

Brooke Crocker on The Old Globe

Sherry Lowrance on Life as  
A Conservative Student

# California Review

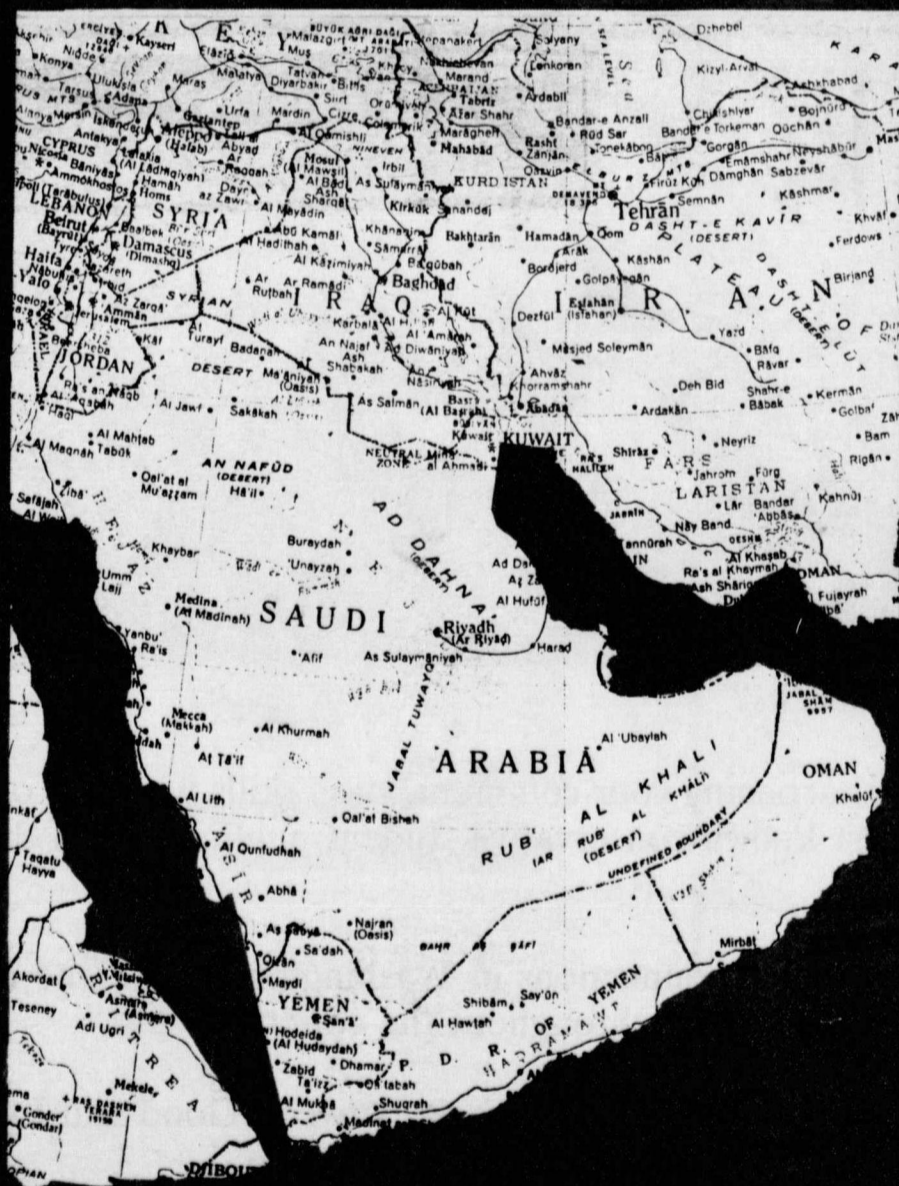
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# California Review

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*Editor-in-Chief*  
 Brooke Crocker

*Publisher*  
 Sherry Lowrance

*Contributors*  
 David Armstrong, Alexander Grey, Jeanne Hammons, Janel Hatton, David J. Huffaker, Matthew Robinson, E. M. Sanchez, Jennifer Simmons

*Correspondents*  
 Horatio Galba *Europe*  
 Peppin Runcible IV *Washington D.C.*

*Ivory Tower Correspondents*  
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## From the Editor's Desk

Welcome back to UCSD and another year of fun, frolicking, and mind numbing work. First, introductions are in order. This is the *California Review* and I assume that you are the average UCSD student. If you are not familiar with us, *California Review* is UCSD's conservative journal. Our purpose is to provide a lively, literate paper which features articles on national, international, and campus events, and every issue contains an interview with a notable author, economist, politician, or other noteworthy figure. The *Review* was founded in 1982 and from its inception has annoyed and irritated many on this campus, so much so that for the first three years of our existence we were denied AS funding and office space. It finally took a lawsuit to change all that and ensure the free exchange of ideas on the UCSD campus. The *Review* is like a member of my family, as my two brothers were among the three original founders. So I've seen the *Review's* zeniths and her lows, and I know we are well on our way to restoring her grand traditions. I encourage any students interested in joining to call 534-6881 or drop by the office on the second floor of the old student center. We also welcome and appreciate letters to the editor. I thank you for picking up the *California Review* and I hope you make a habit of reading our journal.

--LBC

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*California Review (Restitutor Orbis) was founded on the sunny afternoon of seven, January, nineteenth-hundred and eighty-two, by discipuli cum civitas listening to Respighi and engaging in discourse on preserving the American Way.*

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## In Review

■ Animal rights activists have criticized a Florida High School's pig kissing contest, stating that the pigs find being kissed "very scary and stressful." It all depends on who is doing the kissing, we suppose.

■ In Indiana, a high school student was accidentally shot and wounded by a police officer giving a talk on gun control. And in Iran, a snake shot and killed a hunter by coiling its body around the trigger of the hunter's rifle.

■ Former porn star, and now member of the Italian parliament, Miss Ilona Staller, has finally found her role in politics. In a bid to resolve the Gulf crisis Staller has announced "I am available to make love with Hussein to achieve peace. I am willing to let him have his way with me if in exchange he frees the hostages." So far, no response from Baghdad.

■ As of press date, about three out of four Americans support President Bush's deployment of U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia. Judging by its openly hostile news reports, most of that 25% seems to work for The CBS Evening News with Dan Rather. Dan's interview with Iraqi Foreign Minister Aziz was certainly educational. Aziz denounced the U.S. and defended the invasion of Kuwait and the taking of hostages, often using blatant falsehoods which Dan never challenged. Quite a bit different from Dan's style of interviewing Republican presidential candidates.

■ Sarah Flores, the first Hispanic elected to the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors since 1875, is in danger of having her election overturned because of a Judge's ruling that the districts were intentionally gerrymandered so that a Hispanic could not win. So now the districts are being re-gerrymandered so that the *right* Hispanic can win. Ms. Flores, who won 65% of the Hispanic vote, just happens to be a conservative Republican.

■ The late Mitch Snyder, one of the most outspoken homeless "advocates" added to the credibility of his followers by stating that there are 3 million homeless persons in America and that 45 homeless persons die every minute. *The Dartmouth Review* calculated from this that 64,000 homeless persons die every day and that about 2,000,000 die every month. We suspect Snyder's figures are off just a little bit.

■ *Life* magazine came out with its list of the 100 most important Americans of the 20th century. Not a single U.S. president made the list, but Bob Dylan did.

■ *Life* also classified the U.S. presidents by job performance. Making the "Great" list were Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, and, of course, Franklin Roosevelt, the liberal icon who brought us the welfare state and whose inept foreign policy doomed generations of Eastern Europeans to communist tyranny. Among the "Almost Great" was...Andrew Jackson. In case you're wondering, Ronald Reagan rated "Average"--the same grade given to Jimmy Carter. Can you guess how the editors of *Life* vote?

