#### REMEMBER!

#### You can write us letters at: GCKVIEWS@SC.EDU

It works. We promise. Remember to include your name and phone number.

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# The Bamecock

**EDITORIAL BOARD** Jennifer Stanley, Editor in Chief Sara Ladenheim, Managing Editor Rob Gioielli, Viewpoints Editor Kurt Johnson, Assistant Viewpoints Editor Kathleen McCormick, Editorial Writer

### TAKE OUR WORD

### **Penalty** against **Davis ludicrous**

TOPIC

**OUR OPINION** 

and needs to be

reconsidered.

Poor Zola Davis. He was simply giving thanks to God after thinking he scored his second touchdown, and it cost him and the team big. A 15-yard penalty for excessive celebration was tacked on to another penalty that drove the Game-

cocks from the Ole Miss 9-yard line to their 40th, during South Carolina's game last Saturday against the Ole Miss Rebels.

Davis' action was simple: he scored the touchdown, dropped to a knee, pointed to the sky and rose. It was the same thing he did earlier in the game without the penalty, but this time that fiendish yellow flag flew from the official's pocket.

Now, receiving a penalty for a Deion Sanders-ish strut and wiggly dance could be somewhat understandable, but a penalty because of kneeling and pointingexact time .57 seconds—is asinine.

Davis has been doing this same touchdown celebration ritual since he was a freshman, and this is the first time he's ever been penalized for it.

However, this week Bobby Gaston, director of SEC officials, said Davis would be allowed to kneel,

but "there are going to be parameters." Well, that's Zola Davis' penalty for great, but the dam-"excessive celebration."

This rule is asinine penalty for "excessive celebration."

> der the "delay of game" category, which is a mere 5-yard penalty compared to the 15-yarder for "excessive celebration."

Collegiate football should drop this rule and institute a restricted celebration time.

After someone scores a touchdown, allot five to ten seconds for celebration. Most celebrations don't

The NFL has no sort of crazy rule like this. So why should college football players, who aren't getting a dime for playing ball and who play for the love and the fun of the game, not be able to express their emotions when they do something good for their team. MillioLaire professional players are allowed to strut their stuff all over the field.

Just let the boys play the game.

## **USC** should proceed with Greek housing

TOPIC

Opposition to the

University's Greek

bousing project.

**OUR OPINION** 

The time for debate is

over and we need to

start building.

age has already been done. But what is with this rule anyway? First of all, there should not be a

It should fall un-

Still, why have this rule?

even take that long.

Bag the rule.

ahead with the

project. They say

South Tower is an

inadequate facili-

ty, and new hous-

es are what the

state and alumni

with them. This

project has been in

the planning

stages for over

three years and \$4

And we agree

want.

million has been allocated to it.

voiced their concerns when the

project was proposed. But at that

time, there wasn't much protest

from campus Greek organizations.

They've had plenty of time to re-

search how they are going to fi-

going to get under way, they raise

a red flag. It's not fair to the groups

who have been organized since

the beginning. Besides, final de-

4

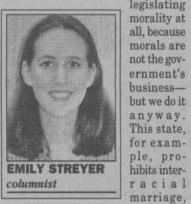
Now that the project is finally

These groups should have



# People aren't really stupid, but act like it

eople say you can't legislate morality, but it happens all the time. We should not, in my opinion, be legislating



dictates that its governor must believe in God, and outlaws the sale of liquor on Sun-

If you're reading this paper in a room with eight or more people, see if you can get everyone to raise his or her feet off the floor. You are legally having an orgy, and violating state law.

Most reasonable people believe the government should have no say in who may or may not marry whom; that reious beliefs or the lack thereof are a personal issue; and that sexual practices between two or more consenting adults should remain between those

stand that Sunday isn't a holy day for everybody, and even if it were, if God minds drinking, that's between Him and the drinker.

So what are other people's morals doing in our law books? How does morality become law?

Obviously, the lawmakers are morally superior to the rest of us.

Looking at the ease with which the most powerful force in politics, general public opinion, can be manipulated, we see the species into which we have devolved: sheeple.

Sheeple need protection from themselves

Are people basically stupid? Let's suppose for a moment this is true. If the population consists, for the most part, of people incapable of taking care of themselves, as the evidence most certainly suggests, then are these laws for the protection and good of all of society?

Well, some people are capable of making decisions for themselves-so such laws would be unnecessarily restrictive for that segment of the population.

But what about the rest of the population, which really is stupid: the best remedy would be to let them fend for themselves for a few generations. Humans have evolved to the point people. Reasonable people also under- where the only way to go is down, be-

"Well, some people are capable of making decisions for themselves-so such laws would be unnecessarily restrictive for that segment of the population."

cause even the stupid people are reproducing.

But perhaps giving people the opportunity and incentive to use their brains will move the species forward again, and those who can't keep up won't hold the rest of us back anymore.

Before this line of logic gets even more dangerously fascist, I must ask whether it is true that most people are basically stupid.

That's what the people in charge seem to think.

Of course, the next question is, who put the people in charge in charge?

This, perhaps, should answer the first question, but I still don't think peo-

ple are basically stupid, contrary to overwhelming evidence. I think people are basically slack,

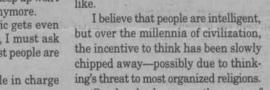
telligence: what do I have to do to still be alive tomorrow?

human species, we come up with ingenious ways to get around rules we don't like

Our law books are on the verge of collapse from the powerful parasite of morality.

