

THE PRINCETON

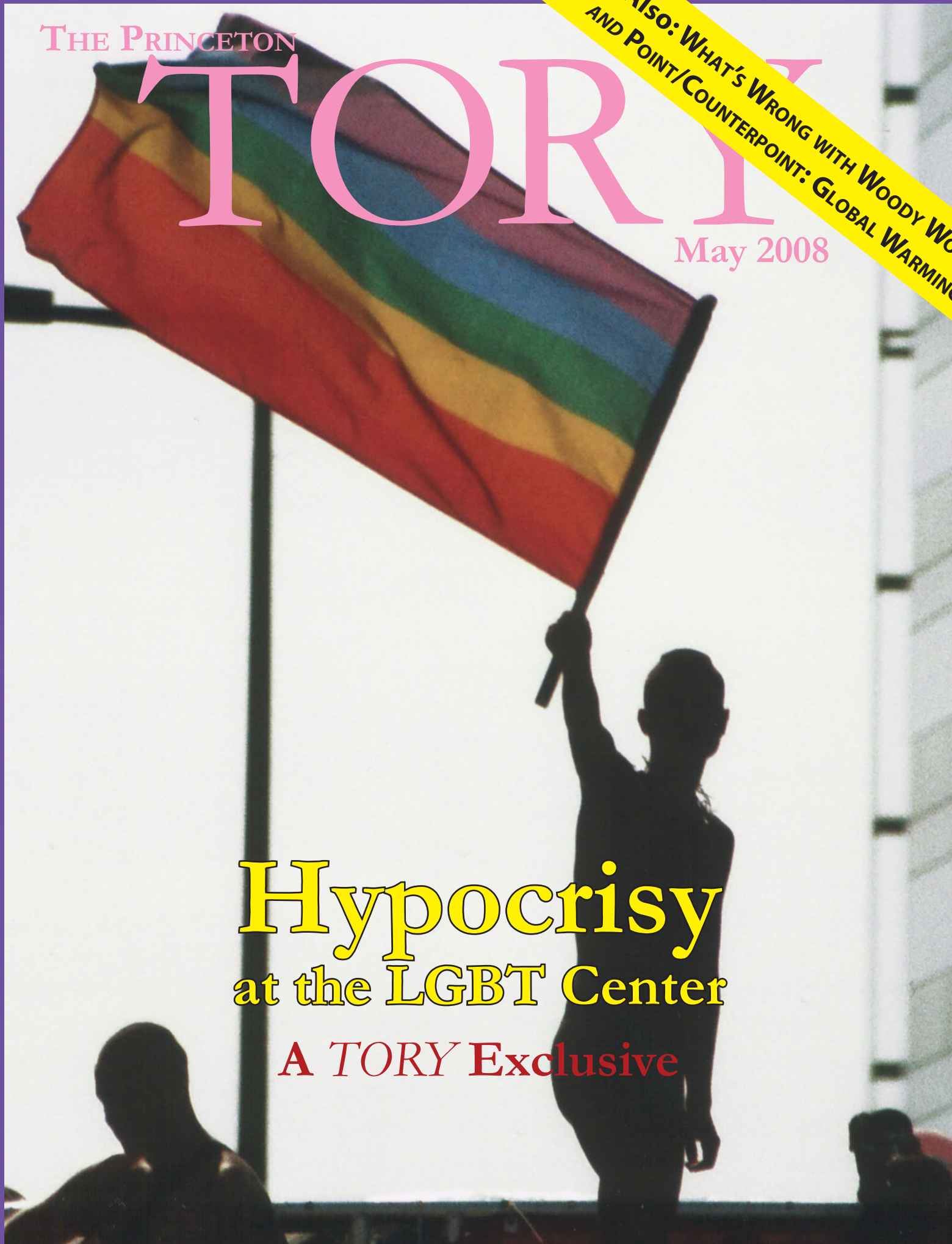
# TORY

May 2008

Also: What's Wrong with Woody Woo  
AND POINT/COUNTERPOINT: GLOBAL WARMING

## Hypocrisy at the LGBT Center

A TORY Exclusive



# THE PRINCETON TORY

April 2008  
Volume XXV - Issue I

*Publisher*  
Joel Alicea '10

*Editor-in-Chief*  
Leon Furchtgott '09      *Managing Editors*  
Brandon McGinley '10  
Andrew Saraf '11

*Copy Editors*  
Robert Day '10      *Production Manager*  
Katie Fletcher '10      Jonathan Giuffrida '10

*Financial Manager*  
Brendan Lyons '09      *Operations Manager*  
Johnny Love '09

*Blog Editor*  
Shivani Radhakrishnan '11      *Editor-in-Chief*  
Emeritus  
Sherif Girgis '08

*Publisher Emeritus*  
Matthew J. Schmitz '08

## Staff Writers

Stefan McDaniel '08      Katie Fletcher '10  
Will Scharf '08      Amy Osterman '10  
Arielle Gorin '08      Emma Yates '11  
Brian Extein '08      Bobby Marsland '11  
Jordan Reimer '08      Aaron Smargon '11  
Kyle Smith '09      Christine Bokman '11  
Emely Peña '09  
Clint Montague '09

*Production Team*  
Robert Day '10  
Cathy Tran '11

## Board of Trustees

Peter Heinecke '87      Brian Tvenstrup '95  
David Daniels '89      Wickham Schmidt '99  
Anna Bray Duff '92      Timothy Webster '99  
Peter Hegseth '02

*The Princeton Tory* is a journal of conservative and moderate political thought written, edited and produced by Princeton University students and delivered free of charge to all Princeton students and faculty. *The Princeton Tory* is a publication of The Princeton Tory, Inc. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the editors, trustees, Princeton University, or the Princeton Tory, Inc.

*The Princeton Tory* accepts letters to the editor. Direct correspondence to: P.O. Box 1499, Princeton, NJ 08542; or by e-mail: [tory@princeton.edu](mailto:tory@princeton.edu). Advertisement rates for *The Princeton Tory* can be found on the magazine's website at [www.princeton Tory.com](http://www.princeton Tory.com). Donations to *The Princeton Tory* are fully tax-deductible. Please mail donations to: P.O. Box 1499, Princeton, NJ 08542.

*The Princeton Tory* is a member of the Collegiate Network. *The Princeton Tory* gives special thanks to the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, Princeton Alumni Viewpoints, and The Bachman Foundation.

The Princeton Tory, Inc. is a non-profit corporation registered in New Jersey. No part of this publication should be construed to promote any pending legislation or to support any candidate for office. No part of this publication may be reproduced without express written consent of the Publisher.

Copyright © 2008 *The Princeton Tory*

## Letter from the Publisher

### When the Principled Become Demagogues

The debate over global warming (tackled in this issue of the *Tory*) brings to the fore a host of policy questions that require serious reflection and important decisions. But as demagogues on both sides inadvertently demonstrate in their blind adherence to ideological orthodoxy, a broader theme may be discerned amidst the verbal jousting: the necessity of re-evaluating principles. In the contest for political supremacy, loyal conservatives and liberals often fail to reconsider their positions for fear of incurring the wrath of party establishments or being accused of infidelity to principle. While I find clear instances of political expediency in position changes revolting, I firmly submit that only by incessantly questioning our ideas can we avoid being consumed by ideology.



The destructive nature of ideological stubbornness is evident both on Princeton's campus and on the national political stage. Rob Day's important article in this issue highlights how the LGBT Center's political agenda continues to alienate gay students who do not subscribe to its rhetoric of victimization, which often results in self-segregation. The Center's refusal to reevaluate its programming after repeated requests by at least one gay student uncomfortable with its tendency to stereotype and isolate him is a compelling example of the wisdom of questioning the practicality and logic of our deepest-held beliefs. In Congress and across the United States, liberals of all stripes continue to ignore mounting and irrefutable evidence of military and political progress in Iraq, indulging in a pathetic and dangerous display of defeatism while paternalistically calling for the withdrawal of our noble warriors from the theater of combat. As is typical when ideologues refuse to abandon their positions, the reaction from both the LGBT Center and the anti-war left to suggestions that they reevaluate their ideas is one of self-righteous indignation and scorn.

