

**Lib and Let Die**

*the weekly newsletter of the YPU's Liberal Party for the Spring 2013 Semester*

*Sing in me, Muse, and through me tell the tale [of the various Lib activities for this week]*

- The Odyssey of Homer

A warm and hearty **WELCOME BACK** to all you Libs! Hope you had an excellent winter break complete with excitement, merrymaking, and plenty of holiday swag. I'm positively thrilled to be serving as your secretary for this semester - I can't screw it up too badly, right?...right?...anyway. Down to business.

On **Monday at 5:30 PM**, the Libs will meet in the back of **Silliman Dining Hall** for the always-excellent **Lib Dinner**. Has everyone, in fact, survived the winter break? Will Isaac be sporting a new J. Crew shirt? How much ice cream can I eat before becoming too heavy to move? Come to dinner with us and find out!

Mmm....Ice cream.

Also on **Monday at 9:00 PM**, the Libs will gather in **Adrian's Suite (SY B11)** for the storied Yale tradition of **Bluebooking!** Whether you can't decide which 400-level chemistry class will best prepare you for your future Ph.D. research or you're just asking yourself "How many classes can I afford to credit/D this semester?", you're sure to have a good time.

Steve Harvey looking through the massive amount of courses.

On **Tuesday at 7:30 PM in SSS 114**, the Libs will join the rest of the YPU for this semester's **Organizational Debate, R: Embrace American Exceptionalism with Yale professor Ted Malloch**. Really, American exceptionalism shouldn't be that hard to support. After all, America is #1, baby! Except when it comes to life expectancy. And education. And GDP per capita. And....listen, we've got the most prisoners, OK?

This baby is exceptional, and possibly American.

On **Wednesday at 5:00 PM**, the Libs will gather at **Phelps Gate** and walk over to **Planned Parenthood** for an evening of volunteer work (**5:30-8:30**). The gift of your time will help the center provide New Haven residents with affordable reproductive health care. Food (and condoms) will be provided.

On **Thursday at 7:30 PM** in a **room TBA**, the Libs will discuss: **Should Internet vigilantism be regulated?** From releasing Westboro Baptist Church members' private information to temporarily shutting down government websites, hacktivist groups such as Anonymous have made a large impact on both domestic and global affairs. Are they forwarding the interests of the individual in the digital age or simply wreaking havoc "for teh lulz?" It's sure to be scintillating.

Please, Anonymous...leave Amazon alone...

On **Friday at 9 PM**, the Libs will be hanging out in **Nate's suite (Vanderbilt Hall D01)** for a **Welcome Back Happy Hour!** Kick back and enjoy friends, fun, and alcohol - and maybe even all three at the same time! Also, look forward to an extra special drink to be named later....

All day, every day.

## Lib and Let Die: "I Only Like To Look At Pictures" edition

Monday - 5:30 PM - Lib Dinner - Siliman Dining Hall

Monday - 9:00PM - Bluebooking - Adrian's Suite (SY B11)

Tuesday - 7:30 PM - YPU Organizational Debate - SSS 114

Wednesday - 5:00 PM - Planned Parenthood Volunteering - meet at Phelps Gate

Thursday - 7:30 - Discussion: Should Internet vigilantism be regulated? - room TBA

Friday: 9:00 PM - Welcome Back Happy Hour - Nate's Suite (Vanderbilt D01)

There it is - the first Lib and Let Die of the semester! I like believing in my own infallibility as much as the next guy, but if you have any suggestions for future newsletters, don't hesitate to let me know.

Until we meet again and the case is solv-ed,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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One week of shopping period down, one to go. Worry not, for the Libs are here for you.

On **Monday at 5:30 PM**, the Libs will take their seats in **Silliman Dining Hall** for an excellent **Lib Dinner**. Maybe, if we're lucky, [this](#) will happen. Probably not. But the food will be tasty.

Glen Davis is hungry...are you?

No YPU debate this week? Never fear! Get your fill of relevant intellectual stimulation at this week's **Lib Discussion: Should we support gender-segregated education?** Do single-sex schools empower students or deprive them of a realistic social environment? To what extent do these educational institutions discriminate against transgender individuals, and how damning is this discrimination? Join us to discuss these questions and more on **Thursday at 7:30** in the **Pierson Common Room**.

Related topic: What if every high school was like Dillon High School?

