
unLIBited - Week 1

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Aug 24, 2014 at 9:34 PM

unLIBited

Lovely Libs,

I happily greet you at the start of a wondrous new year! As the sweet sound of progressive thought fills the campus air, the Liberal Party once again finds itself fully prepared to take on the roles of being awesome (the top priority) and furthering the intellectual discourse of the left at Yale. I hope that you are as excited as I am for another whirlwind semester of events. Make some friends, deepen some convictions, and enjoy life!



The Libs stand ready to "rock 'n' roll" this semester.

This week, we have a full slate of events to wake you out of the depths of your summer boredom and bring you into the light of collegiate scholarship (they don't call those college years "bright" for nothing). This **Monday at 6:00 PM**, the Libs will gather at **Yorkside Pizza** for the beloved **Lib Dinner**. Bring all your crazy summer stories, goals for the semester (or goals for a period time that's a bit less of an arbitrary construct, like life), and love of greasy food. I apologize to the rabid fans of the Silliman Dining Hall, but our school won't feed the upperclassmen right now, so we'll have to settle.

On **Tuesday** at **10 PM**, the Libs will gather at **Saybrook Suite B-32** for **Bluebooking!** The wisest among us will attempt to help you lower the number of credits you're taking from 23 to 16. If that doesn't work, they'll proceed to convince you *which* 23 credits are really worth taking all at once. Free snacks will also be present!

After classes get rolling, the Libs will convene for the central event of our weekly liblives (and the solution to my weekly dining-hall-food-induced existential crises). This **Thursday**, the Libs will meet for **Discussion** on the topic "Should we abolish private schools?" Do private schools impede social progress? Is parental choice a right? What are the ethical implications of charging money for education? Discussion will take place at **7:30 PM** in the **Pierson Common Room**. Come ready to listen with an open ear and share your thoughts. Remember, sharing is caring.

[Here](#) is a morsel to ponder on the subject (with a little British flair). Additionally, [this](#) article discusses an interesting statistical conclusion related to the performance of different school types, but is also helpful in understanding how supporters of private education frame their arguments.



Site of the future Lib Commune.

To end the week, we will convene on **Friday** at **10 PM** in **JE Suite C-11** for **Happy Hour**. There will be plenty of LIBations to quench your thirst, as well as the company needed to rehabilitate you (me) after the shock of taking your Monday classes on a Friday. Get ready to unwind and "reflect" on the first "week" of classes!

Lib of the Week

So that we can heighten our collective self-awareness, the classic Lib of the Week segment has returned. In order to confirm my narcissism, I'll take the first round.



Still recovering.

Name: Mitchell Weldon

DOB: old

Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

Likes: Public Transit, Barbara Jordan, Tensioned Fabric Structures (ask me about it), eucalyptus trees, Haiti, cats, Stephen Colbert, Pringles, gravity (and *Gravity*), thrift clothes, space exploration, the Dallas Mavericks, *A Sand County Almanac*, ridiculous sweaters, *Pan's Labyrinth*, Lyon, Nutella, dancing with no remorse, the Kimbell Art Museum, Patrice Lumumba, old Hungarian people, Marie Vieux-Chauvet, walking outside when it's just barely raining, world myth, Art Deco, Dutch Landscape paintings (windmills), *Shutter Island*, sustainable agriculture.

Dislikes: Militarization of the police force, Texas summers, Intelligent Design, Pringles (no, it's not a contradiction), Real Madrid, Woodrow Wilson, mean people, Sean Hannity, Cheese Nips, supporters of imperialist U.S. policies, Abercrombie, mornings, eugenics, UN inaction, soggy cereal, *Citizens United*, 635, Bhutan, wisdom teeth extraction, recurring colds, oppression, fedoras.

Fun Fact: As a child, I spent endless hours watching movies about trains (typically the ones which were just reels of trains moving along the countryside).

