country's wealth.

In Struggle and Solidarity,
Tony Tracy

The Brunswickan would like to thank Vincent Nicholas of the NB Craft School for all the art work in last week's Native Awareness Supplement

All lip service

Miss Sullivan,

It is difficult to believe that you pay more than lip service to feeling sympathetic to any victim of abuse when that one sentence is the only support you offer to Professor Fish's victim. You have minimized her completely out of any existence by your one reference to "any victim." One the other hand you demonstrate, not only in words, but in your actions in submitting your letter for publication, your support for her abuser.

The newspaper account, if anything, minimized and trivialized the seriousness of the offense. You write of the dangers of making assumptions and then imply that the newspaper account was exaggerated and one-sided. Your statement sounds objective and tolerant but contains a hidden insult. Is there another side to the story? Did Professor Fish's wife ask for it? Is she somehow lacking as a women or wife, and did she fail to meet his "needs" or provoke him? There is, I think, only one side to this story and that is that men batter women because (1) they can, and (2) they can get away with it.

You are correct in saying that one should look at the whole picture and all aspects of a person, and it is for precisely that reason that serious consideration should be given to dismissing Professor Fish. A willingness to assault a woman is an integral part of the batterer's belief system, and while you may be able to divorce Professor Fish's actions at home from his actions in the classroom, he carries the same value system with him wherever he goes.

Yes, no doubt Professor Fish teaches with enthusiasm, shows concern for his students and makes his classes interesting. He has learned, as you have not, that psychological manipulation will serve him well. You like him, he has done nothing to harm you, so of course it logically follows that if he harms another human being in the privacy of his home that is none of your business.

You are not alone in this attitude. I recently listened to a school board official explain why a teacher who had admitted to molesting children was still teaching. The teacher had taught his children who liked him, he said. He has known this teacher all his life and liked him, he said. He was a good teacher because his students liked him, he said. Yes, of course they do, some of them, he doesn't harm them all, only the helpless and vulnerable. It is to his and Professor Fish's advantage to be well-liked; it gives them enormous credibility and sympathy even in the face of the most damning evidence.

If you are indeed sympathetic to the victims of abuse, put yourself in one's place for a moment and think what it would do to you to be told, "Well, he never hurt me or mine, and I always liked him, so I intend to give him every benefit of the doubt." There are a great many rapists, wife batterers, and child molesters out there masquerading as normal, enthusiastic, concerned men. As current statistics reveal that at least one woman in four will be a victim and will probably not report it, you should be able, by consulting three of four of your friends, to find at least one and perhaps three or four who can tell you what it feels like to be defined as non-existent as a human being, by both the abuser and the public.

You, I think, owe Professor Fish's wife an apology. In your letter to the *Brunswickan* she exists only as an abstract object of abuse. He, on the other hand, is portrayed by you as a full and complete human being — concerned, enthusiastic, and interested in others.

If Professor Fish can demonstrate that he has changed his attitude and is now both willing and able to teach the causes, implications and consequences of family violence, then let him teach. If not, then you would do well to learn instead from his wife who can teach you something of value about courage.

Chris Duplisea

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Three corrections

Dear Editor,

I was very pleased to see my letter in your last issue. Regrettably, you had to edit out my responses to inaccuracies contained in your previous article about the Student Union. I believe that there are three specific corrections which should not wait until next year to be made.

First, you wrote that in 1984, President Downey refused to give the Student Union its budget until we "returned" $50,000. The implication was that the Union had "taken" University money.

Our 1984 Union fees of $250,000 were frozen because the Union refused to force students to donate to the University. At registration, the University made all students pay a "mandatory donation" to the Third Century Fund. We objected to supporting a fund over which students had no control. The Student Union refunded the donations to students despite the objections of the Administration. Refunding the money and getting receipts exactly equalled the amount of money we refused to "donate". An embarrassed President Downey eventually announced that the Student Union was not holding any money belonging to the University. The donations were cancelled and the Student Union budget was released.

Secondly, you wrote that the police conducted an "investigation of the SRC funds". You left the impression that there was something illegal going on.

The six month investigation, costing thousands of taxpayers' dollars, resulted in a finding that there was no impropriety or unlawful activity. The police declared, in August 1985, that the Student Union and its officials were "completely exonerated".

Thirdly, you wrote that the lockout occurred "after an audit of the Student Union books revealed a $174,000 deficit". That is incorrect.

The lockout occurred months BEFORE the Administration produced their trumped up "adult". The fact is that the University closed down the Student Union not because it was poorly run, but because it was too WELL run. Our operations were cutting into the earnings of University-run services. Our photocopy centre along was taking over one hundred thousand dollars of business away from overpriced University-owned copiers in the libraries. The deficit that the Administration tried to pin on us was actually spent not by students, but by the Administration itself, paying for lawyers to defend their takeover of the Union.

Unfounded allegations of financial impropriety are still being repeated, despite the fact that New Brunswick courts long ago dismissed the accusations as groundless. The three false charges addressed in this letter were used for years to create an elaborate hoax about financial irregularities in the Union.

The truth is an incredible powerful thing. I wrote to you because I detected a real spirit of honesty in your Brunswickan editorials. I believe that an investigative review will uncover many of the wrongs committed so many years ago. If the Brunswickan conducts such a review, you will be doing a great service not only to the students of my generation, but also to your present day readers.

John Bosnitch

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