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**Editorial Board**

Lucy Arnold, Jamie Clark, Erin Galloway, Gregory Perez, Stephanie Sonnenfeld, Allison Williams, Larry Williams, Ryan Wilson, Chris Winston

## New education program lacks universal appeal

There is much debate among future educators here at USC as to whether or not the removal of the undergraduate education program was beneficial. Unfortunately, many students currently on the education path don't know the debate is happening. They aren't even aware that the program has been restructured.

The new education program, which allows a student to get a master's degree in five years provided that they are accepted into a highly competitive graduate program, was started in 1993. Some two years later, the word about the revisions is starting to spread on a large scale. The job of spreading the news about the changes was left to individual colleges, and the circulation appears to be rather poor.

One would think that most students would be eager to know that the new five year plan had been implemented, especially if they had only planned to go to school for the usual four year period. Of course, since no other option is granted the student, this might be a moot point: students who do not gain acceptance to the graduate program must take up their graduate studies elsewhere and leave Carolina without a license to teach.

Furthermore, the new program doesn't necessarily facilitate the career hopes of some students in the education field. Some students desire a basic undergraduate degree since they only want to teach for a short time or in elementary education. The five year program only helps those who wish to make a career out of education, often at higher levels.

In all fairness, the new program has its merits. A longer period of time would usually be required to obtain a master's degree, which also translates into more money spent. The program was changed in order to better meet the market needs, which is always a good cause. Also, the system is very competitive, which helps to raise university standards and status.

However, the university could have been slightly more aware of the students when making the changes. The news about the change should have unquestionably been spread to all students affected immediately, and a bit of explanation for the changes might not have hurt anything.

The program ultimately benefits the majority of students, but when making changes such as this, don't overlook those who you mean to benefit.

## More gender differences

You know something, folks? Reading that last column I wrote got me to thinking how much different men and women really are. Really. Men and women are as different as tennis shoes and combat boots (you can decide which is which for yourself).

For instance, how many times have you seen a man spend three hours in a bathroom? That's because men's rooms are like hog pens.

However, you women have restrooms nicer than most people's houses. Most of them have couches and recliners and studio mirrors with a full drawer of makeup. Heck, if it weren't for the fact that the mall closed, they probably wouldn't leave.

Also, why is it women have to go to the bathroom in packs? I always like to have privacy when I go. But women have to have about five other women go with them, even if it's just to check their makeup.

I guess women take this time to make up their mall battle plan. "Gen. Heather, what will be the first plan of action?"

"Well, Col. Suzie, our first stop will be the petite dress section of J.B. White's, followed by a frontal strike of the makeup department."

"But General, how will we bet our supplies (male translation: money) for this mission?"

Here's where you get to see the ladies pull out all the stops. This is the time when the male's paycheck gets shot to the devil.

When your favorite girl comes asking you for some cash, you'd better answer with a few bills or else it's dinner with Mrs. Paul for the next few weeks.

And why is it women hate the way they look so much? Women are so much better looking than men. Even when they get up in the morning and haven't even seen the first mirror, they still look pretty good.

But when most women describe themselves, it seems like they're describing Hairy Gorilla Women of the Congo.

Now sometimes, these women are telling the truth. I once knew a woman who was so ugly, a peep-

**DREW STEWART**  
Columnist

ing Tom told her to pull the shades down.

If women looked as bad as they say they do, men wouldn't have a thing to do with them. Would you have anything to do with a thing that was bloated with icky hair, had skin that did nothing but break out constantly and had no clothes that matched?

But women do command a certain respect, though. In Summerton (pop. 975), it's only a woman who can cause a man to get up off his seat, take off his hat and automatically become the most well-mannered and behaved gentleman there is. Manners would be about as existent as a redneck cheering section at Spoleto if it weren't for women.

It's women who make you observe manners. Whenever the leader of my mother's bridge club visited the house, I was always forced to act with manners that would make Judith Martin look like Ellie May Clampett. If I didn't behave like she wanted me to, I had about as much of a chance of seeing the latest episode of the Duke Boys as there is a chance of there being a Saddam Hussein Park dedicated in Kuwait City.