Can't wait to spend another semester with all y'all! (also, I can't wait to drop *all y'all* in actual conversation)

Cheers,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 2

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Aug 31, 2014 at 10:36 PM

unLIBited

Lively Libs,

As the first week of class draws to a close, as I struggle to find a 5th course towards the semester, and as the frequency of Miley Cyrus pop hits at Yale events continues to decline, the world seems to be headed for some acceptable sense of normalcy. The continuing accumulation of small things I keep forgetting to do (like buying furniture for my suite) is an especially encouraging sign that my life is in order. However, deep down inside my Lib being, the cosmic world turtle (my new spirit animal) of my inner psyche has yet to be appeased. Luckily, the Libs have a full schedule this week that promises to make me (and you!) whole again.

Our long awaited return to the **Silliman Dining Hall** for **Lib Dinner** will occur this **Monday** at **5:30 PM**. Its long lines and lack of adequate seating have long held sway over our hearts, and it was never in doubt that we would once again exchange stories and laughter across those long, narrow wooden tables in the back section of the hall.



Silliman Dining Hall (a metaphysical interpretation).

The Libs will begin another year of Yale Political Union events when we meet **Tuesday** for the **YPU's Organizational Debate** in **Woolsey Hall**. Doors open at **6:30 PM** (the debate will start at **7:30 PM**). Be there early (like, really early!) to avoid the masses seeking to revel in the fame of our guest **Rev. Al Sharpton**, the prominent civil rights leader, who will be speaking in the affirmative on "**Resolved: Put Down the Death Penalty.**"

The second course of your double serving of intellectual thought will be consumed at **7:30 PM Thursday** in the **Pierson Common Room**, when the Libs will meet for a hearty **Discussion** on the topic "**Is Gay Marriage Progressive?**" What are the effects of gay marriage on gender equality? Does it further the conversation or exclude other groups from consideration? Is there an inherent value to social structures such as marriage? If you, like me, like to read, here's an [article](#) that lists the societal benefits of legalizing gay marriage, another [piece](#) that outline critiques of gay marriage as upholding conservative societal norms, and a [collection](#) of articles arguing against gay marriage from the left.

Searching for the best way to begin your weekend? Soad's isn't on **Friday**, so join the Libs for a **Mixer** at **10 PM** in **Saybrook Suite L-22**. Come for music, another chance to discuss life's little incongruities, and to watch Evan Linn's exquisite dance moves!

Finally, on **Saturday** at **11 AM**, the Libs will join the Yale Dems in a **Voter Registration Drive** for the upcoming elections. Come out and join us for the first service event of the year! Since voting is the central means of exercising our democratic rights, this event to counter political apathy is not one to miss out on. The Libs will be meeting at **High Street Gate** (the one on Old Campus) shortly before 11 AM to walk to the event.



I hope you are as excited about this week as this llama is [excited about Lib events]!

Lib of the Week

For the second installment of the Lib of the week, I present to you the Lib with the most glamorous hair (and an amazing kindness to match! Despite the continual disappointment caused by her state senators).



Fab hair + guitar = joy.

Name: Eliza Scruton

DOB: Eternally youthful

SID: ██████████

Likes: Campfires, Snoop Dogg, rubber ducks, Snoop Lion, access to affordable contraception, Snoopzilla, jasmine tea, DJ Snoopadelic, murder ballads, Snoop Doggy Dogg, bourbon balls, 7 Days of Funk, school buses, Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr., Johnny Cash, Tha Dogg Pound, descriptive grammar rules, regular dogs unrelated to Snoop.

Dislikes: Jules Verne, teaching "the controversy" in the context of a science class, poetry slams, running low on gas, adware, geese, Hummers, red tides, writing bibliographies, crowds, The Red Pill, the feeling when you almost sneeze and then it goes away, sulfate-containing shampoo, Cheese Nips.

Fun fact: I was in the children's choir in a production of The Lord of the rings symphony.

Hope to see y'all around at the wondrous events we have planned for this week!