■ The hottest rock star in Brazil, "Xuxa," has added to her popularity by opening nurseries, campaigning against drugs, and for various charities. The fact that Xuxa is blonde, blue-eyed, and white, however, worries some. Carlos Hasenbalg, who heads the Centre for Afro-Asian studies in Rio de Janeiro says, "Xuxa's popularity is harmful for the socialization of black and white children, because they internalize the white saintly image which they associate with good and is the opposite to the negative black image.

■ The management of The Broadgate office complex in London is using nature to help keep the grounds and buildings clean. They imported an American Harris Hawk, which they let loose once a week to keep pigeons from roosting in the project's leafy terraces.

■ To combat the summer drought, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley asked the citizens of Los Angeles to reduce water consumption by 10% or face a mandatory rationing scheme. The people of Los Angeles came through, saving more than the requested 10%--or at least most of them did. It seems that water consumption at Mayor Bradley's residence actually *rose* more than 10%. The search for a modern day Duke of Chou continues.

■ In South Africa, rival Xoshas and Zulus rampaged against one another leaving at least 750 dead over the summer. Nelson Mandela, who for years endorsed murder as a legitimate political tool, blames the government for the violence and has threatened the possibility of renewed terrorism as a response.

■ Looking back in the Mandela file, during his trip to the United States, in addition to telling the world who his friends are, also stated "There's one thing where [Cuba] stands out head and shoulders above the rest--that is in its love for human rights and liberty."

■ Meanwhile in Liberia, President Samuel Doe, who practiced tribal genocide until the bitter end, was killed by troops of a rebel faction under the command of Prince Johnson.

■ Meanwhile in New York, KKK poster boy the Rev. Al Sharpton, led black protestors at the Central Park Jogger trial, who heckled the victim as she testified, calling her a racist and a prostitute, and called the trial of the two black and one Hispanic defendants a racial lynching. The three defendants, who had earlier videotaped confessions, were convicted of assault, but not of attempted murder.

■ One of seven members appointed last year to the local assessment committee for the Hazardous Waste Facility on Otay Mesa, Margaret Welsh, caused some embarrassment to the Mayor's office. As the committee prepared for its first meeting, nobody knew where Ms. Welch was or how to get a hold of her. Officials at the Mayor's office, which approved Welch's appointment, had to admit that they don't know who she is.

■ Toy manufacturer Wham-O plans to hit it big with dog biscuits shaped like frisbees. Quaker Oats, who will actually be manufacturing the biscuits under its "Ken-L Ration" brand, notes that the biscuits are designed for "maximum hang time."

■ The newest weapon in the War on Drugs: In Toronto, a downtown park that used to be popular with drug dealers is now virtually clean. The city puts on noon-hour classical concerts, and during the rest of the day broadcasts classical music in the park. A local record store owner explains that the drug pushers are an uncultured lot and just can't stand the new atmosphere.

■ Holland is a province of the Netherlands. But because so many Americans don't have the faintest idea of what the Netherlands are, the Netherlands Board of Tourism has given in and now refers to the country as "Holland" in its U.S. advertising.

■ The government of Chile is getting soft. The Chilean Supreme Court has ruled that a clinic cannot hold a newborn baby as collateral against an unpaid medical bill.

■ As soon as President Bush sent troops to the Middle East, the radicals started up with their cry that we were fighting to "protect mega-profits for U.S. oil companies." Of course, U.S. oil companies haven't owned oil wells in Saudi Arabia or Kuwait for a few decades. And if Saddam Hussein would have his way, and be in a position to control the price of oil (which he would keep high) U.S. oil companies would be making *more* money, not less. The radicals don't let such details get in the way of their slogans.

## Lessons From Nicaragua: The Cost of an Ideological Curriculum

By Dr. Alfred G. Cuzán

Have you ever been in a "bookstore" that sells no books, only stationary and office supplies? Visit Managua, as I recently did.

Three months into the administration of Violeta Chamorro, the few bookstores that have anything to offer the social scientist carry a very limited fare: Only books by Sandinista comandantes and their scribes, pro-Castro books published in Havana, and, except for Gorbachev's *Perestroika*, pre-glasnost Soviet publications.

But can a country without books be literate, let alone educated or cultured? Without books to read, how is one to evaluate Sandinista claims to have reduced illiteracy by a whopping 50 percent in a "literacy crusade" that lasted from March to August 1980, and to have reduced it to a mere 12 percent shortly thereafter?

Actually, interviews with a Chamorro-appointed at the Ministry of Education, a teacher, and a former professor at UNAN, Nicaragua's state university, supplemented by a July planning document from the Ministry, cast serious doubts on Sandinista claims. According to the Sandinistas' own estimates, illiteracy *rose* from 12 to 20 percent between 1988 and 1989. It is probably higher than that now.

But that's not the end of it. Although school enrollment shot up under the Sandinistas, there was a very high drop-out rate, and the quality of education fell precipitously, and students enrolled at foreign universities have had to return home for lack of preparation or had to take

remedial courses in subjects in which they had supposedly excelled in Sandinista schools.

The Sandinistas were less interested in educating than in indoctrinating the school population through Pavlovian methods, in getting students and teachers alike to give the correct responses to political stimuli. Sandinista elementary school textbooks, as I saw myself, were adapted from a Cuban variation of (pre-1989) East German texts. They were interlarded with militaristic, pro-Sandinista and anti-American propaganda.

When the Sandinistas got hold of the educational system in the second half of 1979, I was told, they turned over the administration of UNAN to Russian and Cuban communists. The latter were also given authority over elementary and secondary education, where they treated Nicaraguan teachers with disdain.

"Red and black" Sundays, named after the colors of the Sandinista flag, were instituted for faculty at all levels. These required teachers and professors to do "volunteer labor" picking cotton and coffee. Indoctrination sessions staffed in many cases by Marxist ideologues imported from Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay were mandatory. The teachers' union, ANDEN, far from defending faculty interests and concerns, was used to keep teachers under Sandinista control.

Many teachers and professors saw no alternative to resigning their position. Their replacements were all too frequently unqualified to teach, not having graduated from college, or even passed the grade they were assigned to teach. A large percentage of today's teachers have not even completed elementary school.

## The Barbarization of the Arts

By Brandon Crocker

Art in America is under attack by the barbarians. I'm not talking about Jesse Helms or the others who have been calling the National Endowment for the Arts to heal over recent well-publicized NEA sponsorships, such as Mapplethorpe's homo-erotic photographs and Serrano's "Piss Christ." The barbarians who have a strangle hold on the arts in this country are none other than the leaders in the arts who have defended the basest forms of political propaganda and pornography as not only "art," but as "art" worthy of taxpayer subsidization.

The controversy over attaching strings to NEA grants has not just exposed the arrogance of America's arts community elites (who argue that they are entitled to government funding, regardless of what they produce, and that anything less in "censorship") but also the corruption in the arts. Americans have suddenly become aware that the spokesmen of the artistic community all seem to speak for a clique of bizarre, and often pornographic and politically left-wing, self-proclaimed artists whose main claim to fame is their ability to offend sensibilities--something which heretofore was not regarded as the primary requisite to being an artist. In addition, the

government grant process is dominated by this same clique.

Only recently has the NEA acknowledged that many grants involve an "image" of conflict of interest. This isn't news to many artists without the right clique connections, but many other Americans are, no doubt, surprised to hear that NEA judges are often involved with the organizations or projects which are awarded NEA grants.

The most significant corruption in the arts, however, is not the mere providing of largess to those artists with the right connections. It is the proclivity of the leaders of the arts community to reject all standards and to fall prey to a corrosive relativism.