On **Saturday at 7 PM in the YPU Office**, hang out with a bunch of people who may or may not know anything about sports for the **YPU Super Bowl Party (YPUperbowl Party? Anyone?)** Whether you're a diehard 49ers/Ravens fan, a disgruntled Patriots/Falcons fan, just watching for the commercials, or just watching for Beyonce's halftime show, you should head on down for a fun evening. Contact Nick Styles if you wanna win some money off of this thing.

I'm still unhappy about the Packers. Booooo.

With the swag of seven sailors,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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Another week, another **Monday**, another **Lib Dinner at 5:30 PM in the Silliman Dining Hall**. Spend some time with familiar faces and chat about the oh-so-eventful weekend!

"Eventful."

Back by either popular demand or force of habit, the **Yale Political Union** will gather in **Sudler Hall (WLH 201) on Tuesday at 7:30 PM** to debate **R: End Affirmative Action in College Admissions**. Joining us will be **Ron Unz**, a conservative activist who has written several controversial articles criticizing affirmative action. The man's name is also connected with [what may be the most poorly designed website on the Internet](#). Email Ella Wood if you're interested in speaking.

Seriously, this would've been a better website design.

On **Thursday**, the Libs will come together at **7:30 PM** in the oh-so-comfy **Pierson Common Room** to discuss: **Should the government legalize organ selling?** Is your body truly your property for you to use however you see fit? Does the inherent disgust involved in selling your own bloody innards constitute a legitimate moral basis for illegality? Most importantly, does anyone need a kidney or spleen?

Flexible...Those ligaments would probably be worth a lot.

On **Friday at 8:02 PM**, the Libs will gather in **Adrian's Suite (SY B11)** for a fancy-pants **Wine and Cheese Reception**. Relax and unwind with tasty food and drink! As with all Lib events, attire is "come as you are," but "classy" attire is encouraged. Rumor has it that there may be a competition for best-dressed Lib.....\*

\*not named Shailin Thomas.

Ride for ruin and the world's ending,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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You already know that **Lib Dinner is on Monday at 5:30 PM in the Silliman Dining Hall**, and you already know it's gonna be delicious. I'm less useful than I like to pretend to be.

Feels good to stroll into Lib Dinner with some friend.

On **Wednesday**, the YPU will meet in **Sudler Hall (WLH 201) at 7:30 PM** to debate **R: Reject the Living Constitution**. Joining the Union will be **Richard Epstein**, a libertarian legal scholar and self-avowed Calvin Coolidge fan.

What a boring president. Into the shame cube, Epstein!

On **Thursday at 7:30 PM** in the wonderful **Pierson Common Room**, the **Liberal Party** will spend a pleasant evening discussing **[Fuck the Police?](#)** Do the boys in blue uphold justice or oppress minorities? Is the authority given to an individual policeman too intoxicating to be prudent? Does policing in its current form adequately dispense justice, or should we rethink the system?

Would they rather see me in the pen than me and Lorenzo rollin' in the Benzo?

Finally, come to **Sarah's Suite (Durfee Hall C52)** for **Games Night on Friday at 9 PM!** All Libs and Lib alums welcome, although I'm warning you, I play a mean game of hearts and/or euchre.

This picture represents the average age of a hearts/euchre player...

Whoa,  
we're halfway there,  
whoooooaaaaa,  
Nate Rein,  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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Neither snow, nor rain, nor wintry mix, nor gloom of night, nor wild Pokèmon, nor existential crisis, nor wobble in the fabric of space-time, stays **Lib Dinner**. It's still on **Monday in Silliman**, but to accommodate dining hall hours we'll eat at **4:30 PM**.

Maybe Gyarados would stay Lib dinner. Naaaah.

Later on **Monday Evening (at 7:30)**, the YPU will gather in **LC 102** to hold its annual **Gardner White Prize Debate, R: That it is better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven**. How free do you need to be to be happy? How free are we right now? Should we take the moral high ground if it only leads to self-limitation? Hell, heaven - what do these words even mean? [Use this form](#) to sign up to speak. Also, CASH MONEY AND UNION MEMBERSHIPS, YO.

YEEEEAH!

On **Thursday at 7:30**, the Libs will gather in the hopefully-becoming-traditional **Pierson Common Room** and have a Super Serious Joke Debate, **R: The Libs Know Who You Should Marry**. Come to find a soulmate, find other people soulmates, laugh at the idea of soulmates, or just to spite grammar.