One final difference between men and women: Women are a heck of a lot more expensive than men.

Men wouldn't buy anything new if it weren't for women. We'd just keep everything we had forever in the garages in our back yards. And if anything ever broke, we'd just get some duck tape and rig the joker up until we absolutely had to replace it.

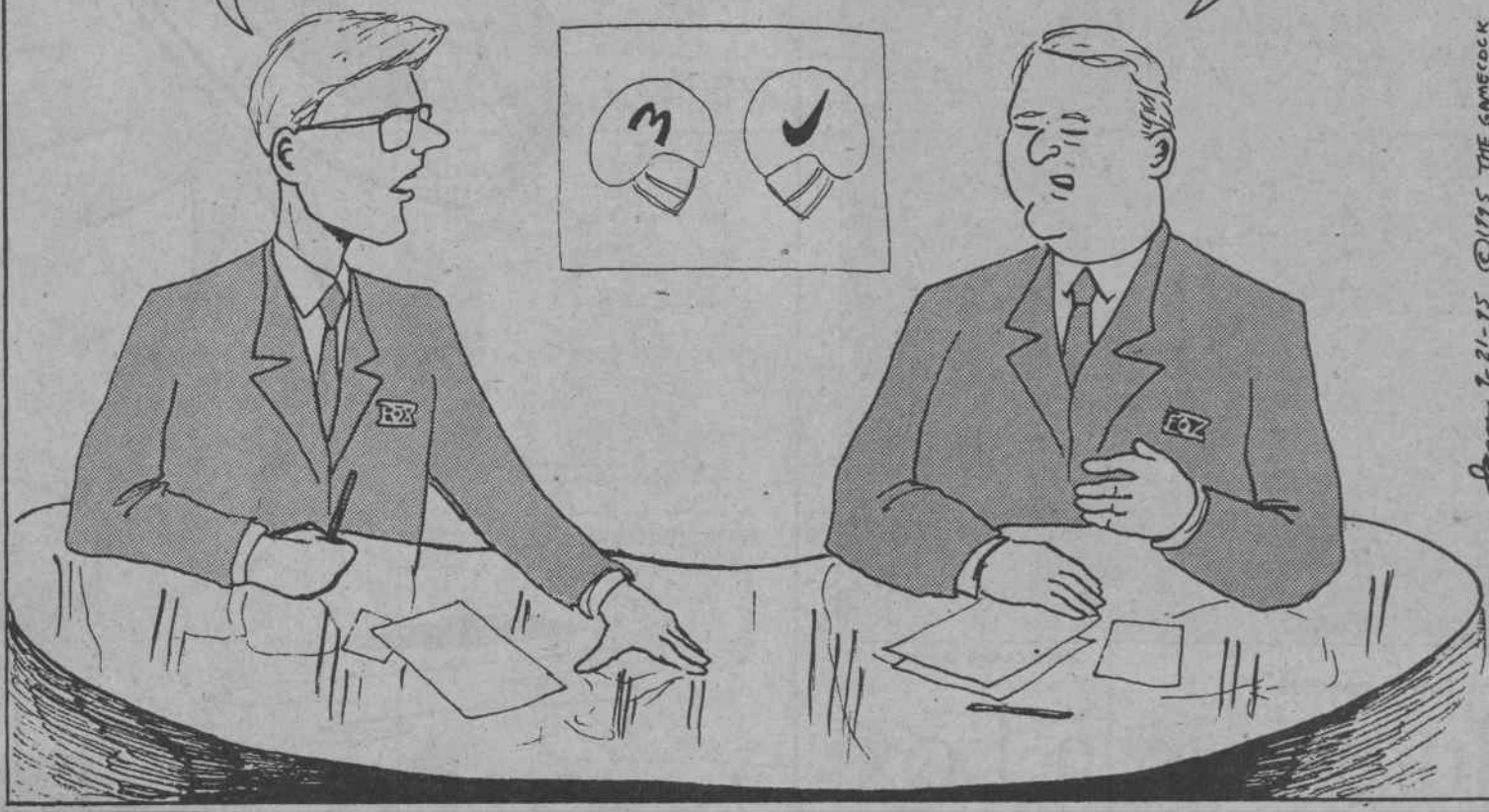
But women have to have new things for every event. My sister even has to buy a new outfit every time she cuts the grass.