Michael Addison, the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival artistic director, outraged at the pressure on the NEA, argues that if a photograph of a man urinating into the mouth of another man (Mapplethorpe) can be classified as obscene, then surely it is hardly a jump to labeling Shakespeare's "Troilus and Cressida" obscene since the relationship between Achilles and Patroclus could be interpreted as homosexual. Addison, like the rest of his outraged art colleagues demonstrates that he cannot distinguish between differences of *kind* and differences of *degree*.

While the professional qualifications of teachers declined under the Sandinistas, the physical plant of the schools likewise deteriorated. According to the Ministry of Education, no new high schools were built by the Sandinistas, and old ones were not maintained. Today many students sit on the floor for lack of desks.

Introducing new textbooks, revising the curriculum, upgrading teacher credentials, re-incorporating former teachers now doing odd jobs, involving parents in their children's education, ending the Sandinista teachers union monopoly, stimulating private schooling, upgrading the physical plant, and replacing unqualified teachers and principals with competent personnel are among the educational goals of the Chamorro administration.

It's a long list, and no wonder. As many Nicaraguans say, to explain why so many things have gone wrong in their country: "It's been ten years!" (of Sandismo).

The change of personnel is meeting resistance. In more than one case, the replacement of a principal has precipitated violent confrontations between pro- and anti-Sandinista faculty and students. It seems as if it will take several years of something like hand-to-hand combat to make the necessary changes of personnel.

Contrary to Sandinista claims, it seems that during their decade in power, far from making strides, they made a shambles of Nicaraguan education. It will take many years to get it back on its feet.

*Dr. Cuzán is Associate Professor of Political Science at The University of West Florida, in Pensacola.*

Despite the blatant absurdity of the claim, Addison's reasoning is the basis of most of the arguments against NEA funding restrictions. The defenders of Mapplethorpe and Serrano want us to believe that any justification for denying funding to the most distasteful creations can be used equally well against those that are widely admired. So, we are all supposed to accept that there is no difference of kind between the treatment of the relationship of man and the state in Sophocles' "Antigone" and in the performances of Karen Finley (who is accustomed to receiving NEA grants to smear chocolate and bean sprouts over her mostly naked body while complaining about social and political repression in America), and that taking away Finley's NEA funding endangers our freedom to view Sophocles and Shakespeare at the local municipal theatre.

To deny that there exist objective standards by which the base can be separated from the artistic is to destroy the very foundation of the concept of art. Today's arts leaders, however, would have us subsidize the crudest forms of expression and political propaganda, and accept them not for what they are, but as high art. In the long run, nothing can be more damaging to the health of the arts in America.

*Brandon Crocker is CR's Emperor Emeritus.*

## My Adventures in Scotland

The UC Study Abroad Program

By Brooke Crocker

This summer I was enrolled in an International Summer Session for UC students at the University of Edinburgh. Before the trip, like any excited traveler, I dreamed of the great fun this would be and the great times I would have. The plane trip to London was rather uneventful, except for the little girl behind me who kept kicking my seat and at one point leaned over my chair and blew in my face—a charming little child who should have been hung by the neck until dead.

Arriving in London was a piece of cake. The city itself was crowded, noisy, dirty, and I could not find a single Englishman. There must have been some sort of discount at the border if you were German for everyone seemed to come from Deutschland. The heat in London was unbearable and, because it had been suffering from a drought, everything was brown. It seemed I had traveled to a foreign country only to get a taste of home. Once I was on my way to Scotland, things got colder, cloudier, and it rained. It was great.

When I arrived in Edinburgh, I had already fallen in love with the Scottish Highlands (where I had spent a week before traveling down to Edinburgh) and one look at the beautiful Georgian architecture of the city and the gorgeous castle on the hill told me this was one wonderful place. The UC group's dorm at the University was right on the castle mound, about a two minute walk from the castle itself.

But I had come to Edinburgh to study as well as sightsee. Our class was not just one subject, but more of an introduction to Scotland, in which we studied Scottish art, literature, history, and architecture. The class was fascinating. The history professor was a debonair and theatrical man who inspired my friend and me to give him a "Cary Grant Thumbs Up." Our architecture professor was an upper class Scottish lady whose personality, charm, and wit raised her to the top of the popularity charts—she was awarded a "John Wayne Thumbs Up." Our art professors were many and all good but relatively bland, the only exception being a Glasgow art professor who was perhaps one of the funniest people I met on my trip. Her approach to art was one of appreciation over criticism. Her most common question was "Do you like this painting? I do, I think it is quite lovely."

The literature professor was a 1960's throw back. He literally wore the same outfit to class every session, and seemed to like to torture his back pants pocket by seeing how much he could stuff into it. In his first lecture he proceeded to tell us that kilts and clan tartans were a myth of Scottish history and that "Scotland the Brave" was not "real" bagpipe music. He insisted on cutting class short to play folk music and rarely gave in-depth discussions of any of the texts. Sir Walter Scott's *Waverley* of 500 or so pages was dashed off in a one hour session, as was Tobias Smollett's *The Expedition of Humphrey Klinker*. To say the least, either this professor had a large

chip on his shoulder, or he was just inane and incapable of teaching a valuable literature course. He garnered a "Timothy Leary Thumbs Down."

Since it was festival time in Edinburgh, we were given tickets to many events, all of which were interesting and some were even good. The best thing we saw was the Military Tattoo which is a performance of music by Scottish and foreign military and police bands. Along with the many divisions of Scottish pipes and drums were the U.S. Marine Corps Band, the Southern Australian Police Band and Australian drill team, the Ghurka band and dancers, and demonstrations by paratroopers and the RAF Canine Corps. It was a marvelous experience and the security was very tight. Because we lived so close to the castle where the Tattoo took place, every evening military police would check the front of the dorm and the back garden for explosives.



In terms of social life, there were plenty of pubs to go to, but I found that most of the Americans made friends within the group and there was little actual interaction and friendships made with local people. Perhaps if the University had been in session for other than foreign students that would have been different. There was an English language class running at the University while we were there which brought in people from all over Europe and even a few from Japan. They were obviously impressed with my command of the English language for one of the students asked me if English was my mother tongue.

Besides other foreign students, our dormitory also played host to a group of older students in their 40's and up. In this group was a woman who one of our group labeled "RAW"—Rude American Woman. She complained about everything—the food lines were too long because there were students in them, the ice cream was not creamy enough, you get the picture. RAW humiliated us so much that we all wanted to wear maple leaves on our shoulders and say that we were Canadians. Yet, it was not

only RAW who humiliated us. One of the UC group gave her best shot at tainting European perceptions of Americans. When

asked to comment on the class texts, this student offered these words of wisdom: "We're Americans. We need pictures." Ah, yes. One of our best and brightest.

For those UCSD students who are thinking of taking an international summer session course, I would recommend it. You will have fun no matter where you are and no matter who you are with. There is so much to do, such a wide variety of people to meet, and so much of your host city to experience that you would have to be in a coma not to have a good time. Though there was one girl in our group who could have been RAW's daughter, most everyone had a great time in the Edinburgh program and accepted any dislikes as part of the

By Sherry Lowrance

College campuses today are overwhelmingly liberal—even here in conservative San Diego. The UCSD precinct voted 58% in favor of Dukakis in the November 1988 election when, overall, Bush won the election by a landslide. While that is probably not terribly liberal compared to many college campuses (take U.C. Berkeley for example), it is still much to the left of the general population. What does that mean to a conservative student?

Well, speaking from my two years' experience at UCSD, it can mean a lot, or not much at all. It never significantly affected my day-to-day life. Politics never has adversely affected any of my personal relationships, regardless of how liberal or opinionated the person. And although many professors tend to lean to the left, I have never been graded down for espousing a conservative point of view. However, I have had to put up with weird comments and paranoid politics.