In case you were wondering, you all should marry Based Mona.

Finally, on **Friday at 9 PM** in a location **TBA**, the Libs will have a fantastic **Karaoke Night**, because we know you're already singing T-Swift in the shower anyway.

No, Libs, you don't, and that's why I love you.

Keep calm and carry on,  
waiting for the icy grip of death to inevitably clutch your heart,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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Greetings, Liberal Party.

**This Monday, we dine in Silliman at 5:30 PM.** Yeah. It'll be fun and taste kinda good. Unless there's polenta.

Me on polenta day. And some other days.

Also on **Monday at 7:30 PM, the YPU will gather in LC 102 for a debate, R: Be Risk Averse with author Nassim Taleb.** Now, far be it from me to tell the Libs how to feel about this topic, but risk aversion is **dumb.**

And Captain America agrees with me.

For your weekly condom fix, come on down to **Planned Parenthood** with the Libs (and the ACLU!) on **Wednesday evening.** We'll meet at **Phelps Gate at 5 PM,** walk over, and serve from **5:30-7:30.**

Most of my gifs are relevant. Not this one.

But wait, there's more! Get pumped for our weekly **Lib Discussion, "Why should countries have borders?"** Does a border give a country purpose or merely serve to impede the flow of goods, people, ideas, information, etc. between neighbors? Do good fences make good neighbors? What's up with geopolitical constructs, anyway? Why should there be countries? Why can't I have my own country? We'll talk about all or none of these things at **7:30 PM on Thursday in the Pierson Common Room.**

I want my own country. A man can dream.

Friday. Friday, Friday, Friday. Friday means different things to different people. For some, it's the exciting beginning to a fun-filled weekend. For others, it's just the beginning of a brief pause in the hectic downward spiral of life. For me, Friday means **Lib Karaoke Night, 9:13 PM in a location TBA.** [Get ready for my cover.](#)

Pictured: Genius embodied, and my presumptive getup for Friday.

Watch out for a simple twist of fate,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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As I dive into yet another 25-cent Ramen Instant Lunch, I am consoled by the fact that **Lib Dinner** will be happening on **Monday at 5:30 PM in the Silliman dining hall**.

Oh...oh baby.

Hunter S. Thompson once said, "If I'd written all the truth I knew for the past ten years, about 600 people - including me - would be rotting in prison cells from Rio to Seattle today." Well, how about making it only 300? On **Tuesday at 7:30 PM**, come join the **YPU** at a **location TBA** to debate **R: The U.S. Should Reduce its Prison Population by One-Half**. **Todd Clear**, professor of criminal justice at Rutgers University and community justice advocate, will be joining us.

Imagine that the beam of light is the current prison system and the Magikarp is the social fabric of America.

On **Thursday at 7:30 PM in the Pierson Common Room**, join the Libs as we discuss, **What's the purpose of grades?** After I finish this email, I'm going to fret for a little while longer before furiously cramming for a biology midterm. Why? If I get an A, am I somehow a more worthy individual than those who get Bs? Is there another metric we can use to measure student success? (I hope so.)

The dance I will do if I actually get an A on my bio midterm.

The whole Final Cut cooking contest thing ain't got shit on the Libs. Come find out why on **Sunday morning** from **11AM - 1PM**, when the Libs will be **cooking in the Morse kitchen**. Be warned: making [these little beauties](#) is basically the extent of my culinary skill.

But what a skill it is.

I beat this game every day,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU



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Why does the delicious food in the **Silliman dining hall** have to be paired with an atrocious design that necessitates long lines and waiting? Come chat about this and other philosophical questions of import at **Lib Dinner, Monday at 530 PM.**

This is my "all i want is some goddamn beef brisket" face.

Is the invisible hand of the free market toying with your insignificant proto-consciousness like a simple child's plaything? Voice your discontent this **Wednesday at 7:30 PM in SSS 114**, where the YPU will debate **R: Markets Govern Too Much.** Joining us will be **Michael Sandel**, Harvard (!) professor and scholar of justice.

I could have said that he was a political philosopher who teaches a famous class called "Justice," but the phrase "scholar of justice" sounds much cooler. Plus it makes him sound like he's a member of the Justice League (pictured above).

