

# EDITORIAL

## CourierPolicy

The Courier is published every Friday when classes are in session during the Fall and Spring Semesters, except for the first and last Friday of each Semester and the week of and the week after Spring Break as a public forum with content chosen by student editors. One copy free, additional copies available upon request.

Views expressed in editorials represent opinions of the majority of the Editorial Board, made up of all of the Courier editors.

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The Courier encourages all students, faculty, staff, administrators and community members to voice their opinions on all the topics concerning them both in and out of school.

Writers can express their views in a letter to Letters to the Editor. All correspondence and letters for publication must be typed and signed with the author's daytime phone number.

The editor-in-chief may withhold the author's name on request. Deliver all correspondence to SRC 1560 between regular office hours, or mail to the Courier, College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137.

Letters also may be sent by e-mail. The subject heading to the e-mail message must read "Letter to the Editor." The writer's first and last names, street address, city, state and complete phone number with area code must be included for identity verification by the Courier. Deadline for letters meant for publication is noon Tuesday before publication. E-mail letters can be sent electronically to editor@cod.edu.

Letters are subject to editing for grammar, style, language, length and libel.

All letters represent the views of their author.

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## Pleading the First

Advocating against a lifestyle that allows gay individuals the right to freedom and the pursuit of happiness violates our natural rights and usurps our nation's guiding principles. This clash with one kind of liberty should not subvert another equally important constitutional tenet – free speech.

H.O.M.E should be allowed to raise its voice and spread its message in the name of liberty, tolerance and other attributes that spun the fabric of the United States.

Evelyn Beatrice Hall's words speak precisely to the issue, "I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." Our nation is where it is today because it has afforded the citizenry freedom of speech. No matter how abject, vile, or demoralizing that message must resonate from an unrepressed voice. That voice no matter how ugly or indecent is an unwavering anchor of democracy.

In 1977, a neo-Nazi group went public with its plan to march through Skokie, Illinois, a Chicago suburb where nearly one of every six Jewish residents was a survivor or directly related to a survivor of the Holocaust. Many Skokie residents did not want the Nazis to march through the town because

they felt that the Jews deserved to live without intimidation. The Nazis claimed their right to free speech and felt that they should be allowed to march.

As it panned out, Jewish residents won a court injunction against the marchers. As a result the American Civil Liberties Union successfully defended the Nazis' right to free speech.

Indisputably, the Nazis are morally at fault as their principles attack the natural rights of human citizens. But even harboring bunk morals, Nazis should be welcome to voice their opinions because their voice is an echo of freedom in our democratic system.

The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

That amendment should be protected and upheld as it guarantees individuals of this country the right to bring forth new thought and to challenge the status quo and leaders of the country. The First Amendment preserves the democracy of this exceptional nation. and Denying hate groups, or any groups the right to peaceably assemble and deliver a message is censorship.

### Staff Editorial



## What do you want to be for Halloween?

**Alex Knox, 18** *art, Elmhurst*  
"I'm going to be a vampire for Halloween."

**Christina Lazas, 18** *illustration, Elmhurst*  
"I'm going to be a vampire for Halloween."

**Brian Wach, 18** *music, LaGrange Park*  
"For Halloween I think I am going to dress up as Dexter from the popular Showtime show. He's a superhero serial killer and he has a unique outfit that he wears during his dirty deeds."

**Jessica Impellizzeri, 18** *liberal arts, Elmhurst*  
"I'm going to be Kairi from Kingdom Hearts II."

**Michael Perovanovic, 18** *accounting, Wheaton*  
"For Halloween I'm going to be joker."

**Eva Angelilli, 18** *design, Elmhurst*  
"I'm going to be a vampire."

**Iesha Christian, 18** *psychology*  
"I want to be a sailor."

## In Your Words

### Would the legalization of marijuana benefit the economy?

#### PointCounterPoint

**T**he war on drugs is expensive; fighting it may cost taxpayers more than its worth. If marijuana is legalized taxes can help boost the economy and reduce the amount of money being circulated in the black market and prohibit terrorist organizations from capitalizing on sales.

"A great deal of resources go into catching those who buy or sell illegal drugs on the black market, prosecuting them in court, and housing them in jail. Marijuana, is widely used, and is likely no more harmful than legal drugs such as tobacco and alcohol." said Mike Moffatt, economist and lecturer at The Richard Ivey School of Business.