Conservatives are no better in many instances, to our detriment. While most conservatives have sincere and well-reasoned arguments opposing federal intervention against global warming (Johnny Love being among these patriots), others cling to their positions unquestioningly and without regard to the chorus of earnest scientists and voters demanding immediate remedy against the looming danger. Here on campus, many conservatives are too quick to suspect the administration of bias or active sabotage, scoffing at the notion that there may be very good, nonpartisan reasoning behind certain University policies. While the reactions of both the global warming skeptics and many campus conservatives are an understandable result of years of underhanded and misleading arguments from global warming alarmists and university officials intent on crushing opposing viewpoints, it is imperative that we reexamine our attitudes constantly to avoid becoming the very demagogues whom we seek to defeat in the battle of ideas.

The need to hold fast to principle is of paramount importance in a society and on a campus often bereft of political courage, but principle can quickly lead to self-indoctrination if not constantly reassessed. We must be wary of following orthodoxy into the darkness of blind ideology. The stakes are too high, the consequences too grave.

Best,  
Joel Alicea '10



# THE PRINCETON TORY

May 2008

Volume XXV Issue II

[www.princeton.edu/~tory](http://www.princeton.edu/~tory)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### POINTS AND PUNTS

*Staff*

4

### CAMPUS

#### PROBLEMS AT WOODY WOO

*Jacob Oppenheim '09*

6

#### REASON OR RELIGION?

*Professor George Responds to Silver*

*Aaron Smargon '11*

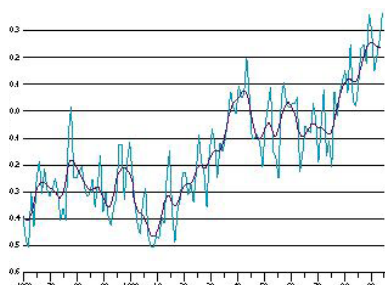
8

#### “QUEERING” THE LGBT LINE

*Hypocrisy at the LGBT Center*

*Robert Day '10*

10



### POINT/COUNTERPOINT

#### Global Warming Policies

*Johnny Love '09*

14

*Joel Alicea '10*

15



### THE LAST WORD

#### THE SUBTEXT OF SPEECH

*Rhetoric and Political Discourse*

*Sherif Girgis '08*

17

### REVIEWS

#### “NEVER FORGET” BY CORNEL WEST

*Stefan McDaniel '08*

19

# POINTS & PUNTS

*Unsupervised members of the Tory read a picture book, then converse animatedly about green pie, repressive student governments, and inspiring abortion art*

New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman met with a bright green pie to the face before his lecture at Brown University in late April. As the culprit was caught by campus police, she announced that Friedman's vision of "green" was simply too "fake." Apparently neon-green food coloring in pie is just as much a part of nature as **liberals running from the police.**

The Tory fully supports Take Back the Night's efforts to raise awareness on campus of sexual assault. Many Princeton students might not know that, as reported in the Daily Princetonian in 2006, SHARE director Dr. Suraiya Baluch estimates that it sees about 100 cases of sexual assault a year. One of the great problems that SHARE faces is simply conveying the gravity of the problem to the University community. The University administration, by refusing to release statistics about sexual assault and STIs, has been notably unhelpful in this regard. If the University spoke clearly and publicized its estimations of the incidence of sexual assault to incoming freshmen, rather than merely putting on a light-hearted skit about sexual assault, we would be well on our way to treating this problem more seriously.

The Tory applauds the USG's attempt to shoot down the resolution proposed by Kyle Smith '09 regarding students' views on the University administration. In so doing, the Senate has taken a firm stand against the unnecessary measure of seeking out student opinion. We are proud that the USG has gone even further in dispensing with such frivolities as limited government, a meaningful agenda, and keeping track of amendments to the USG Constitution. We are glad to know that we can always count on the USG to take its responsibilities seriously.

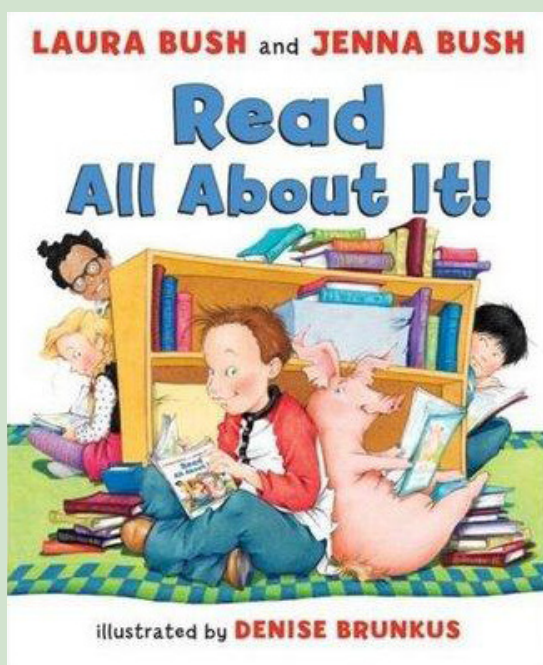


In the tradition of his tenure in office, former President Jimmy Carter returned from the Middle East in late April with another smashing foreign policy success story. After publicly announcing before his visit that he would meet with the terrorist group Hamas to discuss Middle East peace, Carter managed to achieve the remarkable feat of turning every major Israeli politician against him with the exception of its ceremonial president. Not a single important Israeli leader met with Carter during his visit except Shimon Peres. Added to this impressive deed was the fact that Carter's discussions with Hamas did not accomplish anything other than to incur the scorn of the Arab press, the resentment of the Bush State Department, and the undermining of American policy toward terrorist organizations and Hamas in particular. All-in-all, it was a routine week for Carter, a man who stands as a titan in the eyes of history. **Good job, Jimmy!**

More than a few important campus issues were highlighted by the altercation at BlackBox during Princeton Preview. First, we find it a bit ironic that, on the same weekend that every club on the Street went to even greater lengths than usual to maintain safety and re-

sponsibility, BlackBox loosened its standards. We also have to wonder how long it will take for the Borough Police to charge Wilson College Master Marguerite Browning (such a nice lady) with running a nuisance. We just can't have dangerous people like Master Browning running dangerous operations like BlackBox. Speaking of dangerous people, it is clear that the Princeton bubble is not impervious to the gangs and other criminals that inhabit the real world. It is certainly time, for the sake of safety and out of respect for the sworn officers in our midst, that Public Safety be armed.

Jenna Bush has yet to endorse John McCain. When asked why, she explained that she wants to learn more about all the presidential candidates, including the Democrats, adding that now, "I honestly have been too busy with books to really pay that much attention." You see, Jenna has just finished writing a picture book with her mother: She thought it important to write a book that her father could finally understand. Just to make it clear, we at the *Tory* are neither responsible for nor apologetic about the Yale education of our president.



**S**uccess! The *Tory's* valiant effort to take back "gay" from its modern adulteration has borne fruit. In the April 22 edition of *The Daily Princetonian*, English Professor and Rocky College Master Jeff Nunokawa said the following about his college's dining hall: "Some of the most clubbed-up kids are there, at meals, having a gay old time, in the old sense of the word." We are extremely pleased, self-satisfied and self-congratulatory that the *Tory's* bold but ultimately virtuous movement for linguistic truth has taken hold among the intelligentsia. In view of our success, we hope to extend the campaign to other fine words that have been sadly led astray or eliminated from our vocabulary: **our votes go to "Musulman" and "Mohammedan."**

**R**eason #759 Princeton is better than Yale: fewer pieces of abortion art. By now, of course, most are familiar with Aliza Shvarts' "performance art," which included video of her supposedly inducing miscarriages several times over the course of a few months. Most, well, humans found even the hoax, let alone the reality, to be a disgusting and depraved display that showed reckless disregard for the most fundamental aspects of human decency. Showing once again, however, how the politics of abortion trump even concern for the health of this woman, the Yale Women's Center leaped into the fray, declaring that "whether it is a question of reproductive rights or of artistic expression, Aliza Shvarts' body is an instrument over which she should be free to exercise full discretion." The *Tory* looked for a way to turn this statement into a joke, or at least a snarky remark, but we believe that its silliness speaks for itself.