Yes, men and women are very different. Whoever said opposites attract was telling one of the biggest truths to ever be told. Just ask the girl or boy sitting next to you.

FOOTBALL 2000...

WELL I KNOW ITS A BIT EARLY IN THE SEASON, CHUCK, BUT WHO DO YOU LIKE IN SUPER BOWL 35?

HMM... REEBOK HAS A STRONG TEAM THIS YEAR, BUT SO DOES NABISCO. IN THE NFC, I THINK PEPSI WILL EDGE OUT SONY.



**QUOTE UNQUOTE**

"The standard is now set that women's rights are human rights."  
USC Professor Jan Love, on the U.N. Conference on Women.

## Ignorance leads to fights between factions

It seems that recently the battle between the accepted and established political factions known as conservatives and liberals has grown to a steady boil. Battle lines are being drawn deeper than ever, and they are ones of terrible animosity and bitterness that won't go away.

Yes, the Democrats and Republicans are at it again (again?). With Election Day creeping closer and closer, we are forced to sit back and contemplate the status of this nation that we live in. We must ask ourselves, first, "What exactly separates a conservative from a liberal, and why are they at each other's proverbial throats?"

It must go back to when we were very small, and our opinions and "values" were not instilled in us yet. Our parents did the best that they could to give us the morals that they saw best fit. Some of us still go by those same principles, some of us don't; however, the principles that others possess that we fail to agree with, we blast unmercifully and degrade for not corresponding with our own.

Liberals and conservatives might have a lot of differences, but there is one which thing they all have in common: narrow-mindedness. How can anyone disagree? It happens time and time again with few exceptions. With MOST, the idea of an intelligent disagreement is a lost concept.

Democrats, open-minded people that they claim to be, don't necessarily conform to that mind set when presented with an opposing view that doesn't necessarily correspond to their own. Conservatives, on the other hand, are often grouped with and called

**LARRY WILLIAMS**  
Sports Editor

"the religious right." This might or might not be wholly correct, but, according to their religious principles, they preach forgiveness and humility; however, just like the opposition, they go back on their holy principles and damn those who don't fall in line with their beliefs.

A local provocative talk show host professes to be a supporter of neither political party. He preaches tolerance and responsive discourse, but yet he blasts conservative beliefs and morals and always tends to side with the liberal viewpoints. Even though he professes to be neutral, he leaves little room for opinions other than his own.

On one of his shows recently, the debate was whether The Carolina Spectator had overstepped its boundaries in writing against homosexuality and presenting other views that were at some times "conservative." A few callers called in to voice their opinion, and their points of view just happened to differ with the host's. The host then proceeded to hang up on the caller and blast their conservative views without the caller even present to defend himself.

The host, in my opinion, set a bad example for others, which occurs all too often in the world of politics. Why couldn't the host have remained calm

and "open-minded" to an opposing view, just as he says he is toward other ways of life? To bombard those who have dissenting views with spiteful diatribe is the epitome of what liberals claim to be — narrow-minded.

Let's think for a minute — what if the host would have calmly held an intelligent argument with the other party instead of blasting them off the air? Would there be more division among the listeners or more understanding? I side with the latter.

I also have difficulty understanding how this host expects to retain his integrity if he is to bombard callers and listeners who don't conform to his rigid beliefs. Look at the G. Gordon Liddy and the Howard Sterns. Both are outspoken, controversial and could incite a riot with their syndicated talk shows; however, as far as integrity is concerned, these guys aren't granted much credibility by the general population for their beliefs.

As for the publications who print hate rhetoric, I still don't understand how the publishers expect to garner any support with their spitefulness. Strip away the instances of bitterness, and you have the potential for a legitimate conservative newspaper with legitimate conservative concerns.

Regardless of the argument, neither side is right. How can conservatives attack others when they preach forgiveness? How can liberals assault others when they preach open-mindedness? It really doesn't make sense, but the ignorance exists everywhere from the University of South Carolina to Capitol Hill.