I think the strangest thing anyone said to me was, "You're too nice to be conservative." And I know that other people have experienced the same comment, strange as it may sound. What that comment implies is that conservatives hate minorities, women, poor people (pretty much everyone except rich white males), and would like to allow monopolistic big business to rape the earth and oppress workers for short-term profit. But I am too nice to advocate this. I don't know anyone who would advocate any of those things.

Yet there seems to be a misconception about conservatives here on campus. The above-mentioned view predominates,

especially among the left-wingers. While I do acknowledge that there are the religious Bible-thumping Right, racists, and rich

Republicans, the conservatives on campus are not like that. They are educated and moral people. They are concerned with human rights (even in communist countries) and they understand that the Left does not have a monopoly on morality.



Much of what conservatives and liberals disagree about is the method used to get a mutually desirable result. For example, socialistic policies are not the answer to the problems of poverty and homelessness. Rather, encouraging individual initiative and hard work are the true sources for eliminating these problems. Likewise, reverse discrimination will not solve the problems of minorities, and it usually causes more problems than it solves. These are just a few examples of the ideological differences between conservatives and liberals.

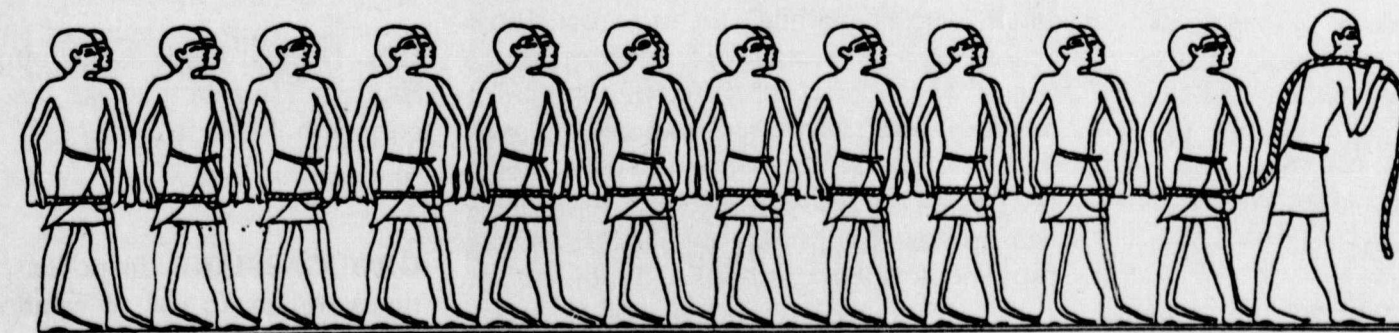
Probably the worst thing about being a conservative student at UCSD is the shrill name calling initiated by the Left. If you are anti-abortion, the liberals immediately claim you do not support "women's rights," and either attempt to boycott you or impeach you. If you do not support affirmative action, then you are against civil rights, and if you don't support economically repressive (and usually otherwise useless) environmental legislation, then you want to destroy the planet. And we all know how awful and unpopular that is. This type of mud-slinging goes on outside of UCSD too, of course. But it seems strange to me that this happens on a college campus, supposedly the center of intellectual debate.

What seems to be the main problem is that Leftists on campus do not recognize that others can have legitimate, well-meaning opinions, too. They think that if your opinion is different than theirs, then you must be cruel, mean, and unfeeling. This would explain why someone might say that I am too nice to be a conservative.

Being conservative at UCSD is not all bad, however. Personally, I enjoy it. It is sometimes kind of fun to frustrate militant leftists, and it gives me the chance to "fight the forces of darkness" attacking the campus. But I think the best thing is the satisfaction of knowing that conservatism (or classical liberalism, call it what you like) has been bringing good results for 300 years. Yes, folks, it really works. Ask any East German. There is no greater reward than seeing the jubilant face of a newly freed East German or watching as people tear down the Berlin Wall. It is nice to know we were right all along.

Sherry Lowrance is a Junior at UCSD.

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experience of traveling to a foreign country. But still, after awhile, you start to miss some of the things back home. It is strange what you start to miss. I missed American dollar bills—the British pounds just don't fit in your wallet,—I missed lettuce, and I even missed American cheese—something I never thought one could miss.

All in all, traveling to a foreign country is a worthwhile experience. Whether it is a journey of independence, a trip for academic pursuits, or just for fun, you will learn, you will have fun, and at the end you will want to come home.

Brooke Crocker is a senior at UCSD.

## California Review Interviews

*Joseph Ghougassian served as U.S. Ambassador to the Persian Gulf state of Qatar from 1985 to 1989. Born in Egypt, and becoming a naturalized citizen in 1972, Ambassador Ghougassian is the first naturalized U.S. Ambassador from the Middle East to serve in a Middle Eastern country. From 1982 to 1985 he was Director of the U.S. Peace Corps in the Yemen Arab Republic. Ambassador Ghougassian taught philosophy at the University of San Diego from 1966 to 1980. He earned a J.D. from the University of San Diego in 1980, and M.A. in International Relations from USD in 1977 and a Ph.D. from Institut Supérieur de Philosophie, Louvain University, Belgium. Ambassador Ghougassian speaks 5 foreign languages. In 1989 Ambassador Ghougassian was awarded the rank of "Knighthood Commander" in the Order of St. Gregory the Great, by His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, and was also awarded the "Order of Merit" by the government of Qatar. On August 23rd the Ambassador kindly took time to speak with CR's Editor-in-Chief, Brooke Crocker.*

**CR:** What is security like for a U.S. ambassador in an Arab state?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** A challenge! During difficult times, and there are many such occasions, the embassy activates what we call "High Security Alert." By that we mean the security at the embassy, and the Ambassador's schedule are reviewed by professional security personnel, while the ambassador requests from the host government to beef up security at the Ambassador's residence, the chancery, and the homes of all other U.S. diplomats. It is the flow of messages from Washington and other important places, such as Germany, that keep the ambassador well informed of any terrorist undertaking. As you can see, we take security threats quite seriously.

**CR:** What do you regard as your greatest achievements as ambassador to Qatar?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** To have been able to develop very close bilateral relations with the Qataris while a war was being waged not too far distant from their shores—I am referring to the Iran-Iraq war. I was able to, for the first time, have the U.S. sign agreements with the Qataris concerning investment laws and prepare an economic and trade cooperation agreement, cultural cooperation agreement, and energy related cooperation agreement.

**CR:** Why did you decide to leave the diplomatic service?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** Prior to my life in the diplomatic service, I was from 1982 to 1985 the Peace Corps director in the Yemen Republic. Prior to that, in 1981, I was at the White House as an advisor to President Reagan. By then I had put in 9 years with the executive branch, and I felt that I

wanted to do something else. I wanted to bring my experience and apply it in different areas of public service but still remain useful to the American people and to my local community. So I decided to run for the U.S. Congress, which I did, but I lost in the primaries. I view to run again.

*"The people in the Gulf states like their own governments."*

**CR:** Has the Gulf crisis actually increased the popularity of the U.S. in some of the Gulf states?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** Since the Iraq-Kuwait crisis I have remained in touch with the Gulf. The feedback that I am getting, which comes from both government and the civilian population, is that our popularity has definitely been enforced over there. They have always liked the U.S. because during the Iran-Iraq war, they saw our commitment to try to stabilize the region by keeping the Iraqis from spilling the war to other countries besides Iraq. Now that they have seen how quickly we have been able to respond to their plight and to their request, they believe more than ever that the U.S. will stand by its word, and will come to their defense. This, of course, was helpful because they had experienced two episodes in the past which they felt showed a U.S. lack of resolve. The first was the letting down of the Shah of Iran. The second was when we took the Marines out of Lebanon after the explosion at the Marine barracks. The Lebanese event caused many to think that when the Americans get hit they pack and leave. During the Iran-Iraq war, when we moved our ships into the Persian Gulf, one of their fears was that we would not stay if the Iraqis were to hit us. The Iraqis did hit one of our reflagged ships and in less than 48 hours we took retaliatory action against them. That immediately began to help them see a distinction between what happened in Lebanon and our present commitment. Today, their favorable response and attitude towards us has increased considerably because of our rapid deployment of troops to Saudi Arabia.