Bring your tea, coffee, juice, or water to the **Pierson Common Room at 7:30 this Thursday** and sip them as the Libs discuss, **Should we support a soda tax?** Is it the government's responsibility to place taxes specifically on unhealthy things? Should taxes be used to influence public health? Will diet sodas be okay?

They wouldn't tax you, Diet Dr. Pepper. Would they?

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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A hearty HELLO to the Lib announcements panlist! I'm excited to stuff your inbox with silly emails about various Lib goings-on for the semester's home stretch. Without further ado:

I've been spoiled over break by my mom's delicious home cooking. That being said, I'm still excited to **break bread with the Libs in the Silliman Dining Hall on Monday at 5:30 PM.**

How I imagine the Silliman dining hall staff.

**On Tuesday at 7:30 PM in LC 102, the YPU welcomes Manhattan Institute senior fellow Avik Roy** to the floor for our debate, **R: Healthcare is a Right**. If you're on this panlist and in the negative, [check out this sign](#). If the United States' most infamous gulag believes that its most hardened criminals are entitled to medical attention...and you don't...well...

Kinda speaks for itself.

**On Thursday at 7:30 PM** in the cozy confines of the **Pierson Common Room**, the Libs will discuss **Are there topics we shouldn't discuss?** So meta. But actually, I know that "if you consider yourself a Lib, you're a Lib," ideological openness etc etc, but are there some things that we can't bring to the floor due to inherent harmfulness/insensitivity/etc? Special thanks to super-Lib Shailin Thomas for providing a great topic what ought to be an extremely stimulating discussion.

How I imagine it feels to be Shailin Thomas.

After discussion on Thursday, the Libs will convene in **Isaac and Ryan's Suite (Calhoun J21)** for some **Letter Writing Activism**. Come and sound off on [Smith College's discriminatory admissions process](#) and/pr write to incarcerated transgendered persons in need of companionship.

You will be this awesome.

But wait. There's more. On **Saturday at 9:00 PM**, we'll be doing a little inter-party **fraternizing with the IP in the Saybrook-Branford room**. What are we doing? Holding a pregame...

...for the **Union Ball at 10 PM in the Union Office** (305 Crown St). Attire is casual, and it will be awesome.

THIS AWESOME

Finally, for a relaxing end to the week, the Libs will be meeting at **Phelps Gate at 11 AM on Saturday** and heading to **East Rock for a Picnic!** We'll enjoy ourselves in the (relatively) warm and sunny weather and the company of our fellow Libs. We'll also be stoppinc at Nico's. Also, there will be **an Easter egg hunt**, and I will beat you.

Probably.

Happy Holy Week,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU



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After a weekend filled with fun, hiking, egg hunts, sunshine, and Casino Night, it'll be nice to refuel at **Lib Dinner on Monday in the Silliman Dining Hall. 5:30 PM.**

Seriously, about this tiring.

Later on Monday (7:30 PM), the Libs will head to the front-left of LC 102 and join [ACLU President Susan Herman](#) for this week's YPU Debate, R: **America is Not at War with Terror.** All are encouraged to come **sign in with the Libs** and participate in what is sure to be an engaging discussion about individual liberty, national security, and international relations. Among other things.

Holy guacamole.

On **Thursday**, the Libs will be having a very exciting **joint discussion with PRIDE @ Yale at 7:30 PM in the Pierson Common Room.** We'll be discussing the question, **Should we get married?** Is the institution of marriage inherently conservative, and if so, should we still conform to it? What are the true benefits of getting married, and are they worth it? What does marriage mean in a society where so many marriages fail?

Does marriage ever cross the line?

On Saturday, get ready to party like it's 1999 (or earlier) as the **Libs pregame** for the 90s-themed Crushes and Chaperones **in Sarah's Suite (Durfee C52)** from **9-10:30 PM**, featuring the greatest 90's playlist ever crafted by human hands. Don't miss it.

Better than this, even.

If you want to destroy my sweater,  
Pull this thread as I walk away,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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As is tradishonul, **Lib Dinner is on Monday at 5:30 PM in the Silliman Dining Hall.** I'm excited to get back to a normal eating schedule after tonight's dinner (jalapeno poppers, Doritos, and Arizona at 10:30, whatup Freshman Fifty?).

I...I can't eat like this anymore.