POINTS & PUNTS, representing the opinions of individual writers, were compiled by the editors.



# PROBLEMS AT WOODY WOO

## INVESTIGATING PRINCETON'S MOST ELITE SCHOOL

*Jacob Oppenheim '09*

**T**he Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs is at the forefront of Princeton University news and politics. Whether through the Robertson lawsuit, the admissions policy or the exhibitions of WWS majors' independent work, hardly a week goes by without the School making the headlines in the Daily Princetonian. For all this media coverage, however, there is little talk of and investigation into the real issues at the Woodrow Wilson School: Does it adequately prepare students for careers in public policy? Does it accept the right students? What about all those arcane course requirements? As will be shown below, it is doubtful that WWS actually accomplishes its stated goals. While policies at the School are implemented with the best intentions, many are badly designed and poorly executed.

*The Wilson School's admissions policy encourages the wrong type of students to major or get a certificate in the School.*

### ADMISSIONS POLICY

The admissions policy of the Wilson School has come under some scrutiny due to the lawsuit brought by the Robertson family, which revealed that WWS places remarkably few students into government jobs after graduation. Rather than bickering over the causes of this phenomenon, there is a different trend worth investigating: an extraordinary proportion of Wilson School students pursue occupations in Finance or Management Consulting, two fields that have little to do with public policy.

The Wilson School has a certain cachet with employers due to its selective admissions process; some firms such as McKinsey & Co. go as far as to list the Wilson School as a separate institution from the rest of Princeton University. Through selective admissions, the Wilson School creates an unnecessary aura of prestige that attracts eager employers and students from outside the field of public policy. This is not to deny, of course, the legitimate high reputation of Woodrow Wilson School faculty and students, in almost all cases.

The stated goal of the Wilson School is to "prepare the leaders who will shape the public policies of the future." Nowhere does this statement mandate a selective admissions process. As basic economics show, if the admissions process were taken away, only those students who were passionate about the study of public policy would choose to major in

WWS, dissuading those students simply looking for another line-item on their resumé.

The Wilson School claims that an admissions process is necessary due to the high numbers of applicants for the School, not all of whom could logistically fit into the program. This argument is fallacious. The number of students would remain manageable, while the focus of the students at the School would be more directed toward public policy, rather than getting a lucrative position on Wall Street or at McKinsey. Additionally, many students who are not accepted under the current arrangement, but who are truly devoted to public policy, would be able to concentrate in WWS. The

Wilson School's admissions policy encourages the wrong type of students to major or get a certificate in the School, rejecting other, more dedicated candidates.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The WWS major is a behemoth, requiring 12 departmentals of its concentrators and 11 of its certificate students, representing a significant increase over five years ago. While it is admirable that the Wilson School seeks to make its students well-versed in the background fields for a career in public policy, the requirements generally have the opposite effect, encouraging jack-of-all-tradesmanship and driving away certificate students. When classes on global health policy and Pakistani politics count towards distribution requirements for a student focusing on American educational policy, it is clear that the requirements are poorly crafted. While many students do focus on a certain area of policy in their coursework, many pick and choose interesting classes and graduate feeling that they are ill-prepared for a career in a specific area of public policy.

The Wilson School requirements are also unflinching. Rather than taking any "Ethical Thought and Moral Values" (EM) class, WWS students are required to take one out of a list of eight EM classes that are deemed to fulfill the "Ethics Requirement." Strangely, this list excludes what is perhaps the most policy-oriented of any EM class, Philosophy of Law (PHI 384), which deals with the underlying principles of criminal law.

There is also the methods requirement, which obliges WWS students to take a statistics class, once again from a prescribed list. While there are many options, two of the best such courses at Princeton, Statistics for Economists (ECO 202) and Statistical Physics (PHY 301) are excluded from the list. Every other department and program on campus accepts these classes for a statistics requirement, but the Wilson School does not. Curiously, the Wilson School offers a less rigorous statistics class, Claims and Evidence (WWS 332), which attempts to teach research methods without math—a ridiculous proposition.

When first offered, Claims and Evidence was hailed as a class taught by top professors that would help Wilson School students with their junior papers and senior theses. Having spoken with almost every student who has taken the class, however, I have not met a single one who would rate the class higher than a “1” on a scale of 1-5. The inaugural professor last fall, Marta Tienda, was universally reviled. The class was taught as “how to write a sociology paper” and any student interested in a non-sociological field of public policy was nevertheless made to plan a sociology thesis. Remarkably, after being given the lowest marks of any professor teaching any class at Princeton, Tienda will be teaching the class again next fall.

The newest requirement, Democracy (WWS 300)—meant to be a core class for all majors uniting the disparate fields that are part of public policy (a laudable goal)—has also been a failure. While it was intended to be taught by the School’s top professors, this has not been the case. For the first third of the semester, the head professor, the renowned Stan Katz, was away from the University. The class has instead been taught largely by Carlos Boix, whom most students have found incomprehensible. The course has additionally been extremely parochial, spending three weeks on one problem in game theory, and the rest (so far) on other highly specific games. The goal of uniting all WWS students has failed, and I have not encountered a single student who approves of this course.

The sheer number of course requirements also drives certificate students away. It is nigh on impossible to major in a scientific or technical field and get a WWS certificate without taking six classes per semester. This is a great loss to the Wilson school, as those students who could approach public policy from a scientific background are deterred by the daunting requirements. WWS implicitly pushes away some of the students best able to analyze and create public policy, especially in technical areas.



*Is this just an I-Banking prep school?*

## POLICY TASK FORCES

My final point of contention is the Wilson School’s vaunted Policy Task Forces (PTFs). Designed to introduce students to in-depth policy analysis and the process of creating policy, in reality this is rarely the case. Of the task forces this year and the year before, only one has encouraged rigorous analysis of past policy and specific, feasible policy goals in the JPs. In every other PTF, big, “fluffy” ideas with no emphasis on practicality have been encouraged. Several students, including myself, were marked down for spending time closely analyzing the successes and failures of past policies in order to better explain and justify the policies presented at the end of the paper. Cogent, feasible policy goals were rejected as well.

The Woodrow Wilson School has clearly been encouraging the wrong types of thinking. Students in the Politics department are more effectively introduced to rigorous policy analysis than their counterparts in the Wilson School, which supposedly dedicates itself to that goal. The vast number of requirements continues to drive away from the School science and engineering majors, some of the students the most well-suited to carefully analyzing and crafting public policy. Additionally, the lack of focus in the requirements makes students jacks of all trades and masters of none, while the selective admissions process encourages from the beginning the wrong type of student to apply to and major in the School. All of these issues must be better addressed if the Wilson School wishes to be at the forefront of undergraduate education in public policy. **P**

Jacob Oppenheim is a Junior in the Physics Department and a disillusioned former WWS certificate student from Northern Virginia.

# REASON OR RELIGION?

## PROFESSOR GEORGE RESPONDS TO PROFESSOR SILVER

Aaron Smargon '11

My scrutiny of Professor Lee Silver's views on embryos last month brought me no closer to a rational approach to bioethics. Having interviewed him, I doubted that his science, or any science, could provide me with the reason I sought. I am certain Professor Silver would agree with this statement, especially with respect to Professor Robert George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and a member of President Bush's Council on Bioethics, whom Silver routinely accuses of "pseudo-science" and "hidden theology." Wrote Silver to me recently,

[Professor George's] rational argument for the existence of a Catholic version of the Biblical God... he claims, is based entirely on rational thought and not revelation... What Professor George views as rational arguments are, in my view, simply word games — rhetoric.

In fact, many religious people have told me that it was wrong of me to think that they "believed" in God. God was not a religious belief, they said, God was a reality. People who hold such views do not speak the same language as my scientist colleagues and I do. Religion permeates their lives so thoroughly that they are not even aware of it. \*

Are George's conservative arguments in defense of the moral worth of embryos likewise "simply word games," manifestations of "religious permeation," which I, along with other secular people, have been duped into accepting? I interviewed Professor George to find out for myself.

