Harassment Guidelines Protect Free Expression

In response to the burning of the harassment report last week, I would like to suggest that, contrary to the outrage expressed by the editors of The Thistle ("Menace at MIT: Thistle Harassment," Nov. 16), any harassment guidelines protect, rather than limit, free expression.

Harassment itself is usually either the exercise of cruelty on the unprotected or an attack on someone's difference. The idea of harassment at MIT, by attempting to stop such injustices and rudenesses, champions the unprotected and acknowledges of course that such actions, different, thus encouraging, not restricting, free expression at MIT.

Bill Baker '95

Graffiti Hurts Relations

Thanks to the article on the Lambda Chi Alpha Tau Epsilon Phi-Smooch fractures for "Fraternity Relations Weaken," Nov. 16, for bringing a topic to light. As a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha, I have seen firsthand the effects of graffiti on our fraternity.

The graffiti has caused a rift between our fraternity and the university. It has damaged the reputation of the fraternity and has caused a loss of respect from the students and faculty. The graffiti has also caused a loss of confidence in the fraternity and has damaged the morale of the members.

As a member of the fraternity, I am very concerned about the damage that the graffiti has caused. It is important that we take action to prevent the graffiti from continuing.

Bill Baker '95

Bush Fund, UA Disgraced by The Thistle

Columns by Michael J. Chung

The Thistle continues to bewilder me. On the front page of the Nov. 17 issue, the first headline asks "Should the Bush Fund Be a Political Issue?" Simply stated, no. The Vannevar Bush Fund is not a political issue. The fund serves a higher purpose other than the UA president's personal benefit.

When I read through the first article discussing the Bush Fund I wondered about the validity and relevancy of the arguments created. Is the fund an issue in future UA presidential elections? It is not. The fund is spent in the business of the UA office. If the money was legitimate, why should there be any reason for the UA president to use the money for his personal expenses.

Another issue that bothers me is the release of the Bush fund information. It is a true dishonor to the Bush fund to be used as an issue in the UA president's election campaign.

Finally, I am disgusted at The Thistle. The Thistle, a newspaper, has the power to print this in violation of the UA Fund board rules. It is simply not true to say that the UA president is not using the Bush Fund in the form of dinners and transportation. They are written by the editorial board, which contains members who are different, thus encouraging, not restricting, free expression.

Michael J. Franklin '88

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced, and addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 419, Cambridge, MA 02139-0192, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W-21, Tech. All submissions are due by 4 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No anonymous letters or anonymous material will be published. Opinions expressed in letters and cartoons are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of The Tech.

Robert B. Dimnick

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