



EXAMINING GENDER EQUALITY

How rampant is gender inequality on our campus?



DEBBIE PINTO

Looking at the world today, gender inequality is at the forefront of an all out equality war. The Free The Nipple Campaign "is an equality movement . . . The issues we're addressing are equal rights for men and women, a more balanced system of censorship, and legal rights for all women to breastfeed in public." According to the HeforShe campaign website, "HeForShe is a solidarity movement for gender equality that brings together one half of humanity in support of the other half of humanity, for the benefit of all." Emma Watson and Miley Cyrus are two celebrities who are very vocal about the issue. Gender equality is a hot topic on a global scale, but what about right here on our campus?

Union College stands firm on its values. According to our website,

our core values consist of learning, discipleship, service, mentoring, diversity, community, and stewardship. Union's statement of diversity says, "Diversity enriches campus life. We create cordiality of discourse, encourage respect for differences, promote inclusiveness, and welcome diversity among employees, students and leaders."

The 2014-2015 school year has been one of firsts. Vinita Sauder has been the first woman to be inaugurated as President of Union College and campus security hired its first female security guard. Looking at Union College faculty and staff, there are about 3 women to every 2 men. School leadership positions fare well with equal opportunity, as club presidents consist of both male and female leaders. Business,

psychology, and music club have male presidents and ASB, Amnesty/Tiny Hands International, and social work club have female presidents. Union employment wages are equal across the board and sports work to reach out to both genders by including a girls and boys basketball team and several co-ed intramurals.

The Clocktower sent out a survey asking the student body if they believed gender equality is an issue on our campus. Of those who responded, 28% said they believed there was while 72% said there was not. Those who disagreed that there is gender inequality cited having a woman on the security team, stricter rules in the women's dorm, jewelry being allowed for both women and men alike, and co-ed sports opportunities.

Senior English major Sarah Ventura says, "Our campus is doing so many things right and I'm thankful for it. That being said there is gender inequality on this campus. However it's mostly subversive. It's in the way that we think, speak, and assume." Some of her examples included how the majority of our secretary positions consist of women and how common phrases such as "you're such a girl" have been integrated into college culture.

Inonge Kasaji, senior social work major agreed by saying, "Yes there is [gender inequality], but it's not blatant. In a lot of ways we are advanced, such as having women in leadership positions, but it's the small stuff. For example there are more men than women on the Board of Trustees committee." She also mentioned how "it's more people based" and how biases come from our perception of women in leadership roles.

Makenzy Jean, senior theology major stated, "There is acceptance on campus, but once a woman is in power, they're seen differently. Woman have to change who they are as a leader to gain the respect of men who think they shouldn't be in leadership. Although we do have women in leadership roles, we still value them [as] less than they are. But our campus does a good job with being open minded about integrating woman in and

respecting them for their leadership qualities."

Ryan Millsap, sophomore theology major, would disagree. "Never have I seen or heard anything that might suggest there is an issue. There are an incredible amount of women that lead. We don't really have any sort of barrier when it comes to what men can do that women can't."

Perspectives vary across the board for students. In the end, we're left asking what more could admin-



istration do to promote equality?

Do we find more equality issues within student or administration

culture? Is there a gender equality

issue on campus? These questions

are the kind we as a commu-

nity answer every day, whether

attend and we can make Union

a platform for diversity. We must

all make the decision to stand by our core values and allow everyone an equal opportunity on all

Debbie is a junior elementary education major.

consciously or unconsciously. We decide what kind of college we

EQUALITY IS FOR FVFRYONF

Addressing society's harmful stereotypes

NAOMI PRASAD

All over the world, women and men are demanding equal rights. #YesAllWomen, #HeforShe, and #Feminisation are just a few hashtags that, when tagged along with quotes about gender roles and inequalities, has helped the topics spread through media like

wild fire.

levels.

At the forefront of the discussion is feminism.

Junior theology major Jessyka Albert defines feminism by saying, "it isn't placing women above

men but being proud of who you are as a women."

Senior elementary education major Kelli Vigil laughed for a few seconds before responding, "being female and proud of it."

David Kabanje defines feminism as, "Being beautiful, being respected, for the qualities that come from the heart or from the inner self."

Merriam Webster defines feminism as "the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities." So feminism

David Kabanje defines feminism as, "Being beautiful, being respected, for the qualities that come from the heart or from the inner self."

isn't just about women but about men as well. Gender equality discussions need to involve both



males and females.