In my previous article, I provided George's definition of a human being (an organism actively developing into a mature member of the species *Homo sapiens*) along with Silver's counterargument (the spectral nature of species and continuity of organisms derived from the same genome). But irrespective of any definition, why do "human beings" deserve moral dignity, a proposition with which George and Silver both agree? Why treat humans so

drastically differently from chimpanzees when our genomes contain 98% of the same DNA? Religion tells us that humans are special because we are all "ensouled," filled with an immaterial spirit that gives us moral worth and which is likely undetectable by scientific experimentation.

According to Silver, George, a practicing Catholic, should follow this religious line of thought. But, when I questioned George, he replied, "The fundamental respect in which human beings have dignity is in that they are rational animals; I follow Aristotle's view on this." He went on to say that if other creatures possess a rational nature, that is, conceptual thinking, deliberation, choice, and agency, they should also be afforded dignity. Surprisingly, both Silver and George agree on the underlying reason for the ethical treatment of humans.

The main contention between the two thinkers is instead an argument over when the life of a human organism begins. For Professor George, life begins at conception. He explained that "there's a point at which conception is complete, when you no longer are able to identify an egg and sperm as separate parts that continue to exist, where... you have a new organism that's functioning integrally."

Silver contends that there is no scientific marker for conception, unless one counts implantation. But even that is questionable, since more than half of created embryos fails to implant in the endometrial lining during development

and subsequently dies. George responded to this point by arguing that, "if you have a complete organism that is capable of directing its own intra-organic functioning, the fact that it needs to be supplied with nutrition and a decent environment doesn't make it something other than what it already is." In other words,

implantation in the endometrium or an artificial womb is a necessary, but not sufficient (as miscarriages demonstrate), condition for an embryo to develop into a mature human being, and its special needs do not make an embryo any less of a human organism.

In holding that life begins at conception, is George a blind follower of doctrine, as Silver suggests? When I asked him for

*The main contention between the two thinkers is an argument over when the life of a human organism begins.*



evidence to support his claim, George told me that he had in fact reached his position from revelation...of embryology textbooks. One passage he referenced from Ronan O'Rahilly and Fabiola Mueller's *Human Embryology and Teratology* states that at fertilization, "a new, genetically distinct human organism is formed when the chromosomes of the male and female pronuclei blend in the oocyte." George provided me with two similar quotes from independent, prominent embryology texts and offered even more evidence, also adding that to his knowledge no leading literature in human development contradicts the notion that an embryo is a new, distinct human organism. The mention of this drew sharp criticism from Silver, who countered:

A good scientist never accepts an "argument from authority" as proof of anything. Many more practicing embryologists disagree than agree with Professor George's claims...What are the actual molecules, or physical structures, or combination thereof that distinguish entities that Professor George calls "human organisms" from all other living entities with diploid human genomes? As far as I can tell, Professor George has never provided an answer to this question. \*

Silver has a convincing point: Despite wielding what some might see as conclusive evidence, for example, differentiating between embryos, stem cells, somatic cells, gametes, and other human cells, George does not attempt to scientifically validate his definition through a falsifiable experiment. He even acknowledges that "if you have doubts, the doubts must be resolved in the favor of the likelihood that the entity is a human being and therefore you shouldn't take the moral hazard of destructive experimentation." To many an observer, such as Silver, this response appears more like Pascal's wager than a scientific argument.



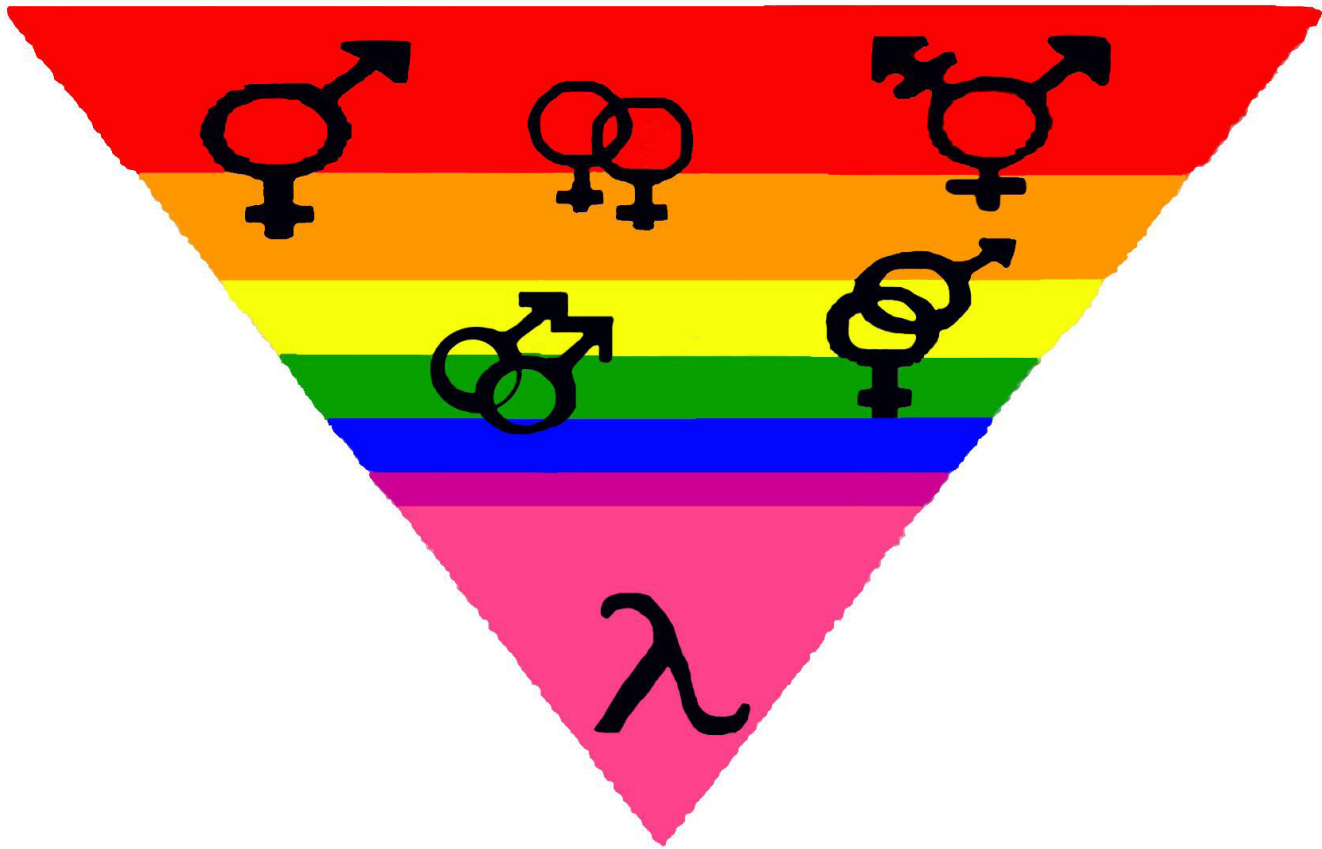
*Does the phrase "the sanctity of life" have a purely religious connotation?*

has no basis in science at all, and, stripped bare, relies entirely on the same reasoning George utilizes to defend embryos, namely that both the baby and embryo are in the active process of developing into a mature, rational human being, and thus we should treat them with the respect an adult human being deserves.

Having interviewed both Professors Silver and George, the ethics of embryos now seems much less complicated. Its simplicity can be condensed into one question: Is a human organism at a later stage of development morally superior to one at an earlier stage? Both Silver and George answer this question through distinct philosophical approaches, not through totally sound scientific reasoning nor—as Silver accuses George—through adherence to religious ideology. Perhaps by answering this question as a society we may someday resolve the issues of abortion and destructive embryonic research. ¶

*\* Professors Silver and George's full responses to my questions can be viewed on the Tory website, [www.princeton.edu/~tory](http://www.princeton.edu/~tory).*

Aaron Smargon is a freshman and prospective Molecular Biology major. His non-academic interests include taekwondo, reading, freedom, fighting terrorists, and 'Merica.



