

Information on sexual harassment

The Sexuality Centre
By Melissa Fulton

Sexual harassment can become a big problem for those who are unfortunate enough to experience it. It can humiliate them, take away their dignity, and make them feel unsafe at work or at school. We've all heard of sexual harassment, but do we really know what it is? The truth is, it can be a lot of different things.

In a nutshell, sexual harassment is any behaviour of a sexual nature that is unwanted and makes the recipient uncomfortable, fearful or humiliated. Obviously, many things can fall under this category. Sexual harassment can include unwanted touching, leering at someone's body, innuendo or suggestive comments, and hurtful or inappropriate remarks about someone's gender or sexual orientation. Sexual harassment can interfere

stopping sexual harassment.

One option is to talk to the harasser yourself. You can arrange a meeting face to face or write a letter explaining that certain behaviours are bothering you. Sometimes, the harasser doesn't even know they were making someone feel uncomfortable, so this approach is sometimes useful. Other times, however, talking to the harasser just isn't an option. In these cases, you can talk to someone else. Here at UNB, there is a contact list of Harassment Advisors. Harassment Advisors are here to intervene on your behalf, or to arrange mediation. If you are being harassed and you don't know what to do or feel that you can do nothing, contact an Advisor. An Advisor can help you find a solution and stop the harassment.

More information about harassment and a list of Harassment Advisors are available at <http://www.unb.ca/hr/employees/policies/harassment.php>. The UNB Policies and Procedures on Harassment and Sexual Harassment are available at

Black History: Is just one month enough?



Internet

by Niki Klukas

Q: If February is Black History Month and March is Women's History Month then what happens the rest of the year? **A:** Discrimination," quips a poster from minority activist group, Guerrilla Girls.

The group explains this statement by saying, "Assigning commemorative months to social issues has become another form of tokenism."

"This poster is a favorite on university campuses, where African Americans and women always get special notice in February and March," it continues.

Black History Month is once again being celebrated, as it has been every February since 1926, though the Parliament of Canada did not officially recognize it until December 1995.

It was started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson as Negro History Week, as a way to bring attention to the posi-

tive contributions of black people in American history," says Byron Williams, writer for commondreams.org.

"As for the conspiracy theorists who wonder why black history is celebrated in the shortest month of the year, Woodson selected February as the month so that it coincided with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas," he explains.

Williams argues radically for the elimination of Black History Month on the basis that it further marginalizes African American achievements and places them outside the realm of other North American achievements.

He also believes that the practice of celebrating Black History Month marginalizes other minority groups who do not have a month dedicated to their achievements.

Williams says he fully recognizes the fact that many people, regardless of colour, would not be willing to abandon Black History Month, and

he does not expect others to fully agree with him.

Fellow writer Earl Ofari Hutchinson views the big problem with Black History Month to stem from institutionalized racism in North America. He says, "Black historians and educators forgot that Black history couldn't be separated from American history. They failed to tell how the black experience has enriched the lives of North Americans of all colours.

"Black history was isolated into a cubicle labeled 'for blacks only.' It was treated by academics and textbook writers as little more than a footnote to the 'real' history of North America. When the furor over equality died down it became expendable," he continues.

If educators and informed citizens alike could use Black History Month as a stepping-stone or an entrance point into examining how black history is intertwined in North American history, then the celebratory month would be less offensive.

Instead, some people look at the

achievements and historical stories presented during February as mythical stories that happened long ago and no longer affect today's society.

Hutchinson argues that nothing could be further from the truth.

"When the experience of blacks becomes accepted as a routine part of the whole of North American experience, then and only then will black history be what it should have always been -- something that all North Americans take pride in and celebrate, and not just in February," he concludes.

The Government of Canada's website on multiculturalism (<http://www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/progs/multi>) has a page set up discussing Black History Month.

It says, "Every year Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities and events that honor the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present, during Black History Month."

Some of these festivities and events include film screenings, discussion groups, and art exhibitions. There are thirteen events in all.

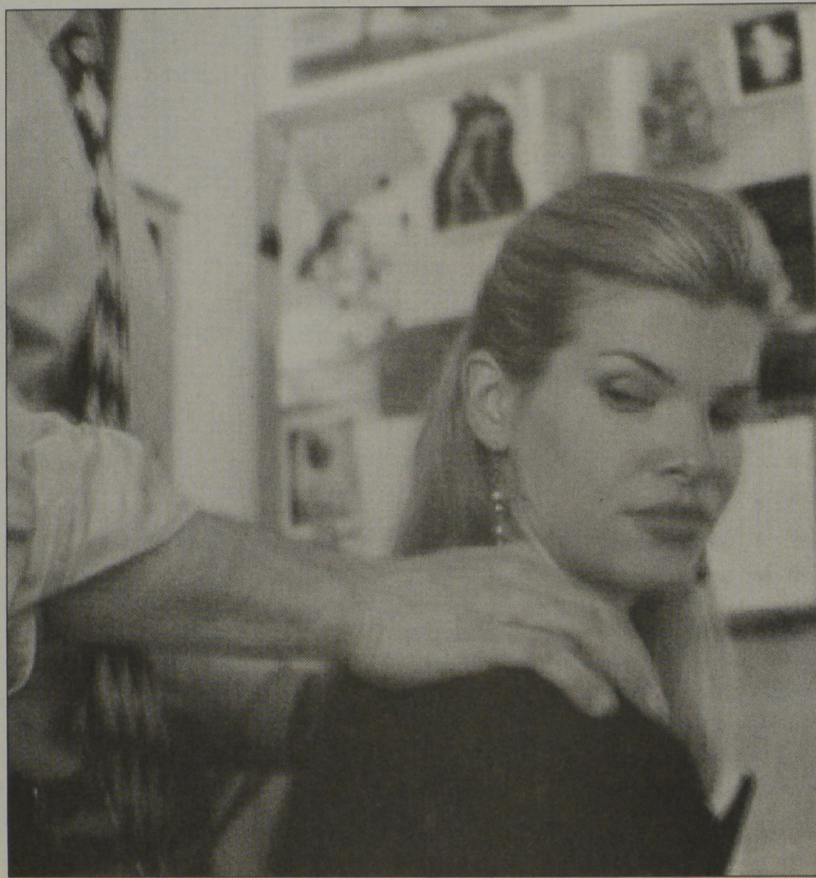
John Fleming, vice president of museums for the Cincinnati Museum Center, says, "Black History Month should focus on both positive and negative aspects of the black experience."