Legalization of marijuana, would cause higher demand for the product, between taxes on marijuana and an increase

in sales, marijuana would bring in more revenue for the government to use in other areas as needed, according to Moffatt.

A risk premium figured into the cost of marijuana, due to the fact that the drug is illegal. The "risk premium is making a lot of criminals, many of whom have ties to organized crime, very wealthy," Moffatt said. Legalization would lower the cost of marijuana, therefore taking money away from criminals.

Legalization of marijuana would weaken terrorist organizations. "The black market in marijuana would be completely eradicated, denying cash to criminal groups who profit by its sale, including, terrorist organizations," according to the article, The Bloody and Costly War on Drugs.

**M**arijuana should not be legal. People will become very lazy and lose all desire to do anything productive. More people will want to drop out of high school and this will result in less people attending college.

Additionally, people may become psychologically addicted and make poor economic decisions to obtain more. As pot triggers a sense euphoria and calm, people will be inclined spend their incomes to relieve those feelings. In some cases people may even decide to sell their things to pay for it. I've known people to sell their cloths and their Xbox to pay for their marijuana. Though the legalization of pot is often justified by the ways it could benefit the economy many people forget the economic

pitfalls it would create. Since there is no viable way to monitor an individual's pot intake there may be large increases in driving accidents or personal injuries. Insurance premiums would soar through the roof, and people that don't smoke would wind up paying higher insurance rates because of the increased injuries caused by the people who do.

Another economic digression would occur in the agriculture sector. Just as many farmers have switched to growing soybeans because it captures one of the highest profits per yield, farmers would also switch to growing marijuana as it would offer the greatest return on investment. As farmers switch to growing pot it would lower the supply of other foodstuffs and would drive up the cost of food.

Researched by Amanda Kellermann, Photographer

PointCounterPoint topics are selected, researched and written by the staff of the Courier and aim to reflect differing opinions on the same subject. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the author.

# OPINION

## Free speech issue perplexes college professor

### Philosophy student sheds light on controversial campus visit

When I walked into my philosophy class, Wednesday morning of September 30th, I thought it was going to be just like any ordinary class. However, when my professor entered the room, he seemed a little disturbed. "In good conscious, I have to tell you what's going on." And he explained how this group, called the "Hetero-sexual Organization for a Moral Environment" was invited to come to COD. He went on to say that there was a big debate among the faculty (that people might've read about in last week's newspaper) on whether or not we should allow the group that calls themselves "H.O.M.E." to be at our campus. It was the heated debate between the faculty, between protecting the students of COD (and protecting the reputation of the school), but yet didn't want to step over the boundaries of free-speech. And, even though my philosophy professor probably has found many profound answers in his lifetime, was stumped at this dilemma. What should be done?

I, in my curiosity, went and checked it out after class. But instead of finding it, I, more or less, stumbled upon it. I saw a large crowd gathered by a table in the upper north hallway of the SRC Building and knew that had to be it. What I found both astonished me and disturbed me, but it wasn't from their message of proclaiming that homosexuals are living a immoral life, but from the hurtful words that were being thrown from one side to another, whether it was from the men from H.O.M.E. (who, some people claim that H.O.M.E. is "a hate group") or from the students themselves.

After a moment if taking this in, I decided to play devil's advocate. I was thinking in my head of what I would do if I took the place of the men of the organization (whether I believe them or not is irrelevant to the point I'm trying to make). I later got the idea (this was after the fact, however) of getting some paper and writing down all the slander and insults that people would say to me just be-

cause I had a piece of paper and statistics about a certain issue that backed up a personal belief. In good conscious as well, I would exercise my right to be heard, believing that I could help people by doing so (kind of like what I'm doing now with this article). I wouldn't like it if someone called me a retard, racist, or other terrible slurs and remarks, just because of my personal belief, especially if I was openly invited to come to a college and present information about my belief.

However, I know that it is still not right of me to open my mouth with a hateful word towards them, even if people do start slandering me with criticism, for no justifiable reason. Obviously, though, this is where I think H.O.M.E. at fault here. They probably don't go about it the right way, because they did eject hurtful words and scorn those who are opposed to them. I think the one thing that we have to understand that even if we are justified in our belief still doesn't give us the right to deliberately attack and insult people. With that being said, however, I think if they were to sit quietly at their little booth, put up their signs, and just sit quiet and calmly answer any questions that people would have about the information, I think no one would have a right to insult them and ridicule them if they were going about it at a peaceful way. But I don't know who started the name-calling back and forth, but I do know that it takes a strong and courageous person not to dupe down to the level of petty "elementary school" ways of solving arguments. So, here is my message to my fellow students at COD: We need to solve problems with our intellect, not just with our radical emotions.