# “QUEERING” THE LGBT LINE

## INTERNAL HYPOCRISY WITHIN THE LGBT CENTER

*Robert Day '10*

It is a conundrum that faces all organizations representing a specific, yet heterogeneous minority group: how to accurately represent the identity and aspirations of a group that is, in itself, diverse? This is a challenge from which the LGBT Center, particularly as a university sponsored organization (and one whose development and progress our president has made a top priority), is not exempt.

The LGBT Center's mission statement suggests that the organization is facing this problem directly, boldly pronouncing its goal to “[create] an open and affirming environment void of homophobia, heterosexism, and gender bias.” The repetition of key words like “support,” “safety” and “community” cement an image of an organization that wishes to create an environment where everyone feels comfortable, no matter one's gender or orientation.

Though I am not persuaded of the legitimacy of this cause, which seems to consider personal comfort and universal inclusiveness as some sort of fundamental moral right,

it is certainly within the LGBT Center's right to define its purpose however it wishes. Yet with this right comes the responsibility of maintaining the standard it sets for itself, and an organization that fails to do so should always be held accountable. The testimony and experiences of students within Princeton's gay community indicate that the Center is not meeting this responsibility, that this organization, constructed around the promotion of acceptance, is in fact alienating many gay students on campus.

Consider the accounts of two separate gay students, one now a senior (we'll call him Todd) and the other a sophomore (we'll call him John) about their introduction to University-sponsored LGBT organizations, the old LGBT Student Services in Todd's case and the modern LGBT Center in John's. For both students, the Freshman Week RCA group meeting hosted by the Peer Educators created an extremely uncomfortable environment. A presentation was made in both instances by “representatives” of the gay com-

munity, who shared their own “stories” either as gay students or allies. They encouraged the students to be supportive of their gay friends, who might be dealing with certain emotional burdens.

From John’s perspective, the presentations created an atmosphere in which he felt very uneasy. The emphasis of the representatives on the importance of showing outward displays of support caused John to feel that those who did not speak up in the discourse were “non-supporters.”

Though he felt obligated to say something in the discussion group, at the same time, John was also embarrassed to bring up his sexual orientation. He felt uncomfortable with the prospect of auto-

matically being treated as a “survivor” because of his sexual orientation, an aspect of his identity that he did not think deserved special treatment. Not wanting to be associated with this identity of victimization, John actively decided not to reveal to the group his sexual orientation.

Todd was particularly perturbed by the representatives’ recommendation that students actively find out if their roommates were gay. After the Peer Educator presentation, Todd’s roommates followed instructions by asking everyone in their quad if they were gay; Todd, startled by the question, was not ready to come out to his roommates, so he denied being gay, something that he hadn’t done in years.

Both of these students considered themselves very open

and comfortable with their sexuality at the time, and yet both avoided divulging their orientation for no other reason than uneasiness directly caused by the LGBT Peer Educators.

One would think that the LGBT Center, in its mission to promote “support” and “community,” would be sure to adjust its own representation of homosexuality so as to be more inclusive of those who find it personally problematic

and generally unproductive. And yet, even when these students voice their differences, their requests for inclusion go largely ignored.

Todd was so disheartened by his experience that he decided to get involved with the LGBT

Peer Education program himself, hoping to improve it. His differences in opinion were immediately met with resistance during the program’s training session. In one exercise, he asked his fellow “trainees” to not use the word “queer” for the remainder of the orientation, because the word was highly offensive to him. His fellow students rejected his proposal outright, thereby ignoring the purpose of the exercise, which was to accept people’s requests as a means of creating a supportive environment. Instead of feeling like a part of a reassuring community, Todd felt like a distinct minority.

Todd’s and John’s feelings are far from unique. As a Peer Educator, for example, Todd found himself interacting with

*He felt uncomfortable with the prospect of automatically being treated as a “survivor” because of his sexual orientation.*



## Angry? Frustrated?

**Tell us what you’re  
thinking...**

Send the *Tory* an e-mail at [tory@princeton.edu](mailto:tory@princeton.edu).  
We’ll run your letter unaltered in the next issue.



many freshmen who shared a similar sense of estrangement from the LGBT Student Services' victim-based portrayal of homosexuality. Indeed a number of freshmen told him that they felt more comfortable talking to him than to other representatives of the LGBT Student Services who imposed a singular image of what it meant to be gay at Princeton.

The LGBT Center's presentation of itself and of the community it supports is one that is largely rooted in the history and ideology of the modern Gay Rights Movement. One of the major focuses of the movement is the idea of "gay pride" and with it, the emphasis for gay people always to feel free and comfortable to express their sexual identities as freely as they want.

This historical emphasis on "gay pride" activism manifests itself in the Princeton LGBT Center's appearance and message. From the existence of the colorfully decorated "Rainbow Lounge," to the Center-sponsored lectures with

such titles as "Gay Men + Sex = ?", it is clear that the LGBT Center has committed itself to the fullest expression of "queer" sexual orientation.

There are a large number of gay students who disagree with and try to disassociate themselves from this image

of the LGBT community, one that is dominated by an emphasis on its differences from the community at large, the embracing and exploiting of those differences and the related ideology of victimization. They are unconvinced by the justification that these images have roots in the history of the "movement." Some believe that using symbols from a previous generation's

activism is artificial and thus cannot relate to them. Others believe that the Center's propagated image and motivation is simply counterproductive. They argue that the historic emphasis on activism – not simply political and social, but very personal activism – creates an unnecessary "us vs. them" mentality, by which students are forced to make blanket

*The "us vs. them" ideological fervor of the Center erects an unnecessary fence between the LGBT community and the campus at large.*

**YES!** I want to help *The Princeton Tory* keep conservatism strong at Princeton. I am enclosing my tax-deductible contribution for:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

# HELP!

We cannot continue to spread the conservative message without your financial support. The magazine receives **no funding from the University**, so we rely on you.

Remember, a gift of \$25 or more gets you a year's subscription to *The Princeton Tory*, and a gift of \$500 or more gets you a lifetime subscription. *Thank you!*

Mail to:  
The Princeton Tory  
P.O. Box 1499  
Princeton, NJ 08542

assessments about large groups within the student body based on their sexual orientation.

Forcing such generalizations has had several results that would seem counterproductive to the LGBT Center's aims.

According to many gay students, this emphasis on gay identity, which

is supposed to be part of a support

structure, ends up only making people who are conflicted about their sexuality less self-assured about confronting their struggle to find their true selves. These students argue that the Center's ideology forces people to make collective judgments about gay students as a primary assessment of character, rather than making such judgments based on individual personalities. Furthermore, placing so much import on sexual orientation within one's complete identity can be uncomfortable and off-putting for students of all gender and sexual identities.

In some ways, it is hard to see how the LGBT Center could show such apathy to the concerns of those students who exist within the purview of its mission statement, yet who are highly uncomfortable with its image. For example, despite the fact that many gay students find the word "queer" to be personally insulting, eight of approximately 28 LGBT Center-sponsored events this past semester contained the word in their titles. As a point of comparison, imagine the uproar that would result if the NAACP began hosting events that used the n-word in its title. By virtue of the fact that there are people in the gay community who find the word so offensive, the LGBT Center should be showing some consideration to this concern. Rather, the Center prioritizes the historic language of the "movement" over the sentiments of its constituents.

Why have these students who take such offense or feel so alienated not been more forthcoming in protest? It is in answering this question that we come to the most pernicious aspect of the segregation occurring within the Princeton LGBT community. The "us vs. them" ideological fervor of



*Shirley Tilghman speaking at the founding of the LGBT center, October 2006.*

the Center does not just erect an unnecessary fence between the LGBT community and the campus at large, but it is now extended to within the community itself. Those who are not in lock-step with the image of sexuality advocated by the Center find themselves on the other side of this fence from many

others within the LGBT

community and from the support which they seek. Indeed some of the students I interviewed have experienced rather offensive personal attacks by fellow gay students, who use terms such as "self-hater" and even "homophobe" in trying to convince them that they are giving into a societal, "heteronormative" outlook merely because of the fact that they are not in full communion with the LGBT Center's viewpoint.