One way to do this is by addressing harmful stereotypes and behaviors that society encourages for both males and females. Two of these stereotypes are an emotional female and stoic male. When asked if he feels like he needs to suppress his emotion Daniel Ikpeama sophomore music major Daniel Ikpeama responds, "It is definitely the norm to do so." Society encourages men to hide their emotions as a way of proving their masculinity from young ages.

Females who are abused are often described as "battered," but

Addressing gender inequalities means discussing harmful gender roles and stereotypes for both males and females.

women are not the only ones getting beat around. Safe Horizon did a study and found that "Men are victims of nearly 3 million physical assaults in the USA."

Batteredmen.com has hundreds of stories of men who are abused by their significant others. For example, the website shares the story of a man who came home drunk and fell asleep. He woke up to to his wife beating him with an iron skillet which resulted to him going to the hospital to get stitches. Although the police had taken him there, no charges were filed against his wife. Raising awareness about inequalities that men and women both face helps address the issues that affect us all, whether we realize it or not.

Addressing gender inequalities means discussing harmful gender roles and stereotypes for both males and females. Acknowledging that there are two sides to this situation makes it more approachable.

If we want to move forward and provide equality for all, everyone must play their part.

Naomi is a sophomore studying chemistry and pre-med.

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Be Better Than The Biebs

Learn from Justin's mistakes and make the most of this school year!

KATIE MORRISON

Iustin Bieber has been a controversial celebrity for the last five years, basking in the spotlight of fame and criticism. While at first America embraced his shaggy 'do and his feminine vocals, Justin has now managed to alienate himself so much that even his most die-hard fans are embarrassed to own up to their Belieber status. In honor of Justin Bieber's impending roast on Comedy Central, we have compiled a list of some of Justin's most memorable antics and supply suggestions on how to avoid becoming America's Most-Hated Canadian.

April 2013: Let's begin three years after the release of his first album, "My World" (2009). Bieber visited the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and left a particularly controversial inscription in the guestbook. "Anne was a

great girl," he wrote. "Hopefully she would have been a belieber." (http://www.theguardian.com/music/2013/apr/14/justin-bieber-anne-frank-belieber) Everyone has said something insensitive before, but that doesn't make it something that is okay. We need to pay attention to what we are saying and the people who are around us—unlike Justin.

How can we be better than Justin?

"There's a time and place for everything," says Makenzy Jean, a senior theology major. "We should not allow pop culture to disrespect history. Anne Frank and the Holocaust are on a different level than "Boyfriend" or "Baby." Maybe not a higher level but . . . yeah, probably a higher lever."

June 2013: In a huge jump from innocent pride and insensitivity, A video was leaked that showed Bieber urinating into a bucket and yelling expletives aimed towards former U.S. president Bill Clinton. This event was both juvenile and disrespectful to America, the country that gave Justin his fame and fortune!

How can we be better than Justin?

Kyle Dahms, an International Rescue and Relief freshman and cashier worker, saw this as "mad" disrespectful. "He started setting a bad example and he has all these kids that look up to him. Biebs bit the hand that fed him," he said. "At Union, teachers and staff do a lot for us. We need to appreciate their hard work instead of biting their hands."

July - November 2013: Things definitely escalated in the second half of 2013. In the span of a few months, Justin was a whirl-wind of bad decisions: violent accusations, marijuana sightings, reckless driving witnessings and a brothel visit.



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How can we be better than Justin?

"We don't think about how our actions affect others," Jojo Dunlap, a junior nursing student, said. "Justin beating up the photographer when the guy was just doing his job? Out of line. You never know who's looking up to you. Be the example that others need to see. Union can be better. Let's be better!"

At least remember your friends' names, Union College. Remember the fun times you've had together. It'd be embarrassing if you "did not recall."

January - March 2014: January was the beginning of Bieber's legal troubles. After getting pulled over for drag racing, yelling at the cops, and failing his drug test following his arrest, the Biebs was in a pickle. In his deposition video, he demonstrated true toolbag behavior as he cursed out the interviewers, stormed out of the

room when his ex-girlfriend was mentioned and answered many questions with a snotty "I do not recall". Say what?

How can we be better than Justin?

"I think it's funny that he couldn't recall the things he did," said Paris Ritter, a junior studying exercise science. "Is it that hard to remember what you do? Justin couldn't even remember the name of the person who made him famous: Usher? That's just a bad friend. At least remember your friends' names, Union College. Remember the fun times you've had together. It'd be embarrassing if you "did not recall."

