

Protest effective?

Yesterday the USC Student Mobilization Committee conducted a well organized and well behaved candle light march to protest the recent Allied incursion-invasion of Laos.

It produced visible protest and no trouble. And that was what it was designed to produce.

After our own private war last May the USC resistance is starting again from the ground up. Whether this is good or bad is a question which cannot yet be answered.

However the old avenues of protest are still available whenever people are willing to organize and utilize them. The Campus Shop boycott and the SMC march proved that much (regardless of whatever else they accomplished.)

Effectiveness is another question entirely. Protests directed at the national administration have a long history of ineffectiveness. Local protests and economic boycotts have, in the past, had measurable but temporary effect.

First semester, last year petitions and moderately effective student strikes against ARA Slater caused some minor improvements in the food service. The boycott against the Campus Shop has resulted in a committee investigation into policies and solutions for student grievances.

Action designed to meet local needs is just as easy to organize and probably more beneficial to the participants. And, there are enough local problems to take up everyone's free time.

SMC deserves a hand for conducting an orderly protest against something that many of us find offensive. But measured by its effectiveness, the effort was wasted.

SMC must also be credited with persistence. They knew it wouldn't be effective. The march was simply to register their dissent and to solidify their membership.

There is a lot of time left in the future and there are a lot of local problems for us to solve. If it wants to, SMC can be an effective vehicle in solving of these problems.

By solving local problems, national problems may become more approachable. For example, voter registration...But make no mistake. If we don't start solving some of the problems that abound in this world soon, we may never get the chance.

Do Unto Others

By MICHAEL BALL
Guest Columnist

Let's put abortions back in the hands of butchers where they belong.

This newspaper has run ads for abortion referral services in blatant defiance of the laws of Nature. But the right thinking administration of Winthrop College of the Pure Heart by the Waterfall (WCPHW) has seen fit to squash this travesty on Humanity.

WCPHW's President Davis has courageously taken the role as representative of Mother Nature, God and Attorney-General Dan McLeod is declaring these ads illegal. I assume he meditated, communed and prayed to reach the first two, but with their approval he apparently by-passed McLeod.

While waiting for legal opinions, the editor of WCPHW's newspaper, The Johnsonian, has been forced to withhold the ads for a week.

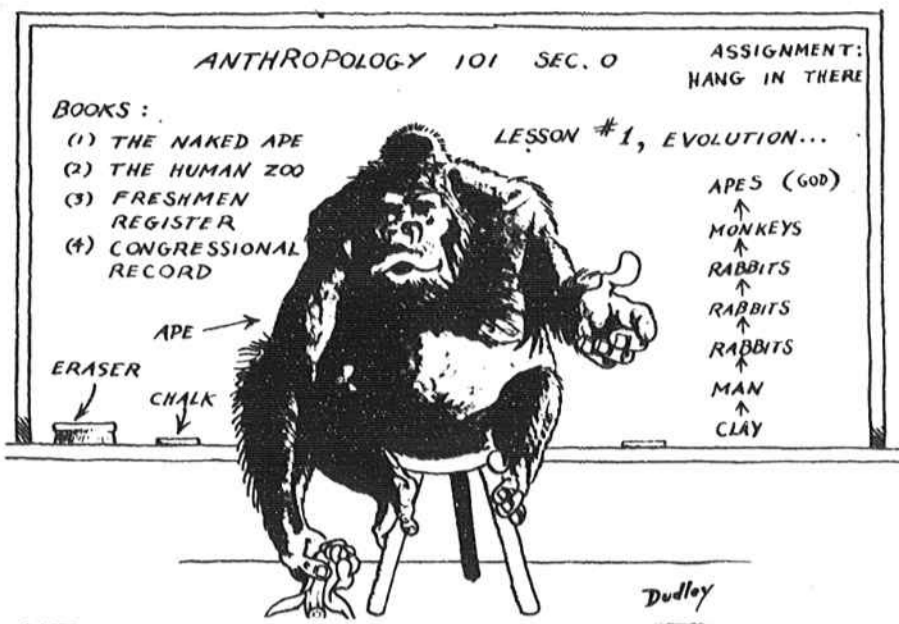
This seems like a simple case of censorship, but the plot thickens.

President Davis is subject to more pressure groups than just Nature and God. There is an element in WCPHW's alumnae who agree with your little, gray-haired grandmother in several areas 1) Winthrop girls don't, 2) even if they did, they wouldn't get pregnant, 3) WCPHW women shouldn't have the choice offered to other women in America, 4) WCPHW women shouldn't even be exposed to the topic, 5) if the Federal Communication Commission says these ads can't be broadcast, college newspapers can't print them.