Bottom line is that I understand that most people, on the outside looking in, view that group who are against a homo-sexual lifestyle are committing 'a hate crime'. But, after seeing what happened, how is the other side not presenting 'a hate crime' as well? If there's no reason, no purpose, other

than to feel offensive (not by words or actions, but just based on an idea), why would people still go out of their way to attack individuals who are standing up for what they believe is right?

Not only that, but they have scientific evidence, as well as individual testimony from acclaimed scholars in the field of study, and yet people still feel the need to take defense without any prior knowledge or research on the field of subject, but yet expect to be right just by rebuking and scorning those who are standing up for what they believe, seems like a hate crime to me. And that goes for both sides. Is it fair to attack someone who has a certain opinion or idea that goes against ours? Why are we so quick to defend ourselves when we're challenged without really giving it any thought? What if (big what if) we actually thought about the reality that we don't have all the answers, but yet maybe realize the quest for life is to find as many as we can? (We must also understand that the more sure we are about an answer, doesn't make it more correct). Ah, here's one...what if we, as a college, instead of claiming to be "open-minded" (which, obviously we accuse others for being closed-minded, which, in turn claim ourselves to be open-minded...apparently), actually become open-minded.

Instead of insisting that this "H.O.M.E." group is going to ruin the college's reputation, why don't we "create" the good reputation that we want COD to be? Again, whether you're on one side or not, that's a personal decision, but whichever side you choose, at least know and learn about the other side, so you, in clear conscious, can make the best decision for you, and be more incline to open up and listen and to "be open-minded" with people, and be disinclined to make hasty generalizations or rash remarks on people that think differently. We want the world to be a better place, but it won't become a better place, unless we, ourselves, indi-

vidually, and as a group, make an effort to make our lives, and the lives of the people around us, better places to live in.

I don't believe it matters where you come from or what your history is, but history teaches us what to do and what not to do, and to help us move forward into the future. A future, not full of violence and wars, but a future that when our children and grandchildren grow up, would want to say to themselves "I wish I lived in that generation."

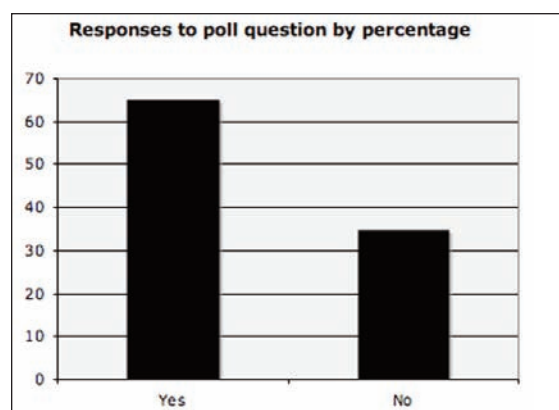
*"Instead of insisting that this "H.O.M.E." group is going to ruin the college's reputation, why don't we 'create' the good reputation that we want COD to be? ."*

J.A. GREENE  
UNDECIDED MAJOR

This is the "now" movement. There may not be a tomorrow, so let's make this day, and everyday, the best day possible. Not just for us, but just in case there is a future, we can make the future, exactly what we want it to be...and maybe even better then we ever thought possible. Martin Luther King Jr. had that dream of a better future then what was previously imagined...and he made it reality. Let's make our dreams of living in peace and love, become reality.

J. A. Greene  
Undecided Major

### At The Polls: Last week's answers; this week's question



Eighty respondents voted in last week's poll. Of the respondents, 64 percent answered 'yes' and 36 percent answered 'no.'

Last week a recognized hate group, Heterosexuals Organized for a Moral Environment visited campus. The Courier asked in a poll:

**Should the college allow hate groups on campus?**

Sixty votes were for 'yes' and 34 were for 'no.'

This week's poll:

**Which of the following is the best part about Halloween:**

- 1) Bringing home the prize for the best costume
- 2) Enjoying life at a Halloween party
- 3) Reveling in the excitement surrounding Halloween
- 4) Getting candy

Vote online at [www.cod.edu/courier](http://www.cod.edu/courier)

Join the Courier's list serve to receive the poll question as soon as it comes out and to receive the latest Courier updates.

e-mail [editor@cod.edu](mailto:editor@cod.edu) with a subject line requesting to be put on the list serve.

