

Moslems, ideals, class size discussed

Small classes a rarity, not reality

When I read the article (DN, Feb. 7) "Officials: Class size kept small," I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Is Griesen joking? Few complaints about class size?

For the last year, that's all I've heard is complaints about class size, mostly from professors. It astounds me how administrators here are so incompetent that they have no idea of the problems that exist in their own university. I had a criminal justice class last semester (101) that had about 320 students in it. The entire Love Library auditorium was taken up. People were sitting on the floor.

In our last class, the professor spent 20 minutes complaining about how not enough criminal justice students could get all the classes they wanted and how he shouldn't have to have a class of more than 320 people.

The problem he said was that the university didn't hire enough professors to make more classes and smaller classes. He urged the students to take action and complain and protest to the administrators to fix the problem.

If this university is a "very warm place," how come in my three years here I have never gotten to know one professor? I've never had a class small enough! I dropped an economics class this semester that last semester had 50 students and the professor walked in the first day of class this semester and found 120 students in his class. Professors don't have time to get to know a majority of the students. There is no way.

I've complained about class size to my adviser, and he sadly shakes his head. So why does this university pretend that there is no problem when it clearly exists?

Joel Green
junior
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Moslem women enjoy freedom, feel protected

The letters in the Daily Nebraskan about the status of women in Islam encourage me to write about Moslem women and their freedom. Islam puts restrictions on both men and women. Islam is more than a religion; it is a way of life. There is no such thing as a perfect human. I do not say the Moslem men as well as women are angels or that they are perfect. Due to their human nature, they sometimes tend to deviate from Islamic regulations.

Self-respect is a valuable thing for women. Moslem women have every sort of freedom, which is not harmful to their dignity or to the society. In the framework of an Islamic society, Moslem women enjoy the fruits of these (so-called restrictive) rules. They feel more protected and respected, unlike women who belong to other societies. It is the responsibility of Moslem men to ensure the protection of women. Fidelity and loyalties are broken every day in the non-Moslem societies. Secular laws that are meant to provide protection to women very often humiliate women.

Take for example the judicial proceedings of a rape case. A rape victim has to go through the deepest humiliation to explain the events of the incident. This is usually done in the presence of strangers. Also, western societies expect adult females to look for their partners. Such women are very often subjected to trickery and chauvinism when they must prove to their boyfriends that they will indeed be a pleasant and satisfying partner in bed, too. This is indeed a form of the societal acceptance of date rape and sexual assault. In fact, rape is an act of taking advantage of physical weakness of females and subduing them against their wishes with force.

It does not matter whether ladies like such treatment; what does matter is that date rape happens. Just look at the frequency of reported incidents on the UNL campus.

Islam puts restrictions upon both males and females to guard them against such mistreatment and protects all members of the society regardless of their gender. Good aspects of the Islamic society are hidden from the front-page news by a tragic incident within Islamic society. This completely hides the real face of Islamic society.

Nadeem M. Shaikh
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Team owner's 'joke' continues conflict, fosters sexism

For all those who thought the Victor Kiam-New England Patriots-Lisa Olson thing was over, think again.

Kiam was immortalized in the Feb. 7 issue of the Daily Nebraskan as he was caught in his natural pathetic state telling a sexist joke about Olson and the war to an all-men's club gathering. I hope you read it because I refuse to repeat such a vile "joke" (if that's what you would call it).

As I wrote in my first letter in the Daily Nebraskan the day after the original incident occurred, Kiam is looked up to by many — especially men — who see the multimillionaire,

company and team owner as a role model. Well, stop looking, men, as Alan Greenberg of the Hartford Courant wrote in his recent column, "Kiam made himself a leading candidate for Neanderthal of the year. . . . Unfortunately, nobody ever was denied a professional sports franchise because he or she was an insensitive clod."

Kiam has done nothing to resolve the conflict. He defended his players, called Olson "a classic bitch," denied it and now this? Kiam may be rich and powerful, but it doesn't stop him from being completely stupid.

I know some of you think this is trivial compared to the war going on in the gulf, but such behavior can't be ignored from a public figure.

And speaking of the war and our loved ones overseas, is the Husker women's basketball team going to remember and pay tribute to our troops like the Husker men and every other team in the United States with the small gesture of a flag on their jerseys?

Jody Hoatson
senior
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Freedoms make ideals, values worth the fight

I am writing in response to the specific comment that Hai-Wei Tan made (DN, Feb. 1). I read his article with interest and understanding of his viewpoint and drew my own conclusions.

His comment about the ideology of our nation not being worth fighting and, yes, sometimes dying for, bothers me. I'm sure Hai-Wei Tan never thought about the fact that he was exercising one of the many rights that so many Americans enjoy every day

of their lives. I also think Mr. Tan never thought of the many valuable lives that were sacrificed to give him these rights.

It bothers me that there are people taking these rights and the very ideology of our nation for granted. I invite Mr. Tan to fulfill his intentions of not living with his country's actions. Perhaps another country would be more suitable. One that places less value on principles and more emphasis on the comfort and convenience of its citizens.

What is worth dying for? If ideals and values are not worth sacrifice, why have them? A nation that does not defend its principles where and whenever necessary forfeits the rights of its people to live freely.

Mitch Norder
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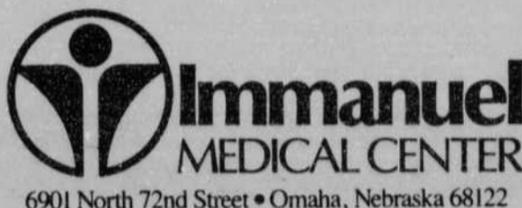
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