"From talking with young people, black and white students, the lack of knowledge about African-American history is just appalling," Fleming says.

"This applies to the general population. That's why Carter G. Woodson came out with Negro History Week in the first place," he continues.

In his opinion, education and awareness are only a first step. Too many North Americans feel they are doing their job if they watch a documentary on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. or Malcolm X.

Finding the real truth, Fleming believes, requires people to not only watch a documentary but then take a look at their lives and figure out how the two fit together. In order to understand their own lives, people have to have a clear and complete picture of the real world around them and its full and complete history.



Internet

with your work or academic performance and create a hostile and uncomfortable environment. No one should have to put up with this. If this is happening to you, you may feel like there is nothing you can do. The good news is that there are a couple of different options (short of quitting or job or transferring schools) for

<http://www.unb.ca/hr/employees/policies/index.php>. You can also stop by the Sexuality Centre for more information.

The Sexuality Centre is located on the top floor of the SUB (take the elevator or the stairs by the Jewellery Shop). You can contact us at sexuality@unb.ca.

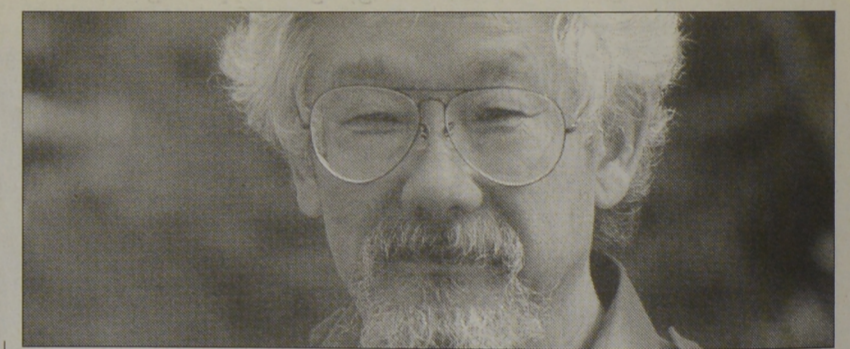
David Suzuki visits Fredericton

Challenges students to "Vote for the Environment"

by Stephanie Cavanaugh

Well-known Canadian biologist and environmentalist Dr. David Suzuki

visited Fredericton on Sunday, February 4th as part of his "if YOU were Prime Minister" cross-country tour. Dr. Suzuki stopped in at the Wilmot Church to discuss the importance of individuals and communities making their voices heard to our political representatives. Suzuki asked supporters what steps they thought were needed to achieve the changes necessary to



Internet

meet our emission reduction targets and protect the environment.

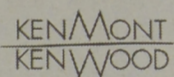
Besides creating awareness of global warming and environmental issues, the Suzuki team is working to get Canadians to "Vote for the Environment". This simple act allows you to make your voice heard to the Canadian government and get involved in saving the planet.

If you didn't catch David Suzuki's

talk on Sunday, you can still show your concern and take action for our environment by visiting <http://www.davidsuzuki.org>.

This website allows you to find contact information for your MP, learn about climate change and the state of our environment, and sign on to the Nature Challenge. In other words, this is your perfect chance to get informed and get involved!

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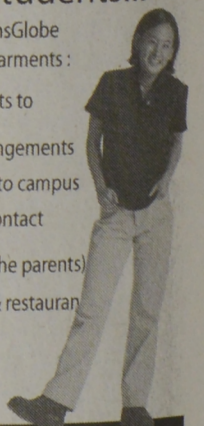
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TENTATIVE APRIL 2007 EXAM SCHEDULE

THE TENTATIVE APRIL 2007 EXAM SCHEDULE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2007 FROM THE UNB HOMEPAGE OR AT THIS URL:

<http://www.unb.ca/schedules/exam/>

The tentative schedule is also posted on faculty bulletin boards. It is expected that the Final Exam Schedule will be available by February 16th, 2007. Students are reminded that they are expected to make themselves available for examinations until the last possible day of the examination period, ie April 26th, 2007. Therefore, travel arrangements should not be finalized until the final examination timetable has been released. Deferred exams will not be granted for reason of travel arrangements.