Thus, within the LGBT community there is an unrealized, yet very real bias and discrimination against those who disagree with the conception of gay identity propagated by the LGBT Center. It suggests that within the gay community itself, there are lines being drawn in the sand. It is simply unacceptable that gay students feel alienated, unheard and attacked for their sense of identity by the organization that ostensibly seeks to nurture and defend them. If the Center wishes to remain consistent with its mission statement, it ought to examine and rectify its own hypocrisy. **P**

Robert Day '10 is a philosophy major from Philadelphia, PA.

# THE CAPITALIST APPROACH

## FIGHTING GLOBAL WARMING THROUGH THE FREE MARKET

Johnny Love '09

The debate over climate change has recently shifted from a discussion of its existence to a discussion of the kind of role the government should play in mitigating its effects. As a conservative with libertarian tendencies, I prefer that the government stay out of my life as much as possible. The state undoubtedly has certain legitimate roles to play; but combating the effects of global warming is not one of these roles. It should instead be left up to the free market to battle the consequences the world might face.

Politicians and environmental activists have proposed a number of solutions to the global warming crisis, ranging from taxing carbon emissions to outlawing the most polluting fuels. The Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to reduce carbon emission levels to 1990 levels, is the most famous international attempt to avert the potential consequences of climate change. The United States has been criticized at home and abroad for its refusal to sign this agreement, but this decision was most certainly wise.

Economic analyses, such as those conducted by the US Department of Energy and independent economists, indicate that American compliance with the Kyoto Protocol would result in soaring energy costs, lower wages, and a reduction

in economic growth. Supporters of Kyoto and other “environmentally conscious” policies argue that despite these economic consequences, their favored proposals will prevent even more disastrous long-term effects. This forces us to ask, however, what specific results will flow from inaction and how much action can really

*Let the free market, through pressure by environmentally conscious consumers, deal with the current crisis.*

be taken to mitigate these results. While a majority of scientists may agree on global warming’s existence, its preventability remains uncertain.

Even if we assume that the effects of climate change can be significantly mitigated, state intervention nevertheless makes little sense. Agreements like Kyoto, for example, only have any sort of benefit if nations honor their commitments. As of right now, only a few signatory nations are on track to meet Kyoto’s standards. Why should the United States sign onto such an ineffectual agreement?

Perhaps, some suggest, other, more effective forms of government intervention are possible. The Copenhagen Consensus project, headed by a panel of economists (some of

whom are Nobel Prize winners), has studied some of these proposed policies and concluded that none of these policies promise benefits outweighing their very high costs. Those who doubt the Copenhagen Consensus’ projections can find evidence for its legitimacy here in the United States. Congress’ decision to increase the mandatory amount of biofuels used in gasoline provides a real-life example of the failures of the state. Food prices are now climbing at extraordinary rates, people around the world are facing a food shortage, and recent studies have found that the use of biofuels will cause

increased greenhouse gas emissions over the next few decades. Congress’ decision has had significant and unanticipated consequences in both the environment and the global economy.

But who else, some ask, will take action? The answer is simple: the free market. Let the free market, through pressure by environmentally conscious consumers, deal with the current crisis. The power of capitalist innovation can already be seen in such phenomena as hybrid cars, whose popularity continues to grow. Compact fluorescent light bulbs are another example of the virtues of the market: while individual bulbs cost slightly more than regular incandescent light bulbs, these new bulbs last longer, use less



electricity, and will save a great deal of money in the long term. Ingenuity sparked by the profit motive and driven by green consumer pressure will continue to drive the invention of products which not only help reduce carbon emissions but also result in economic growth and prosperity.

Critics of the free market solution claim that such action won't happen fast enough and that action is needed now. Do they really think that the government will act any faster? There's no denying that it will take time for the free market to have a wide range of environmentally products that are widespread enough to make a positive impact, but the government would be lucky to do half as much good in twice the amount of time. Even when there is a major impetus such as a devastating depression or wide-scale protests, the government is lucky to get something substantial done within a decade. However, when it is possible to make a profit through the free market, investors and entrepreneurs become motivated to earn that profit as quickly as possible. While it has its flaws and inefficiencies, the free market is the most effective way to combat the effects of global warming. **P**

Johnny Love is a junior from Baton Rouge, LA. He is majoring in ORFE and enjoys flying kites, swing dancing, and playing marbles in his free time.

# A MATTER OF PRUDENCE

*Joel Alicea '10*

**T**oo often when science is the basis for a policy decision it is easy to lose sight of the different realities the scientist and policymaker are operating in. While both make judgments that require prudence, the definition of prudence differs between the two roles. A scientist's mission is to seek certainty in his endeavor, and this requires the discernment to see when a sufficient level of evidence has been compiled to achieve that end. The case is different with a policymaker whose occupation often demands action in the face of uncertainty. Thus, while prudence on the part of the scientist demands that he await conclusive evidence before making a decision on whether an idea is valid, prudence compels the policymaker to act on the information available for the good of society.

As regards global warming, it is important to separate the two questions and roles. One question would be whether the evidence proves that mankind and greenhouse gases are the cause of the warming trend we are seeing as a scientific matter, while the other would ask whether policymakers should act against global warming under the assumption that mankind is causing the warming. I will lay aside the former and deal only with the latter as I believe the sci-

ence is far from conclusive. However, it would be the pinnacle of irresponsibility to await decisive evidence of anthropogenic climate change before taking aggressive action to mitigate and prevent its potential results.

Whatever one's particular view of global warming science may be, it is undeniable that should the forecasts of many credible and sincere scientists prove accurate and mankind does nothing in the interim to change the climate dynamics the results could be nothing short of disastrous economically, politically, and as a humanitarian matter. Severe droughts, rising sea levels, and population dislocation are just a few of the nightmare scenarios that are possible. While it is equally indisputable that many of the dire predictions made by environmental activists are gross exaggerations and extremely remote, no responsible policymaker can ignore the very real possibility that the more moderate but equally disturbing forecasts



might prove accurate.

Many conservatives dispute this assertion and claim that it would be reckless to proceed with the drastic steps necessary to combat global warming until scientists have proven that mankind is the cause of it and that we are capable of stopping it. To do otherwise would be to risk unnecessary economic or other ruin, the argument goes. Laying aside the fact that numerous studies have found that the transition to a cleaner and non-carbon-based economy would actually be economically beneficial to the United States, most conservatives simply make the mistake of confusing the policymaking role with that of the scientist. If we begin taking steps to reduce carbon emissions and move away from fossil fuels now, we will be able to transition into a more environmentally-friendly economy over the course of several decades. Conversely, if we ignore the warnings of future warming and the predictions turn out to be correct, we will be forced to take drastic and economically devastating measures to attempt to make up for lost time (though the idea of “making up” for non-action would actually be close to impossible due to the fact that CO<sub>2</sub> is very stable and the carbon we would have pumped into the atmosphere in the preceding years would continue to warm the climate even after draconian measures were taken). In light of the potentially disastrous consequences of not taking action to stop the warming trend, governments must take preventative measures to ensure that such grave predictions never have an opportunity to be empirically proven.

The case of the avian flu furnishes a good example of the policymaker’s reality as opposed to that of the sci-

entist. In 2004 and 2005, when bird flu set off a flurry of panicked media reports about the potential for a human pandemic, many scientists attempted to calm the public by insisting that reports of a potential pandemic were overblown and that it was far from certain that the avian flu would

*Policymakers cannot wait for the smoking gun before responding to prevent what might be a calamitous event.*

mutate into a form easily transmissible between humans. Nonetheless, policymakers sprung into action by appropriating billions of dollars toward a program to prepare for a future epidemic of bird flu. It may be that this strain of flu never mutates into a form that would pose a risk to humans, but would any responsible conservative contend that the money allocated to preparing and preventing a potentially horrific pandemic was wasted? The fact that the evidence of a future pandemic is by no means convincing does not free policymakers from the serious consequences of such a catastrophe occurring. Policymakers, as in all situations, cannot wait for the smoking gun before responding to prevent what might be a calamitous event.

Another pertinent example can be seen with Iraq. Many of the same conservatives who staunchly oppose government action to combat global warming argued in 2002 that the United States could not wait for irrefutable evidence of Iraqi possession of weapons of mass destruction and the intention to deliver them to terrorists.