## No excuse for physical violence

**KEN TRAUM**  
Columnist

In response to those who have negatively criticized my columns in the past, I show you here with this column that you truly don't know me, but that once again ignorance has produced unnecessary stereotypes. Even though I enjoy and encourage such responsive discourse, my perceptions and views have been negatively attacked. Nevertheless, my columns should suggest the following: My ideologies and views as expressed every week are meant to encourage people to think openly, to elicit responses and allow readers to make independent choices regarding their own personal beliefs. I don't want to upset anyone.

The topic for this week's column was inspired by a close personal friend who endured a very violent relationship and emerged a successful survivor.

Whether the situation consists of a physical relationship or a casual friendship, no one has the right to act violently toward you. Even though excessive emotions of love and commitment can make someone feel powerless, it is important to realize that the only obligation you have is to yourself. Overcoming the frustration of such powerless situations is not easy. However, it can be done.

Experiencing internal guilt, feeling ashamed and blaming yourself for the violence is perfectly natural. However, there is help available. Hundreds of agencies are solely dedicated to issues such as domestic violence, physical or sexual assault and rape. These agencies are available; they are not out of reach.

Male power and dominance often control and help further the acts of violent behavior. Society has created gender-role stereotypes that only enhance male authority, some of which are aggressiveness, an uncaring attitude and domination, with respect to conversations. This does not mean that all men are "bad" people, that they will never change or that they lack total self control but that some physical actions are not acceptable and can be illegal. Also, men are not the only ones who can act violently. Some abuse can be inflicted by the power of women, and in some instances, men are the victims.

However, it is imperative to realize that the victim has authority as well. By believing in themselves and taking the necessary steps, the abused can overcome the initial emotions of confusion. This is by no means a simple process, and adults and teens would only be adding further confusion by not subscribing to the complexities.

Reporting an incident is perhaps the most troubling obstacle to overcome. In the aftermath of rape, it is important that victims not wash or shower, change clothes or alter their environment in any way. This might sound disturbing, but for an effective conviction and prosecution it is extremely important.

And as educators, we should not focus so much on the strategies for re-

porting a violent act; rather our goal should encompass the reasons why these crimes are not reported at all. The problem is complex and much-needed attention cannot be addressed in such a short column. Nevertheless, reporting the incident can only further the victim's rights, as well as give the victim a sense of empowerment.

Friends also can prove to be helpful. In most cases, they will be more concerned than the victim appears to be. Even if you feel ashamed, you should contact a close, trustworthy, personal friend.

A few suggestions for preventing violence in intimate relationships follow. Although the suggestions mentioned are not solutions to an extremely complicated issue, they are meant as preventive measures for some violent behaviors.

Communication is the greatest asset people can give in relationships. Unhealthy relationships lack communication. Verbalizing emotions and feelings has been recognized by most professionals as preventive care for controlling violence. Expressing fear, frustration and anger before a physical action occurs can be beneficial. However, remember that unwanted emotional strain is in itself an act of violence. Trust and honesty will help eliminate some miscommunication, but no one deserves to be treated with abuse, anger or violence.

If you or anyone you know has been physically abused, please understand that the phrase "you asked for it" or "you deserved it" doesn't justify any actions of physical abuse.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

I am glad to see someone pointing out that there are fall sports other than football. Football does cast an enormous shadow over other non-revenue fall sports. I know: in high school I ran cross country, and extremely unnoticed fall sport.

Unfortunately, this attempt to draw attention to "other" fall sports is a bit late for USC's men's cross country program. It has silently fallen victim to the new standard of "gender equality" in sports, as defined by the SEC, in an attempt to make up for the fact that football does not and never will have an equally lucrative and crowd-drawing sister sport. This new definition of gender equality states that member schools of the SEC must have two more women's sports than men's sports in order to continue to receive the large amounts of money that are divided up among the 12 members after some participate in their respective post-season bowl games.

What the SEC wants is to be able to look at the total number of participants in all sports and have the same number of women and men participants in member schools. What they are obviously neglecting are the opportunities they are destroying by cutting smaller non-revenue male sports programs.

Obviously, the Athletics Department feels that the great gods of football revenue are more important than supporting the true meaning of the principle of equality that the department so strongly supports.

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