

Increase in STDs is cause for moderation

BY PHIL MAIORANO

Recently, I have noticed a change in the attitudes of the patrons who attend the local college bars. The attitudes of the past were those of wanton disregard for the respect of the opposite sex. The main reason for even talking to the opposite sex in these bars was to find out how interested he/she was in leaving the bar to "go someplace a little more quiet to get to know each other better."

Now, with the fear of AIDS and a countless number of other diseases and viruses to worry about, people have found once again the pleasure of simply enjoying the company of a person of the opposite sex. For men, there is no more honor in boasting about how many women they have slept with in their college years. In fact, usually if you tell your friends about a sexual experience with a girl that you don't know, or without the use of a condom, you don't get any high fives. You get a lecture on stupidity.

Speaking from experience, I can honestly say that in my freshman year I fit in comfortably with the stereotypical college man's attitude toward sex. Over these past three years, however, I have come to realize women are so much more than trophies for an overblown, and often embellished ego. Women also seem more content with a large bulk of the pressure being

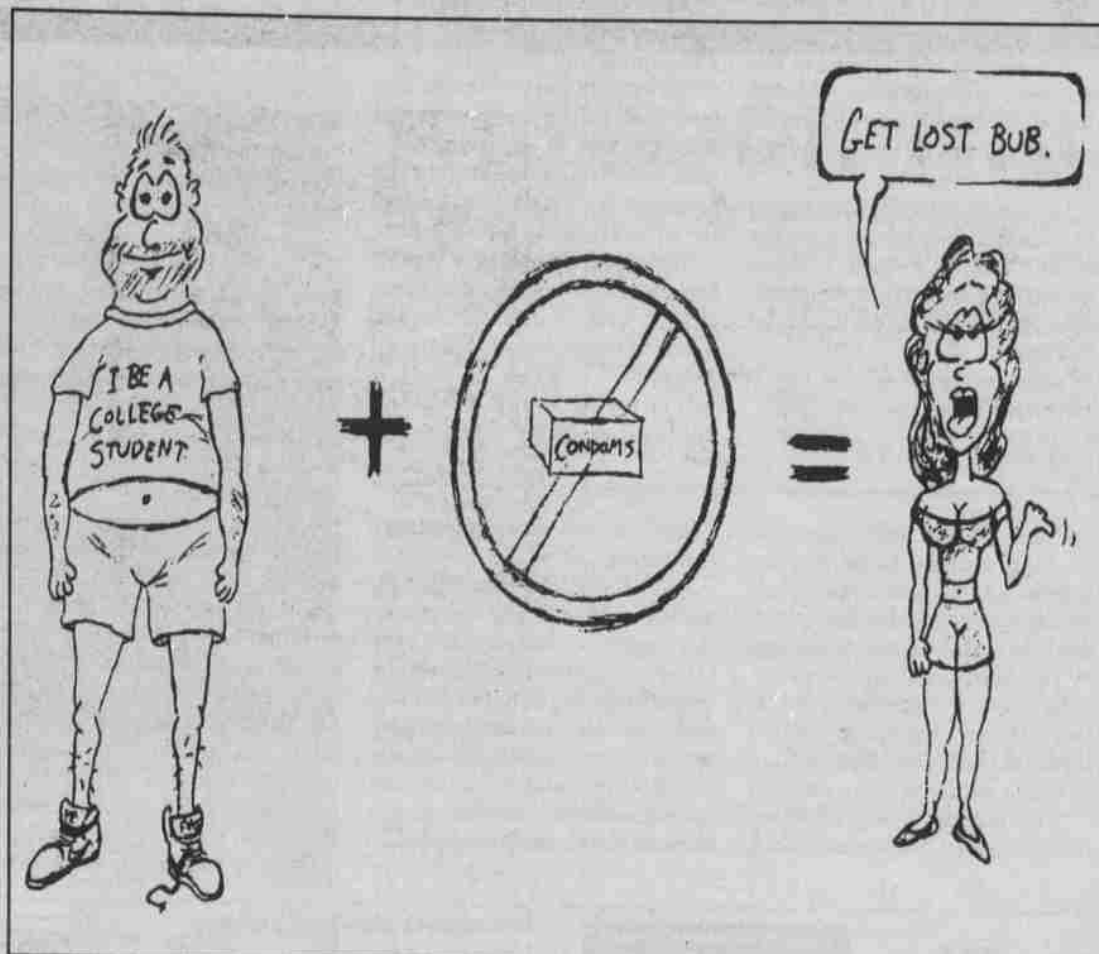


ILLUSTRATION BY CODY COX

removed from the initial meeting of a potentially new friend.

However, these observations of mine do not reflect all college campuses across the country. "The AIDS message has not carried over to the prevention of other sexually transmitted dis-

eases," said Dr. Henry W. Buck, chair of the human papilloma virus task force for the American College Health Association, in an article printed in the March 8, 1990 *New York Times*. Experts with this association say diseases like chlamydia, the hu-

man papilloma virus, and genital warts have been at epidemic levels at many colleges in the last few years.