**CR:** Do you support the sending of U.S. troops to the Gulf to protect Saudi Arabia from Iraq?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** Definitely.

**CR:** Many people, including a few conservatives such as Pat Buchanan, have argued that the U.S. should not fight to protect non-democratic states like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. What do you think about that line of reasoning?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** It is based on a lot of misunderstandings and misconceptions about the region. For one, the people down in the Gulf Arab states like their own governments. These governments are emirates, like Bahrain, Kuwait, and Qatar, or a kingdom, like Saudi Arabia, or a sultanate like Oman. Even in the republic of the United Arab Emirates you have princes and long established royal families. The people of the Gulf have no grudge against their governments because their governments have seen to it that the wealth is filtering down to the people either through direct grants, free education, free health care, free trips, you name it. Pat Buchanan defines democracy differently than do the people of the Gulf who have their Islamic form of democracy. Today, at least once a week, every minister in the Persian Gulf will open his house to receive the people to hear about their needs and demands. He listens, takes notes and will follow through. This is the old Islamic medieval political system which is still alive. This makes the leaders and ministers accessible to the masses. Plus, again, in that part of the world the government is governed along the line of the "wise people"

*"We cannot wait around for six months for the sanctions to work."*

or advisors who provide information, guidance, and wisdom to the rulers. This is their form of democracy.

**CR:** Do you think in our effort to isolate Saddam Hussein that we are getting too cozy with Assad in Syria?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** In politics, a nation at times will make use of whatever means it has at its disposal to reach an end. In the case of Assad, I don't believe the U.S. is really chumming with him. Secretary Baker made this clear when he was in Damascus. The U. S. joint venture with Assad in regards to Iraq should not be construed as

an attempt on the part of the U. S. to say that now Syria is no longer a terrorist nation or that Syria will now get U. S. aid. The Syrians and the Iraqis have been enemies for a long time and they have a long shared border. So the geopolitics and the political dynamics between the Iraqis and the Syrians is the reason we have decided to talk to Assad. Also, and this is very important, the Syrians in early August sided with the other 11 Arab League members in condemning the invasion and called for the Iraqi troops to withdraw from Kuwait. Because of the Syrians' disposition towards this crisis we see nothing wrong with having them play a constructive, though limited, role in the scenario.

*"For the Iraqis, both the U.S. and Saddam Hussein are the greatest evils in the world."*

**CR:** Do you think economic sanctions alone can force Hussein out of Kuwait?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** Iraq shares borders with Iran, Turkey, Syria, Jordan, and Kuwait. Its only access to the sea was in the southern tip of Iraq, and now Kuwait. If the world blockade had remained strictly a naval blockade I think that Iraq would have succeeded in breaking the embargo through aerial shipments. But the U.N. council, for the first time in its history, is formulating an aerial blockade to close that loophole. This sends a very strong political, moral, and psychological message to Saddam Hussein and his people. Still, Iraq is an agricultural country and it can get by without importing much food. However, where Iraq will feel the pinch is in the area of machinery and parts. Yet we cannot wait around for six months for the sanctions to work. That is why President Bush has finally made it clear that we are prepared to take further steps if the sanctions and the quest for a political solution do not work. Time is not on our side.

**CR:** Do you think the Iraqis want to derail the economic embargo to force the U.S. to take out Hussein militarily, or do they really perceive the U.S. as the greater evil in the Gulf?

## Ambassador Joseph Ghougassian

**GHOUGASSIAN:** For the Iraqis, both the U. S. and Saddam Hussein are the greatest evils in the world. It is interesting to see how the Iraqis are acting at this moment; on the surface it may seem that Iraq will become the spoiler in the implementation of the sanctions. If Iraq were to join forces with Iraq, none of the small Arab states would survive. But I personally am convinced that Iraq is maximizing its benefits by appealing to the Iraqis while at the same time refuses to yield completely to Iraqi demands and staying close to the world community. Saddam Hussein fought a war for 9 years against Iran and had occupied Iranian territory. He caused havoc in the Iranian industries. Now Hussein has told the Iraqis "I will agree to all your demands. I will send back the prisoners of war; I'll pull out my troops from Iranian territory, and the Shatt-al-Arab will be divided as agreed upon in 1975—you have half and I have half." Yet the Iranian President Rafsanjani reiterated that he wanted the Iraqis to pull out its forces from Kuwait. Yes, the Iraqis have agreed to send food and medical supplies for humanitarian reasons, but the UN has allowed this. I do not honestly see Iraq becoming a bed fellow of Saddam Hussein. Hussein has made Iraq the poor country it is today. Prior to the Iran-Iraq war Iraq was relatively rich.

**CR:** Do you agree with those who argue that the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait is no different than the Israeli occupation of the West Bank?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** It is different. In the case of the Iraqi occupation, Hussein invaded Kuwait without any provocation from the latter; he was motivated by greed—economic and territorial. In the case of Israel, it was a pre-emptive move. The Israelis invaded and occupied the West Bank and Gaza only after they received threats of attack from Egypt, Syria, and Jordan. Still, an occupation is an occupation; every attempt should be made by and for the occupying forces to reach a settlement with the occupied and retreat to their lands.

*"I do not honestly see Iraq becoming a bed fellow of Saddam Hussein."*

**CR:** If Saddam Hussein is forced to back down, or is defeated militarily, how will the PLO be affected?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** Already the PLO has been negatively affected—ever since Yasir Arafat took sides with Hussein and refused to condemn the invasion at the Arab League. From talking to my friends in the Gulf I was told that Yasir Arafat and his organization were blacklisted and not a single cent is going to them. Secondly, the Gulf Arab nations have expelled many

*(Continued on next page)*



(Continued from page 9)

Palestinians who lived and worked in that part of the world. For instance, Qatar has expelled several thousand Palestinians. Many had been there for 15 or 20 years. There is already discontent among the rank and file of the Palestinian people and even among the members of the PLO who are terribly disappointed with Yasir Arafat for having miscalculated the consequences of his actions—so much so that there is a movement to replace the entire PLO organization. That movement is being financed by Saudi Arabia and other Gulf States and is attracting many moderate and intelligent Palestinians who before did not speak out against Arafat out of fear, but who now express their disapproval of Arafat loud and clear. I welcome this change and opportunity for the Palestinians.

**CR:** Do you believe it would be wise or necessary to station U. S. troops permanently in Saudi Arabia or another Gulf country?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** From a political and diplomatic point of view, we really cannot station troops in the Persian Gulf unless the host government asks for it. But, from a strategic point of view, I think it would be prudent, after this whole debacle has been taken care of, that there be a limited U. S. military presence on site to train the indigenous forces with the object of making them self-sufficient and able to fight back any threat that could arise in the future from Iran or Iraq. And I think this will happen.

**CR:** Given the fact that an earlier Israeli surgical air strike is responsible for keeping nuclear weapons out of Saddam Hussein's hands, do you think pre-emptive military strikes for the purpose of enforcing nuclear non-proliferation are justified?

**GHOUGASSIAN:** The answer is no, because there are international laws and rules and it is important to uphold those rules; otherwise you will have a world of jungle rules. I do not think that any U.S. official would say that what Israel did in 1981 was acceptable. We can, emotionally, however, say "great" and express our feelings, but then when we sit down and apply the rules, the answer would be no.