Conservatives correctly argued that it would have been irresponsible for policymakers to keep the Iraqi regime in place when a great deal of both circumstantial and concrete evidence pointed to a real and growing threat to our nation’s security. Many conservatives use the same arguments today in regard to

Iran and the need to take action to prevent Iranian development of a nuclear weapon. Yet when the issue at hand changes to one based on science most conservatives demand a much higher burden of proof—that required of scientists themselves. But as the above examples illustrate, a policymaker does not have the luxury of waiting for conclusive evidence when a great deal of research suggests that dire consequences could result from delay.

Despite what many liberal commentators may say, the scientific debate on whether current climate change is a result of human activity is far from over. However, as a policy matter, conservatives should exercise the same prudence that underlied our decision to support preventative action in regard to the avian flu and Iraq. The government must take aggressive measures to stave off what could be a catastrophe unlike anything human civilization has yet experienced. What those measures may be and how to go about implementing these changes so as to preserve our economic vitality is a separate debate where I am certain most conservatives (myself included) will strongly disagree with our liberal counterparts. But the time for action is now; prudence demands it, and our future depends on it. **P**

Joel is a Politics concentrator and the current Publisher of the *Tory*.

# THE SUBTEXT OF SPEECH

## RHETORIC AND POLITICAL DISCOURSE

*Sherif Girgis '08*

Throughout this endless campaign cycle, conservatives have joined an increasingly shrill Hillary Clinton in denouncing Obama for offering “mere rhetoric.” As it happens, I think that the man would make a mild disaster of a president, but I can’t agree with this criticism as stated. Blaming a speaker for focusing on rhetoric is like blaming a painter for using color. You may blame him for making his colors too bright or blurred, too dark or discordant; for using them to jar or to hypnotize rather than attract or evoke. But not for using them. That is a categorical mistake.

Of course, in this case the claim is that Obama’s campaign is all rhetoric and no substance, but that hardly seems possible. To be sure some statements are literally nonsense, and a phrase like “It’s right by the Starbucks” might be close to meaningless if uttered in Manhattan, but eagerness to call rhetoric empty can quickly devolve into a mere mistrust of words. And that is something that conservatives cannot countenance.

Consider George Will’s memorable syllogism: “Without Bill Buckley, no *National Review*. Without *National Review*, no Goldwater nomination. Without the Goldwater nomination, no conservative takeover of the Republican Party. Without that, no Reagan. Without Reagan, no victory in the Cold War. Therefore, Bill Buckley won the Cold War.” And we may extend Will’s logic to say that Buckley—whose sometimes periphrastic excogitations in dithyrambic essays would use words like these even without tergiversation—won the Cold War *with words*.

Appropriately enough, two days before Buckley’s memorial mass, the world remembered another non-politician

credited with bringing down Communism—indeed, whose words Gorbachev once called indispensable to its collapse. It is no stretch to say that John Paul II’s historic homily in Warsaw’s Victory Square in June 1979 stirred the Polish people to a peaceful revolution that brought freedom to his beloved homeland. His weapons were words: “It is not possible to understand the history of the Polish nation without Christ.”



Obama, at the “Worst. Debate. Ever.” which focused on his rhetoric.

Of course, as John Paul saw it, his weapon was *the Word*. Thus it is no accident that he, like Buckley, believed that words could move what too many conservatives had considered immovable mountains. For as Catholics, they both believed that in the limiting case some words literally effect the realities that they signify—“Let there be light” or “This is my body;”—and that the whole cosmos was

redeemed by a Word that took flesh. When he was young, and before deciding to preach that Word to the world as a Catholic priest, the teenage polyglot Karol Wojtyła had considered becoming a philologist—etymologically, a lover of words. The God he worshipped had admonished against living by the sword but enjoined living by the word: “He who hears my words and obeys them...”

So April brought commemorations of two men who won the greatest 20th century battle against the ugliest leftist ideology with words. But what has all this to do with 21st century battles against more benign leftists, at the national or campus levels?

If Obama sins by the word then it is not by using words, nor by using meaningless ones, but by using for manipulation the subrational impression that their meaning makes, to make his audience accept the unreasonable. Persuasion is



the very human art of convincing on the basis of the right reasons, these being perhaps vivified and made central to the audience's awareness by the emotional punch their meaning packs. Manipulation is the cold calculation of convincing by using the same emotional punch to *obscure* the right reasons or shift focus to the wrong or irrelevant ones. It is not the use of emotions but their being un-integrated with reasons that constitutes the abuse of rhetoric.

So the charge of "rhetoric" or "mere words" won't do. Of course, conservatives are not the only ones to use it. Obama himself flip-flops as seems convenient. On the one hand, he famously used someone else's words to remind us how much words counted: "Tell me words don't matter! 'I have a dream'—just words? 'We hold these truths to be self-evident...'—just words?"

But when Obama was given his harshest treatment—and hit his all-time performance low—in an ABC debate in Pennsylvania, he denounced the moderators' focus on his verbal gaffes as ugly examples of what's wrong with Washington. Liberal outlets joined in, with the *Huffington Post* calling it "Worst. Debate. Ever" and others accusing former Clinton staffer George Stephonopoulos of being a right-wing hack. Now the words on which the debate's moderators focused—Clinton's lies about gunfire on Bosnian tarmacs, Obama's disdainful psychoanalysis of Middle America—are meaningful. They may be irrelevant to reasons for or against electing the candidates who spoke them, but they cannot be irrelevant *as such*.

But in the realm of politics there is no lying, only "misspeaking;" and there are no revealing remarks, only "gaffes"—which, as *gaffe's* etymological meaning ("hook") suggests, enter into people's mouths rather than issuing from them. Against these evasions of the meaningfulness of words resonate the words of the Word whom Buckley and John Paul worshipped: "It is not what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth..."

But the "just words" charge hits much closer to home. On campus the issue became salient most recently with a *Prince* op-ed on sex that Shivani Radhakrishnan wrote on behalf of the Anscombe Society. The substance of her piece paralleled nicely my point about the difference between using emotions in persuasion and in manipulation: the ecstasy of sexual pleasure loses its eloquence, and degenerates into

selfish use, when it is sought un-integrated with reason—sought outside the permanent friendship of marriage, that good which alone renders making love *reasonable* rather than instrumentalizing.

But it was the reaction to her op-ed that clarified the importance of words. The few good-faith critiques that followed in the comments online were aimed largely at straw arguments because they mistook the meanings of such phrases in Radhakrishnan's argument as "the pursuit of mere pleasure" and "instrumentalization." Of course, the less careful but more common contributors charged her with using "mere words," "empty rhetoric."

What the reaction suggests is that the work of most groups on campus focused on moral and political causes must, if they want to be effective, include the arduous search for words whose meanings the modern mind readily

*Manipulation is the cold calculation of convincing by using the same emotional punch to obscure the right reason or shift focus to the wrong or irrelevant ones.*

grasps. But if words are the currency of university transactions, then magazines like this one must serve as a mint, where students choose and test and perfect the phrases that translate, for example, the 23-century natural-law tradition on which Radhakrishnan was drawing into a less mistakeable modern idiom, or expose the obscuring language of "pro-choice" (choice for *what?*) advocates and candidates "for change" (from *what?* to *what?*) whose rallying cry is an incomplete conjugation of a modal verb with no complement ("yes, we can" *do what?*).

Slipping now into self-conscious meta-commentary, let me apologize if this column has been too didactic. But if experience is any guide, didacticism is proper to valedictions. And this is a valediction. The *Tory* has kindly asked this writer—who has no policy proposals or computer programs to show for his four years, no new knowledge of the human anatomy, differential calculus, or Maoist China—to share rather for the last time publicly the only thing he knows how to offer a campus he will dearly miss: his words. **P**

Sherif Girgis '08 is a philosophy major from Dover, Del. and the Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of the *Tory*.

