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Don't Throw Away McHugh's Life

Column by Josh Hartmann

We deplore the comment made by Provost Mark S. Wrighton. "Only one complaint was filed against former Associate Dean James R. Tewhey during his tenure, and that was without merit." ["Tewhey's Complaint Was Without Merit," Apr. 27] This comment completely erases the complaint made by eight members of Tewhey's staff last spring. Wrighton's comment also erases the complaint brought forward by staff member Katherine M. Nolan. 

We strongly support the attacks on Nolan and ask that she be given whatever support and relief she needs. It is very disturbing that the provost felt compelled to defend Tewhey, rather than support Nolan, with his statement. 

To cite the discomfitures to him inherent in the process of redressing his abuser of others, as harassment, is a gross manipulation and further traumatizing to the individuals he victimized.

We urge the Institute to implement a credible harassment policy and procedures, to centralize the process of receiving and resolving complaints, to modify the present situation outlined above, and to create a system wherein victims of harassment may have their claims quickly and honorably addressed and resolved.

Anne Russo
Stephen Brophy
Sefas F. R. Price '93
For the 16th Community
Against Harassment at MIT

Don't Throw Away McHugh's Life

Column by Josh Hartmann

Hanging in the balance of the court proceedings surrounding the September murder of Yngve K. Raustein '94 is a second life, one threatened by Tom Reilly, the Middlesex County district attorney. The state has attempted to try Shon McHugh as an adult rather than a juvenile. Since the October 9th trial that stopped the two-year-old, was arrested for allegedly bludgeoning Raustein to death on Memorial Day, the push has been on to see that Shon spends the rest of his life in jail.

In a fit of public pummeling the morning after the murder, Reilly announced his intention to try Shon on an adult as an adult and released the alleged perpetrator's name. (Reilly's Suffolk County counterpart apparently doesn't do business the same way; when a teenager was killed in an Orange Line station in Boston last week, the names of the teens arrested in the incident were withheld from the media.)

Granted, if you're looking through Weh- ster's to find the best word to describe Raustein's murder, bludgeoning certainly fits the bill. The crime was a gross example of the American's worst problems: teenagers, delinquency, lack of respect for human life, the crumbling of strong working class families. (In the term family values in Wehster's yet?) While we don't yet know the details of whether Shon was drunk, high, or insane at the time of the incident, Reilly's attempt to stick to it certainly appeals to the venge- ful side of human nature.

At some point, society has to take some of the blame for such a tragedy. Unfortunately, Reilly would rather see two people die than just one. Let's pretend for a minute that Shon is guilty. Here's what this transfer hearing means: Convicted as an adult for murdering Raustein, Shon faces the rest of his life behind bars — clearly a kinder, gentler place — until he is at least 21, and possibly 23, years old. He will take the blame for such a tragedy. Unfortunately, Reilly would rather see two people die than just one. Let's pretend for a minute that Shon is guilty. Here's what this transfer hearing means: Convicted as an adult for murdering Raustein, Shon faces the rest of his life behind bars — clearly a kinder, gentler place — until he is at least 21, and possibly 23, years old. He will

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The Tech

Letters To The Editor

AIDS.

HILLARY CLINTON.