On **Tuesday at 7:30 PM in SSS 114**, the YPU will hold its **Party Prize Debate, featuring Libs Shailin Thomas and Cate Laporte-Oshiro.** The topic? R: Burn the Machines, which might be hard to do if the machines are made out of tungsten (melting point 3422 degrees Celsius. Science!)

BURN

On **Saturday at 2:30 PM in the Dwight Hall Library**, the Libs will hold our **Dixwell Days Alumni Discussion, Should labor be mechanized?** Machines have undoubtedly contributed much to the advancement of mankind...but at what cost to the dignity of work and the rights of the worker? Also, if the YPU resolution this week passes, will all the machines already have been reduced to steaming hunks of charred metal? Stay tuned, and come for a thought-provoking discussion.

These visions of Johanna are now all that remain,  
Nate Rein,  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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**Lib Dinner is still on Monday at Silliman**, but we'll be starting at **5:00 PM** instead of 5:30 PM. Why? Well, the **YPU is having its Bulldog Days Debate, R: Be a Loyal Partisan in SSS 114 at 6:00 PM**. Joining us will be everyone's favorite first openly gay Congressperson, **Barney Frank** of Massachusetts! We'll be in the front left of the room - you should come, and drag any prefrosh you might be hosting along with you!

Just say there's real estate involved.

Speaking of Bulldog Days, the Libs will be hosting an extra-special **Bulldog Days Discussion at 9:00 PM on Tuesday in the Dwight Hall SJN Room. When can political violence be justified?** Is the legislative pen always mightier or more moral than the sword? When is violence in general just, and how do we apply that justice to a political system? These questions and quite probably many more will be asked by the Libs and a select group of high school seniors. Riveting.

Ahh, youth. I wish I was back at Bulldog Days. (What am I saying? I've got 6 more semesters of this shit!)

The only girl I've ever loved,  
Was born with roses in her eyes,  
But then they buried her alive one evening 1945,  
Nate Rein,  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU

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MERP.

**Lib Dinner is at 5:30 PM on Monday in the Silliman Dining Hall.** I love Lib Dinner for sort of a weird reason. While it's great to chill around the table with you guys and catch up on your lives, it's even more fun to chat about the meaninglessness of human existence as you stand in the interminable file of humanity that is the Silliman line.

Oh yeah, and the plates are always either nonexistent or so hot that they burn your hands.

Next, on **Tuesday at 7:30 PM**, the **YPU** will meet in **LC 102** to debate **R: That Poets Are the Unacknowledged Legislators of the World**. Our special guest will be **Meena Alexander**, who [writes things](#) and also [teaches English](#). Actually though, the pseudo-dismissiveness of that last sentence frames the main argument really well. How much importance should we place on creativity, culture, and the arts? Does poetry really influence policy, concretely or otherwise? If so, how often? And whose poetry? Should we be doing more to acknowledge these legislators? And for the love of God, *does poetry really not have to rhyme?*

I'm in the affirmative mainly because it conjures up mental images of Earl Sweatshirt speaking on the floor of the Senate while wearing skinny jeans and a Supreme t-shirt.

Most of us remember how classes went in grade school: you walk into the room, sit down at your desk, the teacher goes to the front of the room and teaches a lesson. What's wrong with this picture? Find out at this week's Lib Discussion, **Why do we tolerate inequality in our own lives? held on Thursday at 7:30 PM in the Pierson Common Room**. Power dynamics are everywhere in everyday life - is it our obligation to avoid all of them at all costs? Should you consider your friends equals? Your parents? Your professors? Ask, and ye may or may not receive an answer. Special thanks to Ryan Pollock for the discussion topic (and for being a generally cool dude).

Pictured: allegorical inequality?

On **Friday at 6:00 PM**, the Libs will hold **Elections** in a room TBA. Important things will happen...including the election of a brand-spanking-new Secretary for our fine Party. I can honestly say that I've enjoyed nearly four-fifths of the time I've spent updating you on various Lib goings-on, and it'll be tough to imagine how I'll procrastinate on Sunday evenings now that I won't be sending out emails any more. Much love to all of you. Especially to those people who never fail to respond to my emails every week...because I've forgotten to remove them from the panlist. (Sorry).

And though the line is cut,  
It ain't quite the end,  
I'll just bid farewell till we meet again,  
Nate Rein  
Secretary, Liberal Party, YPU