**Write a letter to the editor**  
Send an e-mail to:  
[editor@cod.edu](mailto:editor@cod.edu)

**No construction issues were reported to the Courier this week**



**Feeling impacted by construction?**

Let the Courier know how you're being affected and we'll make sure your issues are addressed. Send an e-mail to [editor@cod.edu](mailto:editor@cod.edu). Include your name and the pertinent information.

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL

OCT. 12-17

# Spirit Week



CHECK OUT ALL OF THE EVENTS HOSTED BY STUDENT CLUBS....



## MONDAY

**The Real Twister Movie**  
American Meteorological Society  
11:30am in M147

**BUSINESS JEOPARDY**  
by Alpha Beta Gamma  
Noon-2pm in SRC 1750  
(Oasis Lounge)

**Personal Finance**  
by DuPage Investment Group  
2pm-3pm in SRC 2800

## TUESDAY

**Mendhi, Scarves & Appetizers**  
by Muslim Student Association  
9am-1pm in SRC hallway

**PARKING SAFETY QUIZ SHOW**  
By Endowment Future Generations  
10am in SRC 1450

**Leadership Workshop**  
by Student Leadership Council  
4pm-5pm in SRC 1550

## WEDNESDAY

**Party Artists**  
by Student Activities Program Board  
10am-1pm in front of Cafeteria

**Overcoming Speech Anxiety**  
by Forensics (Speech Team)  
2:30pm-3:30pm in SRC 1544

**FILM DISCUSSION**  
by Philosophy Club  
4pm in IC 2021

**Environmental Speaker**  
by Phi Theta Kappa  
5pm in SRC 1450

## THURSDAY

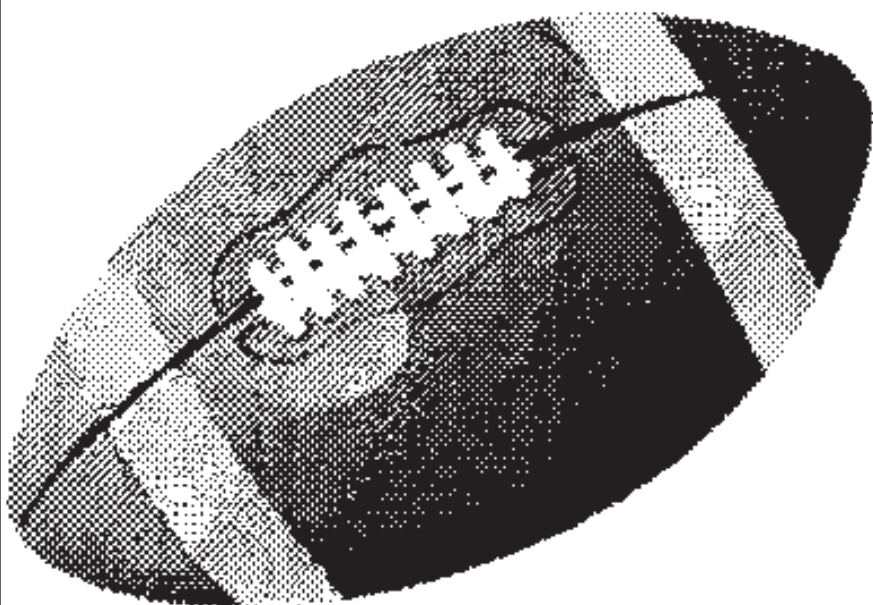
**Salsa Dance**  
By Casa de Amigos  
10am-Noon in IC 2061

**KARAOKE**  
By Latino Ethnic Awareness Association  
11am-1pm in Oasis Lounge




**HOMECOMING: PIK STYLE**  
by Phi Theta Kappa  
2pm-5pm in SRC 1480

## FRIDAY

**Dracula Movie**  
7pm in the MAC, \$10



## TAILGATING & FOOTBALL GAME SATURDAY, OCT. 17!

-  Meet 11am at DuPage Stadium
-  Game begins at 1pm
-  COD Chaparrals vs. Iowa Central

This week organized by Collegiate Council at College of DuPage.  
For more information contact Student Body Vice President, Billal Virani, at SLCvp@cod.edu