Laws should tell us how far we may go before we begin stepping on others; they should not tell us how to act when we're not even there yet. People in a democracy get whatever govern-

And, a fact which I find redeems the





#### QUOTE, UNQUOTE The cost is not significant in a

dollars.

repayment plan

Friday, October 9, 1998

EXCHANGE

Within the next year, USC will finally begin the much-lauded Greek Housing Project. And all of a sudden we are seeing major opposition to

the project The presidents of four of USC's sororities have written letters to the uni-

versity asking that they stop or delay the project because they cannot afford to build houses.

Some sororities have been able to raise the funds, but the national chapters of other groups have decided, for one reason or another, that their priority is not houses for these sororities.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, the group that overseas most of the sororities on this campus, seem to prioritize is equity in housing between groups on each campus.

But in contrast to this opposition, the university is going

cisions do not have to be made now. There will be plenty of spots availbale in the future.



nance this.

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which is why technology has advanced as far as it has.

People are intelligent when they have to be. People look out for themselves all the time-the first sign of in-

ment they deserve. Think about it.

Comments welcome at The Gamecock or esstreyer@mindspring.com

### Future's uncertainty object of concern

bout eight months ago, I reached the day that every degenerate such as myself dreams about for their entire

college ca-

reer: my

21st birth-

Unfortu-

nately I had

to spend this

momentous

occasion in

England,

where the le-

gal drinking

age is 18. I

had been

day.

there studying since last September, so the novelty of not getting carded had worn off.

this August, I was looking forward to experiencing my final entrance into adult society. For three years, I have been considered an adult in every legal definition of the term-eligible to be drafted and to vote. But now, I could finally sit down at a bar without risking jail time.

For more than two months, I've been exercising this new freedom, and I have only one word that can describe it: overrated.

Maybe it's that I got my first fake ID when I was a sophomore, or that when I grow a beard I look like I'm in my late 40s, but buying beer is like getting a quart of milk.

Now that I am a full-fledged adult, the privileges seem to be few and far between, and the responsibilities too numerous to mention. Before, I had two major concerns in my daily life: during the week it was where to study, on the weekends it was where to get beer

Simple, easy and definitely low stress. I still worry about my grades and my social life, but in addition to that, there are my finances, my job and a multitude of other daily chores. Also, somewhere around number 42 on the list, falls the problem of what in the hell I want to do with my life.

When I moved here three years ago, it was probably the most exciting time in my life. At last I was a free man. No curfew, no nagging from my mother, no threats from my father.

"If I succeed, I'll have to thank my parents for all they've given me. If I fail, I have only myself to blame...but soon there will be nothing to fall back on."

I realize now that even though I was technically away from home, I was still very dependent on my parents. They paid all my bills and bailed me out of severe credit card debt. I was always asking them for advice, because I wanted to know what they thought I should do

But now, seven months away from complete independence, there is a voice of doubt in the back of my mind that grows louder and louder every day. After May 1, I am completely in control of my own destiny. And along with total freedom comes total responsibility.

If I succeed, I'll have to thank my parents for all they've given me. If I fail, I have only myself to blame. Of course it's not that melodramatic, but soon there will be nothing to fall back on.

I have to say that as much as the idea scares me, it excites me, too. I want to get out and see what I can do. I've been in school for most of life. Can I really learn anything more in a classroom?

Hopefully by the time Dr. Palms hands me that degree, I'll at least have a decent job lined up. I have the chance to do whatever I want with my life, and I am thankful for all the opportunities and advantages I've had up until now

In my hands I hold the responsibility for my own success, but I also hold the responsibility for my own failure. I guess that's what makes me nervous about my current transition to full independence. How do I know I won't screw it up?

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Beasley just doing the poplular thing

#### To the editor:

I felt compelled to write a letter to The Gamecock after reading the piece by Rob Gioielli, "Confederate flag doesn't represent everyone."

Governor Beasley was criticized by Mr. Gioielli because he "simply let the Gov. Beasley did this because of an outcry from voters. I agree with that completely.

It has been my understanding that our elected officials are supposed to do what we as citizens wish. We, as citizens, are the government.

I am no genius, but it doesn't take one to figure out that if the majority of the voters want the flag flying, he should

issue fade away." Mr. Gioielli felt that do all in his power to keep it that

The Gamecock will try to print all letters. Letters should be 250-300 words and must include full name, phone number, professional title or ear and major if a student. Hand written letters must be personally delivered by the author to the Russell House room 333. E-mail letters must in-hade the author's telephone number. The Gamecock reserves the right to edit all letter for style, libel or space. Names will never be withheld.

If a majority of the voters didn't want it this way, he wouldn't have backed off the issue in the first place.

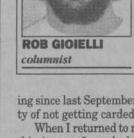
There has never been a law passed in South Carolina that everyone agreed

Not everyone will agree if a lottery is brought to our state, and not everybody wants the Confederate [flag] flying over the State House.

The point is this: When Gov. Beasley took an "unpopular stance" on the flag issue, it was unpopular because that is not what the majority of South Carolinians wanted.

When Gov. Beasley changed his position on the flag issue, he was not a 'spineless, vote-mongering coward," he was doing his job as our elected official.

> Curtis Hutto **Business Freshman**



When I returned to my native land