



"...Willie Sutton, Murph the Surf, Bonnie and Clyde, Pretty Boy Floyd, John Dillinger, Al Capone, Joe Bananas..."

A chance to act

Often the nation's citizens are enfeebled when it comes to influencing legislative decisions.

Because the opportunities to affect federal legislation are so rare, UNL students, faculty and staff members should attend Thursday's hearing on the proposed guidelines for ending sex discrimination.

Intended to clarify the Education Act Amendments of 1972, the guidelines proposed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) cover everything from admission policies to curfews at schools which accept federal money.

At the hearing, to be held in the Nebraska Union, the audience can recommend guideline modifications to a NEU ad hoc committee.

Currently, the guidelines' most vocal opponents are arguing out the effect of the proposed rules on college sports. The rules would require that colleges provide "comparable" training, facilities, recruitment and travel financing in athletics for both sexes.

Although equal spending in both areas is not required, affirmative action is. For example, if enough women at UNL wanted to play football, the University would have to supply them with a coach and a field.

Even more controversial is the guidelines that recruitment for teams must be "comparable." For a sport played by both sexes, such as tennis, a college would have to offer as many scholarships to women players as to men. They also would be required to allot travel expenses and time on the courts.

The guidelines' effect on college sports is not only an important issue, however. The impact also would be felt in the hiring and promotion of school officials. The new rules would insure that women are employed in upper administrative levels of elementary and secondary schools and colleges.

The guidelines also would forbid schools to impose curfews and codes of conduct on women students and not on men. Pregnant students would not be asked to live in separate dorms or attend separate classes, nor would they be excluded from competition for homecoming queen. In secondary schools, boys would not be excluded automatically from classes in home economics, nor girls from shop.

Another fringe area the rules would affect is the single-sex campus organizations. According to HEW, colleges receiving federal aid will not be allowed to give "substantial" support to such groups if they continue to exclude either sex.

The guidelines would not affect military academies or religious schools "to the extent compliance would be inconsistent with religious tenets." They would not require elementary or secondary schools that traditionally have been single-sex to integrate, nor would they require private colleges to do so.

However, all vocational schools and graduate schools would have to admit men and women on an equal basis.

The proposed guidelines could provide new headaches for college deans, as well as new books on which to hang class action suits.

Certainly they will have an impact on the entire UNL community. Members of that community should react to the proposed rules at the open hearing. It could help determine the fate of fairness in education.

Jane Owens

Housewife convicted for buying

September 8, 1975—Gloria N. Flayshon, a seemingly respectable housewife, was convicted in Federal Court today of buying a \$19.95 cuckoo-clock plant holder.

Flayshon, 39, was arrested under the 1975 Unnecessary Purchases Act, passed by Congress in July as a desperation attempt to curb inflation. The new law requires consumers to prove that any goods they buy are needed for their "health, safety or well-being."

During the dramatic trial, Prosecutor Franklin Furter noted that Flayshon was already on probation for purchasing a \$12.95 set of six antique Lucite moustache cups and a \$14.95 Stuffed Canada Goose Lamp Kit.

"Seated before you, ladies and gentlemen," Furter told the jury, "you see that most selfish, thoughtless and despicable of Americans—a compulsive buyer."

In her defense, the sobbing three-time loser said only that she needed the cuckoo-clock plant holder "to brighten up the living room."

The jury required just 17 minutes to reach the guilty verdict.

Flayshon was arrested after her husband came home to find the new cuckoo-clock plant holder as well as a plea scrawled in lipstick on the bathroom mirror: "Stop me before I buy again!"

Police found her in the Imported Curios Section of a discount house. They said she was pale, trembling and perspiring. They said she begged them to allow her to buy "just one little \$1.95 Zamboangan Rain Goddess" before they took her in—a plea they, of course, refused.

Under relentless questioning by Prosecutor Furter, Flayshon admitted she had violated the terms of her probation and had not only read ads in newspapers and magazines, but watched a commercial on televisions.

"I had already gotten up to go wash my hands 18 times in 29 minutes," she told the jury. "So I just sat there exhausted, telling myself, 'One teensy commercial won't hurt'."

"But they showed this really adorable cuckoo-clock plant holder and this indescribable craving came over me, and I knew I just had to have a fix and..." At this point she broke down in tears and couldn't continue.

Following the verdict, Defense Attorney Perry Elk made an impassioned plea for leniency.

"I admit, your honor, that my client is a junk junkie," he said dramatically. "But let us remember that she has been conditioned since infancy by a trillion dollars worth of advertising to become hooked by an insatiable craving."

But Judge Hector (Hanging Hec) Woolsey was not impressed. "To see the defendant as simply a victim of her unimpoverished environment," he said sternly, "is bleeding-heart nonsense. To protect the economic safety of all decent citizens, this woman must be incarcerated for what she is—an incurable junk addict."

The new Unnecessary Purchases Act has been widely hailed by economists and husbands alike. Even its few critics admit that it has solved the problem of inflation.

With one-third of the nation's economy producing nothing but useless junk for the past half century, one-third of the nation's factories are now closed and one-third of the labor force now out of work.

"But at least this Great Depression we are now in is a problem we have dealt with before," a White House spokesman said optimistically.

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arthur
hoppe
innocent
bystander