While a survey conducted by the Federal Centers for Disease Control at 19 campuses around the country found the AIDS vi-

rus in 2 of every 1,000 blood samples tested, they also found the risk of the human papilloma virus is one in 10. Chlamydia, the most prevalent STD, can go undetected for years, potentially causing pelvic inflammation and infertility.

In an article printed in *The Wall Street Journal*, the Centers for Disease Control found that 65 percent of male students and 52 percent of female students had had sexual intercourse before the age of 17. But among those students, only 45 percent said they or their partner had used a condom and only 40 percent reported using a condom during their most recent sexual intercourse.

Listen folks, I am definitely not one to tell anyone how to live his/her own life, but the numbers are virtually staggering. All it takes is a little moderation of how you live you life right now to reduce the risk of catching a STD. There is no longer a shot from the doctor to cure all that ails you. Now the long-term effects can result in infertility and even death.

Let me leave you with some very cold statistics to think about. According to the American Social Health Association, more than 13 million Americans caught a STD in 1990—63 percent were people 24 years old and younger. In 1992, AIDS became the sixth-leading cause of death among individuals age 15 to 24.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor submitted to *The Rebel Yell* should be 250 words or less in length. *The Rebel Yell* strives to publish all student submissions. However, we reserve the right to edit letters as necessary.

Please send letters to:
The Rebel Yell-STS
4505 S. Maryland Pkwy.
Las Vegas NV 89154
Or stop by MSU Room 302.



Advertising really was not effective

After reading Clarence White's letter and Becky Jo Spray's response, I felt like putting in my two cents.

The bottom line, big deal and main point of White's letter was that the election filings were not advertised well. The key word is well.

I believe Spray and Student Body President Joel Kostman did advertise the filings and that they did what they thought was a good job. But, when the majority of people you know who hang in the union, go to class and are in your fraternity don't know about the filing, then you have to question how good they advertised the filings?

Becky, to blame your problems on someone else (*The Rebel Yell*, student body, people posting over your flyers) is pretty lame. WHY PUT YOUR FLYERS SOME PLACE WHERE THEY WON'T BE EFFECTIVE?

Last year, I remember seeing Ren & Stimpy and Pauly Shore posters on the MSU benches, campus bathrooms and inside

classrooms and judging from the response (I went to both), it was very effective.

A blind man could see that it would be to the president's advantage, if he were running again, to under-publicize election filing dates in order to have little or no competition (in this case no competition).

William Candrill
fine arts

A little knowledge is dangerous

In response to the opinion article written by Clarence White, I feel the need to get a few things off of my chest.

First of all, ALL of the people in my organization, as well as in my classes, knew about the Executive Board filings for 1993. We even knew what Executive Board means, Clarence!

Second, it is not the job of President Joel Kostman to advertise a campaign that is the job of Becky Spray, the Elections Board director.

And how could the president tell someone not to advertise the

filings when there are senators, Executive Board members, board members and other members around also?

I have read *The Rebel Yell* for two years now. In all of that time, I have hardly ever seen the paper report accurately on what Student Government does (if they report it at all). I realize this is not an opinion by *The Yell*, but why wasn't there a story written about the elections? Can *The Yell* plead ignorance? I don't think so.

As far as Kostman goes, I for one want to say thank you. Some of us realize how much he does for the students of this campus. Others are just ignorant.

White seemed to know quite a bit about filing dates and times. How come he never filed? I can only speculate he is one of those people that complain but don't do anything about it!

If he learns nothing else while in college, I hope he will read and remember this: A little knowledge is dangerous.

Lisa Mason
sophomore student development

Let the study carrels stay

We, the graduate students of UNLV hereby protest the removal of the locked carrel privileges in the James R. Dickinson Library.

It is our understanding that the library has determined the study carrels are not being used to reasonable extent, though we question how this conclusion was reached.

We feel this action discriminates against all graduate students. This action significantly reduces our ability to maintain a steady research level and unjustly denies us access to materials and space in the library that is both a necessity and a requirement for our obtaining a complete education.

The library is already constructed so that any major research involves major trips from the second (reference) to the third (periodicals and books) to the first floors (check-out, inter-library loan.) Without carrels, we would not have any place to read

and safely store our research materials while completing complex, often highly cross-referenced semester-long paper projects.

Also, the amount of Ph.D. students will expand next fall and this loss of necessary study and research space will lessen student inclinations to do research on the UNLV campus, possibly sending promising students elsewhere for their educational and research needs.

Therefore, we propose this matter be seriously considered by the proper committees and an alternative solution be negotiated. We request a one-term delay of the implementation of this action to scientifically measure how well the space is being used by graduate students. We also request this study be administered by a joint-committee of graduate students and library staff.

Dominique Tieman
graduate student English

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