It's very pleasant to think of a President of a college being concerned about the wishes of the dottering old women, and the not so old. It's even more pleasant to think he considers their theories one through five.

It's oh so sweet that even if the Gamecock exposes the USC community to actual information and reality, The Johnsonian will, or will be forced to, protect the WCPHW community.

However, as the farmer whose manure truck began rolling down the road said, "This shit has to stop."



"First off, I want everyone in this class to realize that I hold my own ideas on evolution."

Our man hoppe License to steal

BY ARTHUR HOPPE
Columnist

The revolutionary nature of Mr. Nixon's current Great American Revolution is even more revolutionary than appeared at first glance.

Did you see his Economic Report to Congress? Down in it he suggests that polluters be licensed in return for a fee.

"This charge would be sufficiently high to encourage substantial control of sulphur oxide emissions (or whatever)," says the report, "and the consequent reductions of damage to health and property should substantially exceed the control costs."

Now this is certainly a revolutionary concept. But why limit it to pollution? Properly expanded, it could lead to a new Federal Licensing Bureau, which might even take in enough money to balance the budget.

Scene: The new Federal Licensing Bureau. A bored clerk is approached by a middle-aged applicant who looks nervous.

Applicant: I'd like to apply for a license to emit sulphur oxides. I have this small backyard smelter and...

Clerk: Okay. That'll be \$10,000.

Applicant: Did you say \$10,000? That's exorbitant.

Clerk: Look Mac, sulphur oxides aggravate lung diseases, dissolve nylon stockings, peel paint and create killer fogs. The right to do all that doesn't come cheap.

Applicant: I'm sorry, I didn't realize...

Clerk: Remember, it's high fees that reduce damage to health and property. Now if you want something cheap, I can let you have a license good for tossing three beer cans and a sandwich wrapper out your car window. That's only ten bucks.

Applicant: Littering? I don't know, there doesn't seem to be much profit in it.

Clerk: Ah, you're looking for a profit? Confidentially, I think our best buy is a Mugging License. It entitles you to hit three old ladies over the head in the park of your choice and snatch their purses. Most guys come out ahead on this one.

Applicant: (surprised): Hitting old ladies over the head? That sounds anti-social somehow.

Clerk: (shrugging): It's no different than a license to poison people's lungs. And it's only \$100.

Applicant: (indignant): That's

highway robbery!

Clerk: Nope. Highway Robbery is \$200. But it's a non-renewable, non-transferable one-shot deal.

Applicant: I hate to risk that kind of money.

Clerk: Tell you what. Get a group of your friends together and take out a License to Riot. You can burn and loot five stores in the ghetto of your choice. The fee's relatively low because it's part of our Urban Renewal Program.

Applicant (appalled): What kind of concept is that? It just means the rich can get away with crimes like poisoning people's lungs that the poor can't afford to commit.

Clerk (yawning): So what else is new? Next.

'Write your senator'

Dear Mr. Beebe:

I wish to congratulate you on your editorial advising students to use common sense in their protests. We are all well-aware of the violence last spring, and there are few of us who wish to see it repeated.

There are many students who feel that they are powerless to oppose such violent actions. Well, they aren't. The Gamecock offers students a chance to express their opinions to the rest of the student body.

Many will find that their opinions and ideas are shared by many others. The next time you're sitting around the room with nothing to do, discuss it. You will probably be surprised to find that you are in the majority. You will also be surprised to find that it doesn't hurt you to express your opinion, even if others don't agree with it.

really want peace, let's seek it peacefully. If it's a simple matter to give your local representative a call. The Governor will take note of a personal letter to him. Write your senators and just address it "Washington, D.C."

Eighteen year olds now have the right to vote. If we are ultimately the ones to decide the policies of this school. We must first determine our leaders.

Ghandi freed India by doing nothing. But, he did it actively. Non violent action can work. I hope it does at Carolina.

RUSTY ROBINSON

Edward Bond is the author of Blow-Up

Antonioni film

...one of Antonioni's most brilliant strokes.'

—THE REPORTER

Edward Bond is the author of Saved

SAVED is not for children...grown-ups should have the courage to look

—Sir Lawrence Olivier

Edward Bond is the author of Early Morning

EARLY MORNING is not a parable ... but a wicked fairy tale.'

THEATRE HEUTE

Edward Bond is the author of Narrow Road

Witness the triumph and downfall of Shogo who builds a city in his own image and sees it destroyed by barbarians who fight with Cannon and Christianity.