While he does have money and popularity (kind of) and clothes and fast cars (that he gets pulled over for driving too fast), Justin Bieber does not have the best judgment when it comes to making decisions.

Union College students, it's not too much to ask. Let's be better than Justin!

Katie is a junior studying business administration.



Meet Christopher Banks

New history professor brings excitement to the Humanities Division

EMY WOOD

If you're not winded after climbing four flights of stairs in the Dick building, you'll find yourself in the humanities division: home to awkward conversations, sleepy smiles and, of course, a fresh cup of joe.

Amidst the stacks of graded papers and student workers sits a new professor: Christopher Banks (and no, I don't mean the store with comfy women's clothing). When he's not busy planning or bustling about his office, he loves to chat and share his passion for international relations—a passion he's bringing to Union College.

"I saw that Union was an excellent opportunity to work on my love for international affairs in a Seventh-day Adventist environment," he said during our interview last week.

Born and raised in Silver Spring, Maryland, Banks graduated from Brown University, received his Masters at Columbia and is currently attending Oxford for his doctorate.

How's that for a resume? (Oh, and did I mention he's interacted with the church at a diplomatic level? But, you'll have to stop by his office for full details on that. Trust me, the conversation is worth it.)

Underneath the degrees and thirst for international affairs lies a real passion for Banks to bring his experience and education to the students of Union. "Union College will have the first and only [Adventist] undergraduate program in international affairs," he exclaimed.

With the Seventh-day Adventist Church being global, it only makes sense to have people familiar with international affairs. And if you've ever dreamed of becoming a secret agent or running for President, knowing the world at large is a must.

"We live in a globalized world," said Banks. "Even if you do art, you should learn more about the actions and reactions of state and non-state actors in our world today."

Bottom line? This stuff is important.

"The world is literally open to you [with this degree]. All the industries need people with international affairs," said Banks. As an added bonus, he pointed out, "We will be able to have undergraduates here who are thinking international affairs, but with a Christian mindset."

Banks can't give away too many

details just yet, but if his excitement is any indication, this program has a bright future.

"In the International Relations courses that will be taught here, and history courses, we can expect a very in-depth look into explaining the world in which we live in today," said Banks. "I'm open to students' ideas on their interest and questions."

"The history department is shifting in emphasis to complement Prof. Banks' knowledge and expertise in International Relations," said Ben Tyner, associate professor of history. "Specifically, this will mean that there will be more history classes available in total, but a slight shift in coverage. We will now be offering courses in the recent history of much of the non-western world (e.g. Middle East, Africa and Asia) which can be used for both the International Relations and History majors."

continued at www.the-clocktower.edu

Emy is a sophomore studying communication.

| F E B R U A R Y | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Union Basketball Tourny | 20 Union Basketball Tourny Vespers 7:30pm: UFC Concert | 21 Union Basketball Tourny |
| 22 Union Basketball Tourny | 23 3:30-5:00pm Academic Council | ASB Elections | 25 | 26 Third PA Quarterly Meeting | 27 Third PA Quarterly Meeting | 28 Third PA Quarterly Meeting |

THUMBS UP/THUMBS DOWN



Thumbs up to midterms
-Karina Lee-Waye Graves



Thumbs up to going on a cruise for spring break -Chelsea Aguilera



Thumbs up to Jones Soda -Angel Phillips



Thumbs up to tattoos
-Benjamin Holms



Thumbs up to spring break -James Dickerson

WE CAN'T HEAR YOU.

Yeah, we're going to need you to speak up.

Like us, hate us or anywhere in between, we'd love to hear why. Have a story you'd like to pitch? We'd love to craft it. Did you just make a big breakfast? Tell us why your mother's German waffle recipe is better than Paula Deen's.

Basically, write us.

Voice your opinions by emailing cltower@gmail.com and add to the conversation by connecting with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ClocktowerASB and online at http://clocktower.ucollege.edu.

the locktower

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"What was your saddest moment ever?"

"I think it was when I found out that my dog died while I was working. My mom called me while I was waitressing and then I had to go talk to a table."

-Nicole Shelton, Graduate, Physician Assistant Studies

Humans of Union College is compiled by Roderick Stickle

the lock tower

Unlike La Sierra's newspaper, we haven't been shut down yet. Read The Clocktower online at http://clocktower.ucollege.edu.