# “NEVER FORGET”

BY CORNEL WEST

“Might not be at the back of the bus, but it sure feel just the same.”  
- “Dear Mr. Man,” Track 4

Stefan McDaniel ‘08

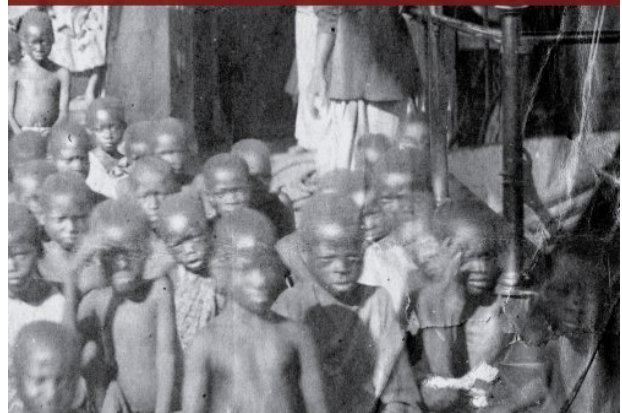
If you have something serious to say, the usual medium is argumentative prose. Anyone taking a different approach has to show that he is making significant use of expressive resources that argumentative prose lacks. “Dulce et Decorum Est,” for instance, arguably did something that a pacifist pamphlet could not. But Dr. Cornel West’s collaboration album *Never Forget: A Journey of Revelations* gives the listener diluted versions of already weak ideas with no real compensation in the way of expressive power.

Considered purely as a work of art, the album is too long and plagued by sterile formalism. Production values are fairly high, but each song is, at best, a textbook example of its species, without inspiration, without surprises. The aggressive hip-hop “protest” songs that are the heart of the album are all conventional. The best two are “Bushanomics,” in which Talib Kweli churns out a typically competent if intellectually unremarkable performance, and “Welcome 2 the Chi,” which is pleasingly bouncy, perhaps even danceable. The worst, “Mr. President,” can best be described as an exercise in cacophonous, pseudo-musical badgering. There is also a standard song of faith and endurance (“Still Here”), an unctuous hymn to Strong Black Women™ (“Soul Sista”), a bizarre little song with Andre 3000 from Outkast which lasts just long enough to become annoying (“Chronometro-phobia”) and an energetic but aurally cluttered Jill Scott song (“What Time Is It”).

Dr. West’s previous album contained a high proportion of discursive prose to music, but on *Never Forget* there are only two sustained examples of thinking, neither of which is especially insightful. There is a four-minute song in which he draws a (to my mind) strained analogy between the historical black experience and America after 9/11 (“911”), and a ten-minute exercise in mutual adoration between him and Michael Eric Dyson (“The N-Word”), wherein they discuss, well, the N-word.

## CORNEL WEST & BMWB

Never Forget: A Journey of Revelations



We might forgive Dr. West and his collaborators for being musically and intellectual banal if they were merely speaking a boring truth the usual boring ways. But I am positively troubled by the world-view implied by the rhetoric. It is the dead and irrelevant language of the civil-rights movement at its most strident. This album’s creators have not found a new way of speaking, much less a new way of thinking, to fit the reality of post-Jim Crow America. They seem to believe that a cadre of malevolent racists and plutocrats is behind all real and imagined troubles in the black community, and they continue to encourage some sort of vague “revolution” to remedy it. Perhaps the best example of this is “Mr. Man,” which treats the listener to the supremely offensive spectacle of hearing Prince, a multimillionaire celebrity, sing the line quoted at the beginning of this review.

I have read none of Dr. West’s books, so I will not abuse him in ignorance. His name is a punchline in some conservative circles, but too many intelligent people respect him as a man and as a thinker for me to dismiss him as a lightweight. But I must criticize his diffusion of this sort of unhelpful material under his scholarly imprimatur. This album does not inspire thoughtfulness, but only bitterness and cocky defiance. Is it not possible to bolster the self-esteem and dignity on which Dr. West rightly insists without encouraging this easy, formless outrage, this thinking-with-adjectives? Are loud left-wing truisms all his pragmatism has to offer this perplexed and restless nation? **P**

Stefan McDaniel is a Senior in the Religion Department.



# In Memoriam

Starting with this issue and for the foreseeable future, the *Tory* will list the names of those valiant soldiers who have given their lives in the service of their country since the publication of the last issue. We do not intend for this to be partisan or seen as promoting or protesting any particular policy. Rather, we simply believe that every Princetonian should take time to read the names and reflect on the unimaginable sacrifices of our troops and their families. We should never forget that but for these noble souls we at Princeton would not be able to enjoy the privilege of receiving an outstanding education, nor would we have the leisure to enjoy all the freedoms we take for granted.

NAME/RANK	DATE	CAUSE OF DEATH
Staff Sgt. Travis L. Griffin	April 3, 2008	IED
Sgt. Nicholas A. Robertson	April 3, 2008	Hostile Fire
Pfc. Shane D. Penley	April 6, 2008	Hostile Fire
Spec. Matthew T. Morris	April 6, 2008	IED
Capt. Ulises Burgos-Cruz	April 6, 2008	IED
Staff Sgt. Emanuel Pickett	April 6, 2008	Hostile Fire
Maj. Stuart A. Wolfer	April 6, 2008	Hostile Fire
Col. Stephen K. Scott	April 6, 2008	Hostile Fire
Staff Sgt. Jeremiah E. McNeal	April 6, 2008	IED
Sgt. Michael T. Lilly	April 7, 2008	Hostile Fire
Spec. Jason Kazarick	April 7, 2008	Hostile Fire
Sgt. Richard A. Vaughn	April 7, 2008	Hostile Fire
Sgt. Timothy M. Smith	April 7, 2008	IED
Maj. Mark E. Rosenberg	April 8, 2008	IED
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey L. Hartley	April 8, 2008	IED
Spec. Jacob J. Fairbanks	April 9, 2008	Currently Unknown
Sgt. Jesse A. Ault	April 9, 2008	IED
Sgt. Shaun P. Tousha	April 9, 2008	IED
Tech. Sgt. Anthony L. Capra	April 9, 2008	IED
Spec. Jeremiah C. Hughes	April 9, 2008	Currently Unknown
Spec. William E. Allmon	April 12, 2008	IED
Lance Cpl. Dean D. Opicka	April 14, 2008	Hostile Fire
Cpl. Richard J. Nelson	April 14, 2008	Hostile Fire
Sgt. Joseph A. Richard III	April 14, 2008	IED
Spec. Arturo Huerta-Cruz	April 14, 2008	IED
Cpl. Kyle W. Wilks	April 15, 2008	Hostile Fire
1st Sgt. Luke J. Mercandante	April 15, 2008	Hostile Fire
Staff Sgt. Jason L. Brown	April 17, 2008	Hostile Fire
Spec. Benjamin K. Brosh	April 18, 2008	IED
Spec. Lance O. Eakes	April 18, 2008	IED
Petty Officer 1st Class Cherie L. Morton	April 20, 2008	Currently Unknown
Sgt. Adam J. Kohlhaas	April 21, 2008	IED
Spec. Steven J. Christofferson	April 21, 2008	IED
1st Lt. Matthew R. Vandergrift	April 21, 2008	Hostile Fire
Airman Apprentice Adrian M. Campos	April 21, 2008	Non-Combat Related Incident
Cpl. Jonathan T. Yale	April 22, 2008	Hostile Fire
Lance Cpl. Jordan Haerter	April 22, 2008	Hostile Fire
Pvt. Ronald R. Harrison	April 22, 2008	Currently Unknown
Sgt. Guadalupe Cervantes Ramirez	April 23, 2008	Non-Combat Related Incident
1st Lt. Timothy W. Cunningham	April 23, 2008	Non-Combat Related Incident
Pfc. John T. Bishop	April 23, 2008	Non-Combat Related Incident
Staff Sgt. Shaun J. Whitehead	April 24, 2008	IED
Pfc. William T. Dix	April 27, 2008	Currently Unknown
Sgt. Mark A. Stone	April 28, 2008	Hostile Fire
Sgt. Marcus C. Mathes	April 28, 2008	Hostile Fire
Pfc. Adam L. Marion	April 28, 2008	Hostile Fire
Staff Sgt. Bryan E. Bolander	April 29, 2008	IED
Staff Sgt. Clay A. Craig	April 29, 2008	Hostile Fire