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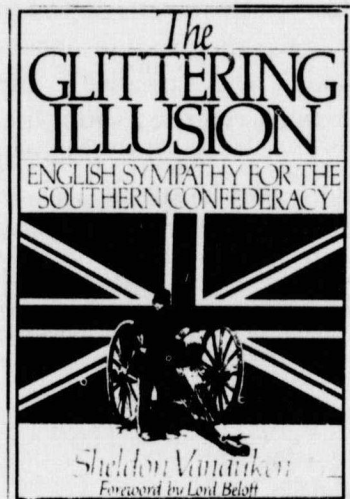
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CR

## Deterrence Policy Finds New Voice in the Middle East

By David J. Huffaker

Bush is doing great. Once again, a Republican president is handling foreign aggression in the best possible manner. The policies which have kept all other Republican Administrations in the 20th century from entering major wars will lead President Bush through the current Gulf crisis unscathed.

Or first objective in the Gulf, freeing Kuwait from the chemical-tossing tyrant and thus demonstrating U.S. and world resolve to forbid naked aggression, seems almost simple by itself, considering the combined potentials of the Saudi, U.S. and other allied militaries in the region. As of early September, the U.S. had 50,000 troops on Saudi soil with more on the way. These, along with 550 Saudi tanks, a handful of M60 tanks, artillery, AH-60 Apache helicopters and tactical air power, could sufficiently defend Saudi Arabia from an Iraqi offensive, but the list continues: Three heavy armor division, including 1,000 M1 tanks are to arrive by early October. These could be used in conjunction with the Apache helicopters and A-10 jets to eliminate the Iraqi t-72 tanks which now enforce Iraqi will in Kuwait. Furthermore, F-117A Stealth fighters could eliminate surface-to-air missiles in Iraq, which would give F-15s and F-14s control of the sky and allow F-111s and B-52s to bomb Iraq with impunity. Even with the world's fourth largest army, Saddam is no match for America backed by the rest of the world.

It is not that simple, though. We cannot merely show Saddam that our military arsenal is stronger than his and then ask him to leave. He is stubborn, and he knows that Bush does not want a war. Enter the economic sanctions. The U.S. has led the world in imposing nearly impenetrable air and naval blockades, causing Iraq to ration at least 220 common items including such staples as rice, flour, sugar, and cooking oil. Being that little can be grown in Iraq and "you can't eat oil," Bush need only tighten the sanctions and wait for Saddam's country to wither. Remember, patience is a virtue.

Eventually, Saddam will have no choice but to withdraw from Kuwait or attack further in an attempt to break the blockade. If Bush has guaranteed U.S. victory by such military build-up that even Saddam cannot doubt, Saddam's only option will be to withdraw. Bush's biggest fear at this point is that he will not be allowed to amass enough firepower to deter Saddam from lashing out against other nations in the region which are supporting the economic embargo of his country. Yes, that cold war term "deterrence" comes up even now, after the cold war. Just as deterrence kept us from nuclear catastrophe during the cold war era, so now, during the post cold war era, "conventional" deterrence will keep us out of war with rulers like Saddam Hussein. Of course, a deterrence doctrine is only effective when there is credibility behind the threat of military action. So far, Bush has



demonstrated a willingness to use military force when necessary. We can only hope that Saddam has been convinced of this, so Bush doesn't have to drive the point home again.

Should Saddam back down and pull out of Kuwait, there remains the possibility that Saddam, with his military arsenal still intact, will again become an aggressor. If, upon U.S. withdrawal from the region, Saddam returns to warlike tactics, the U.S. will be forced to eliminate him as a threat, much as should have been done to Hitler prior to World War II. If Bush continues current policies, his superb execution of "conventional" deterrence will be an example of post-cold war military strategy for future administrations, and his aptitude in foreign affairs will help secure his reelection in 1992.

David J. Huffaker is a junior at UCSD.

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## Feminism and

By Dr. Christina Hoff Sommers

There are two basic assumptions behind the move in the last twenty or more years to "reform" the traditional college curriculum. The first is that an oppressive elite has dominated Western history and culture, and determined the curriculum of higher learning. The second assumption is that one way of liberating the oppressed is to change the content of that curriculum which tells the story of Western development through history, literature, philosophy, art and science. Now both of these assumptions are emotionally charged, and their juxtaposition in the realm of modern education is even more incendiary. Is there any truth to the charge that the traditional curriculum promotes sexism and social injustice? Is modern higher education in America "oppressive," "undemocratic," "masculinist," and in need of radical reform? These are charges being directed against the academy by leading academic feminists.

The feminists tell us that we cannot content ourselves with seeking the answers to these questions from administrators and teachers of the traditional curriculum, for it is they who stand accused. Our attention should be reserved for the "victims," the women, and the ethnic and racial minorities that have been alternately victimized and neglected by a white, male elite. There are many self-appointed spokespersons for these alleged victims, but no group has been more vocal or more active than feminist scholars in higher education.

Feminist complaints against the traditional curriculum are based on the notion that Western culture -- all the received knowledge of thousands of years -- is a flawed concept from the start. For everything that has been recorded and passed on to succeeding generations has been dominated by a male bias. This means that not only the humanities are under attack. One of the busiest areas of feminist research today is the gender critique of the sciences.

My interest in feminism came about through my own experience in higher education. I teach moral philosophy at Massachusetts's Clark University, and many of my courses have been routinely cross-listed with the women's studies department. In addition, one of my articles on family ethics was recently included in a feminist reader. So when my department chair asked me if I wanted to teach a course on feminism and philosophy, I was mildly interested. I sent away for some texts with titles like *Women and Philosophy: Towards the Theory of Liberation*, and *Beyond Domination: New Perspectives on Women and Philosophy*.

Before reading carefully in the area of feminist philosophy, I had assumed that there would be much I would agree with; after all, it is true that for most of human history men have had a dominant influence -- and in consequence it is also true that our intellectual heritage has been largely a male achievement. To me, it certainly seemed like a good idea for women to seek greater

opportunities to compete in the marketplace of ideas and to celebrate the often unremarked contributions women have made in the past. But I was soon to learn that this understanding of feminism was far too simplistic. The old and honorable goal of equality of opportunity had been superseded. Someone like me who still thought in terms of simple equity was, if not a dinosaur, at the very least mired in the most primitive stage of "feminist consciousness."

The new feminism, I was to discover, is not primarily concerned with more opportunities for women, or, for that matter, with including women's achievements in the curriculum. Its aim is to transform our understanding of our past, our present, and our future. How? By convincing people to accept the central insight of contemporary feminist philosophy: that the sex/gender system is the most important aspect of human relations. The influential feminist philosopher Sandra Harding sums up this discovery:

*It is a system of male-dominance made possible by men's control of women's productive and reproductive labor, where "reproduction" is broadly construed to include sexuality, family life, and kinship formations as well as the birthing which biologically reproduces the species. [The sex/gender system] appears to be a fundamental variable, organizing social life throughout most recorded history and in every culture today.*

Another feminist, Virginia Held, adds, "Now that the sex/gender system has become visible to us, we can see it everywhere."

I found that leading feminist philosophers adopt this perspective. I've dubbed them "gender feminists" to distinguish them from the moderate, or "equity" feminist. There is no doubt that gender feminists are in the majority. One finds them in all women's studies and many other departments at American universities.



They typically share an ideal of a genderless culture that inspires their rejection of such entrenched social arrangements as the family, marriage and maternal responsibility for child-rearing. They also call not only for a radical re-ordering of society but an epistemological revolution, i.e., a revolution in knowledge itself, which would extirpate masculine bias, replacing the "male-centered curriculum" with a new curriculum inspired by a radical feminist perspective.

I would like to offer a few more samples of gender feminist philosophy. They sound outrageous, and some may think that I deliberately searched for examples which exaggerate the gender feminists' position. But one can find in any textbook on women's studies examples like these.

The first is from Alison Jagger, the women's studies chair at the University of Cincinnati who also heads the American Philosophical Association's Committee on the Status of Women. She claims that the family is "a cornerstone of oppression" that "enforces heterosexuality" and "imposes the prevailing masculine and feminine character structures on the next generation." Lauding the day when the miracle of science will allow us to alter basic human functions like insemination, lactation and gestation, she says, "one woman could inseminate another...fertilized ova could be transferred into women's or even men's bodies."

Gender feminist literature is replete with proposals for abolishing marriage and the family in favor of various forms of androgyny or bisexuality. Richard Wasserstrom, former president of the Western American Philosophical Association, has argued that all differences between the sexes are arbitrary and irrelevant. He concludes that "in a truly just society," you would no more notice the sex of a person with whom you were romantically involved than you would notice eye color. He recommends bisexuality as the ideal romantic relationship because

*Continued on next page*

## the College Curriculum

heterosexuality or even homosexuality is a reflection of prejudice and bigotry.

The leaders of the feminist movement take pride in Sandra Harding's boast that gender feminists are "calling for a more radical intellectual, moral, social, and political revolution than the founders of modern Western cultures could have imagined."

War has been declared, not on inequality, but upon gender. But the average woman has no wish to wage war on gender. While she has been generally receptive to moderate feminism's claims for greater equality of opportunity, expanded civil and legal rights, and so forth, she is not ready to reject marriage, family and motherhood.

Feminist conferences usually register serious concern that few women seem interested in becoming radical feminists. The answer to declining collegiate enrollment in women's studies has been to make courses in feminist consciousness mandatory, and/or to state, as many college catalogues do, that nearly every course in the curriculum will include some sort of feminist perspective.

Because the wider program of eliminating gender cannot be achieved without reeducation, the gender feminist's highest priority is getting rid of the traditional curriculum and ensuring that feminists and their views occupy a prominent place in every college and university.

Here are a few samples from the current course offerings on today's college campus:

"Baroque Art and Gender Roles" (Williams College)  
 "20th-Century Lesbian Novels" (University of Nebraska)  
 "Heterosexism and the Oppression of Women" (University of New Mexico)  
 "The Lesbian in Literature: Honors Tutorial" (Queens College, CUNY)  
 "The Body: Gender, Symbol and Society" (Yale University)

There are many more specialized feminist courses like this as well as more general studies in "Women Poets," etc. But there is still the nagging question: what to do about women who don't buy into gender feminism? If she is beyond college age, it is likely that the feminists won't even have an opportunity to lecture to her about her benighted family values. Simone de Beauvoir, the acknowledged founder of modern feminist philosophy, has offered a solution:

*No woman should be authorized to stay at home and raise her children...Women should not have the choice, precisely because if there is such a choice, too many women will make that one.*

She is silent about the kind of society in which a woman, "for her own good," would not be authorized to lead her own life.

Feminist teachings exact a human cost. The student who has had her consciousness "raised" in the classroom may feel intolerably oppressed by living within the

"patriarchal" family and thus may also be burdened with a harmful personal philosophy. She may choose on ideological grounds not to marry and later find herself betrayed by that ideology. Or if she does marry, she may find it necessary to dissolve the family, no matter what the consequences for her spouse, herself, or her children. When "the personal is political," human relationships become fragile.

There are academic costs too. In the eyes of the feminist philosopher, education and knowledge ought to be liberated from fender distinctions, so the strategy is to condemn the humanities, the arts and the sciences as "masculinist" to the core. Students are taught that Shakespeare's plays are really about the suppression of women's rights, that Descartes's analytical philosophy is androcentric, that Newton's Law of Mechanics and Einstein's relativity theory are gender-laden. Regarding the latter, Sandra Harding says that the only remedy is



Now the assertion that there is such a thing as "the perspective of women" is as suspect as the idea of "Aryan science." Harding, Jagger and the others are also wrong to presume that all of world history can be regarded as a mere footnote to feminism. The gender feminists haven't initiated an intellectual revolution; they have simply committed aggravated assault on scientific and intellectual standards. The resulting damage to the college curriculum is incalculable. All knowledge becomes subordinate to "making sense of women's social experience." And the obsessive concern with gender diminishes the true value of responsible feminist scholarship. If the gender feminists succeed in purging the traditional curriculum of its supposed masculine bias, the value of higher learning in America will be profoundly diminished.

Sadly, there has been little resistance to gender feminism's attack on the curriculum. Yet gender feminism is not, as we have seen, the product of reasoned scholarship. It is doctrinal and political, and without grassroots support. And it is high time to challenge it in and outside of the classroom. The current debate over the traditional curriculum offers us a good place to start.

*Dr. Sommers is an associate professor of philosophy at Clark University in Massachusetts. Reprinted by permission from IMPRIMIS, the monthly journal of Hillsdale College, featuring presentations at Hillsdale's Center for Constructive Alternatives and at its Shavano Institute for National Leadership.*

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"to reinvent science and theorizing itself to make sense of women's social experience."

Gender feminists believe that they have initiated and intellectual revolution of historic proportions. "What we are doing," says feminist Barbara Minnich, "is comparable to Copernicus shattering our geo-centricity, Darwin shattering our species-centricity. We are shattering androcentricity, and the change is a fundamental, as dangerous, as exciting." In the same vein, Alison Jagger reports that "we are developing a whole reconstruction of the world from the perspective of women with the key word being 'women-centeredness'."

## The Perils of Democracy

By H. W. Crocker III

The chickens are coming home to roost. For all too long it has been common in American discourse to praise democracy, to the point where it is now almost universally understood to be *the* American idea. The only debate is over how vigorously we should work to export it abroad.

The only problem with this vision is that America wasn't conceived as a democracy; democracy was a form of government the Founders wanted to avoid. Having read their classical Greek political philosophy, they shared the sense that democracy was the first step toward a dictatorship, which is why the Constitution is full of checks not only on the branches of government but on the popular will. The "Federalist Papers" are full of critiques of democracy. When the word is invoked, it is to represent an iniquitous form of government.

But much has changed since then. The Constitution has been trampled upon by presidents and the Supreme Court; the United States has fought wars to make the world safe for democracy and, in the name of democracy, a friend of Moammar Gadhafi, Yasser Arafat, Fidel Castro and the Communist Party -- Nelson Mandela -- has now spoken to a joint session of Congress. This is a man who, if he were elected president under a scheme of one man, one vote, would plunge South Africa into racial and tribal civil war and wreck the economy that feeds sub-Saharan Africa.

If we were not so blinded by our own democratic rhetoric, we would see that all of Africa is manifestly better off under the current white-led regime in South Africa, a country that attracts black immigrants. We

would see that democracy and repression can easily go hand in hand (as in India, where thousands of Muslims are killed by Hindu police with barely a journalistic notice and no condemnation in world forums). We would remember that the National Socialists came to power in Germany under a parliamentary system. And we would recognize the obvious: that democracy is simply a form of government where the majority can expropriate the minority -- and there is precious little reason to trust the judgment of the majority, not only in Third World countries, where the inequalities in education can be enormous, but also in sophisticated places closer to home -- like California.

In the most recent election in California there was a ballot initiative -- supported by the non-partisan League of Women Voters -- that would have taken gerrymandering power out of the hands of the Democratic-controlled legislature and given it to an independent redistricting board. Going into the election, this initiative was set to pass -- according to opinion polls -- by a very comfortable majority. Instead it went down to a catastrophic defeat after the Democrats televised celebrity ads that tied the initiative to oil spills and that called the initiative a fraud.

The Democrats' reasoning -- when pressed to explain the relevance of their ads -- was that honest redistricting would lead to more Republican seats and that meant more environmental pollution. Because the California electorate is violently opposed to pollution, the initiative was defeated, with a goodly number of Republican voters adding to the landslide. Democracy, in other

words, can become advertisingocracy; and if one remembers what "the people" read -- pay attention at your local supermarket checkout counter -- one shouldn't be surprised at the sort of "thought" that goes into their votes.

Republican government requires men willing to defend principle, which is exactly what democracy does not inculcate; it inculcates majority rule. If men vote out of self-interest -- as the common man does, by definition -- and if our leaders act out of self-interest, politics merely becomes an extended process of, in Kipling's words, "robbing selected Peter to pay for collective Paul." This is the history of democracy in America, after all, with its party machines, spoils systems, pork barreling, the welfare state, and the ever-expanding federal (and state and local) bureaucracy.

Our own society would do well if it actually abided by the law of the land; if judges read, understood and enforced the Constitution, and if we reminded ourselves that the United States is a republic of states and not a democracy. It would do much to give us a clearer-eyed foreign policy, too.

Barry Goldwater wrote in "The Conscience of a Conservative" 30 years ago, "We have gone the way of many a democratic society that has lost its freedom by persuading itself that if 'the people' rule, all is well." It would do much for the cause of good government if we recognized that "the people" can be among the greatest despots of all.

*H. W. Crocker III is an editor in Washington, D. C., and CR's Brigadier Editor Emeritus. This article reprinted from The Orange County Register.*

## Protecting the Flag

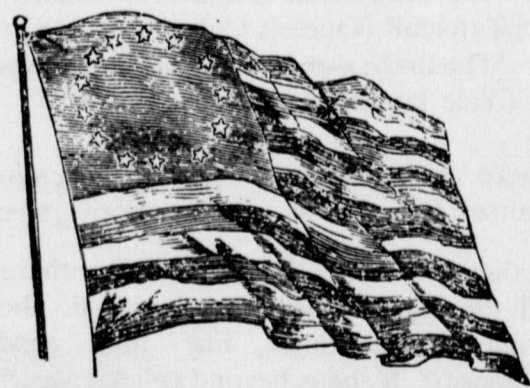
By E. M. Sanchez

Our freedom is defined in a constitution that was written over two hundred years ago. Could our forefathers have predicted that we would make such a mockery of their document? Could they have known that we would twist their words against them, and therefore violently and abhorrently rape and pillage their meaning and their strength? When we were first told that we had the right to free speech we knew it was a great privilege because we remembered how painful silence was. Now our lives are polluted with noise because we have forgotten our past, and we can no longer distinguish between communicating to forward reasoned debate and shouting nonsense for the sake of hearing our own voices, and the freedom of *speech* ensured by the First Amendment has been widened by the Supreme Court to encompass all forms of *expression*.

Flag burning is not a vehicle in which to convey a message clearly and effectively.

I am a human being with dignity and respect, and I was taught to always show my appreciation for the people who treat me as such. I was taught, and am very much aware of the sacrifice that all of the brave and honorable men and women of our armed forces have made in order to protect my country, my family, and my friends. And now it is my turn to show openly my appreciation by honoring and protecting the very symbol of their sacrifice.

I cannot, with a clear conscience, lie to myself and say that if the flag symbolizes freedom then I must have the freedom to burn it. "If A then B" is the saddest of all arguments. I am more intelligent than that, and I have more integrity than that. I know it is self-defeating to say, "Hey, I want more



freedom, so I'm going to destroy the symbol of my freedom." I know it is wrong to desecrate the symbol of my freedom and to spit on all of the people who made it possible for that symbol to remain standing. In my heart I could never suffer the indignity of being that rude and disrespectful.

I am very much in favor of an amendment to protect our flag--even though one should not be necessary, as physically destroying an object is not an exercise in the freedom of *speech* envisioned in the Constitution. It is our flag and, as the commercial reminds us, how we treat it says a lot about us.

*E. M. Sanchez is a sophomore at UCSD.*



## An Enchanted Afternoon with the Bard

By Brooke Crocker

The Old Globe is, perhaps, my favorite place in all of San Diego. In the bright afternoon sun, there is no better spot to be than in Balboa Park and no better thoughts to have on one's mind than Shakespeare. *Hamlet*, one of Shakespeare's finest tragedies, is now playing at the Old Globe. I must admit, though I do like *Hamlet*, it is not my favorite. I am more of a *MacBeth* lover. But on to the matter at hand.

*Hamlet* is a tale that cannot help but intrigue and involve an audience and this production is no exception. One is first struck by the set itself--dark and eerily lit by chandeliers. The main building of the stage is a glass structure which provides a means for the ghost to appear and also gives reflections of the actions below. As the play begins, haunting music is heard and light flits across the stage, finally focusing in on a stone statue of a winged angel praying. With the mood thus set, we are ready for the play to begin and for the ghost to appear. This production uses a video image reflected on the glass structure to show the initial images of the ghost and later an actor steps to center stage to deliver his ghostly message to his son.

The acting is wonderful in this production. Campbell Scott in the lead role is spell-binding, though occasionally he seemed to push Hamlet's agonized state to the point of over-acting. However, this

Hamlet is excellent with a powerful biting wit and intelligence that continuously pokes through his disturbed mental state. Jennifer Van Dyck is an adequate Ophelia, as is Jonathan Walker as her brother Laertes. Their father, Polonius, is played by Jonathan McMurtry, a Globe regular who turns in

The play is very dramatically staged with the demure black set, highlighted by chandelier and candle light. At the back of the stage two large doors let in a flood of light creating a strong image as characters exit the stage.

I found this production of *Hamlet* to be fascinating and disturbing. It raised this play



another characteristically good performance. Another star in this production is Richard Easton who plays the Ghost and Hamlet's uncle. Easton is a strong presence who brings just enough of a tinge of common place evil to his characterization of the uncle. Peter Crook is a valiant and true Horatio and Katherine McGrath as Hamlet's mother turns in a convincing performance.

in my esteem and gave me the desire to read the text again. I think no better praise can be given a performance. I encourage all who can to see this play. It is definitely worth one's time and certainly worth the money.

*Hamlet's* run has been extended through October 14. For tickets, call the Old Globe Ticket Office at 239-2255.

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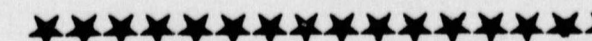
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<p>"A leading authority is anyone who has guessed right more than once." -- Frank A. Clark</p>	<p>"It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do." -- Jerome K. Jerome</p>	<p>"Well, if I called the wrong number, why did you answer the phone?" -- James Thurber</p>
<p>"Charity and beating begins at home." -- John Fletcher</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parting Thoughts</b></p>	<p>"I like work; it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours." -- Jerome K. Jerome</p>
<p>"What is written without effort is in general read without pleasure." -- Samuel Johnson</p>	<p>"All men are equal--all men, that is to say, who posses umbrellas." -- E. M. Forster</p>	<p>"Life is too short to learn German." -- Richard Porson</p>
<p>"The sense of being well-dressed gives a feeling of inward tranquility which religion is powerless to bestow." -- Miss C. F. Forbes</p>	<p>"He is one of those wise philanthropists who, in time of famine, would vote nothing but a supply of toothpicks." -- Douglas Jerrold</p>	<p>"We don't want to fight, but by jingo if we do, We've got the ships, we've got the men, we've got the money too. We've fought the bear before, and while Britons will be true, The Russians shall not have Constantinople." -- G. W. Hund</p>

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