Liberalty yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 3

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Sep 7, 2014 at 11:12 PM

unLIBited

Luscious Libs,

Hectic weeks are the most exciting, and I was certainly flying all over the place trying to make sense of having 4 days of classes this week (I'm still not sure how I'll handle a full 5). For a quick recap, Al Sharpton showed us that a lifetime of being a great orator probably meant that he was going to give a good speech regardless of the suffocating heat in Woolsey that left a certain Floor Leader of the Left a little drenched in the suit jacket he refused to part with. From getting back from New York City at 4:30 AM this morning to running into that male underwear photoshoot that was going down at Beinecke on Friday, I have realized again that "hectic" has always been the normal pace of college life (I had a bit of a routine going this summer and forgot that the unordered life was not worth living). I would also classify lib events as "hectic" insofar as they're full of awesome spontaneous energy, and calling them hectic also allows me to create this nice segue into the calendar of awesome [read: hectic] events that the Libs have planned for this week.

On **Monday** at **5:30 PM** in the **Silliman Dining Hall**, the Libs will meet for the usual **Lib Dinner** in order to share their stories of recent hectic experiences over the not-repetitive-at-all selection of food offered by Yale dining.



The Libs will feed in idyllic fashion on bounteous amounts of fish food.

Having refueled on Monday, the Libs will be prepared for the [YPU Debate](#) on [Tuesday](#) at [7:30 PM](#) in the hopefully more climate-controlled [Sudler Hall \(WLH 201\)](#). Professor [Brian Leiter](#) of U Chicago will be speaking in the affirmative on “[Resolved: Repeal the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.](#)” I hope the rumors that the illustrious Eliza Scruton will be speaking are true!

For this week’s [Discussion](#), the Libs will meet at [7:30 PM](#) in the [Pierson Common Room](#) to discuss the topic “[Is there an algorithm for good governance?](#)” Is there an inherent value in efficiency? What are the moral consequences of using an algorithm to impact the lives of citizens? How will ideologies come to be reflected in a technocracy? What sort of peace offering will best save me from my new robot overlords? I look forward to talking about these questions (except that last one, probably) with y’all! [Here’s some material](#) that covers just a few of the different issues inherent to this topic.



Perhaps there's a method in this (beautiful) madness.

Finally, to bridge the academic life of the week with the relief of the weekend in a seamless transition that results in some sort of (Hegelian?) synthesis, the Libs will be holding a **Marxist Beach Party** on **Friday** at **10 PM** in a location **TBD**. Help me to deconstruct the capitalist narratives implicit in the miniature umbrellas in our refreshments! (or, you know, you can also just lounge around and chat with your fellow libs, your choice). Feel free to wear red (but not red shorts! They're apparently capitalist unlike the rest of our clothing).

Lib of the Week

This installment of Lib of the Week (proudly) comes straight out of the mountains of West Virginia. Though he now desires to watch imported "football" (soccer) each weekend, his native Appalachian charm is always present in sufficient quantities to make one's day better.



Best friends for life (I swear).

Name: Matthew Massie

DOB: 6/20/1863

Height: Paul Bunyan-esque

Likes: Wenzels, the West Virginia Mountaineers, President Lyndon B. Johnson, dialects of the English language, pepperoni rolls, local ice cream shops, *Pet Sounds*, Liverpool, socialism, corn whiskey, radical coal miners, Old Crow Medicine Show, sweet tea, Titus Andronicus, the Cleveland Browns, Slavic languages, you.

Dislikes: Grammatical prescriptivism, the Republican Party, Margaret Thatcher's stinking corpse, Ronald Reagan's putrid cadaver, the University of Pittsburgh, gamers, nostalgia, Trotskyites, the City of Manchester, anarcho-capitalists, Rep. Shelley Moore Capito, Alex Mooney, British fetishism, eggs, a cappella.

Fun Fact: When asked by Senator John D. Rockefeller IV whether there was a conservative or moderate bone in his body, Matt responded "no."

Hope to see you around this week, and stay liberal!

Cheers,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 4

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Sep 14, 2014 at 11:40 PM

unLIBited

Dearest Libs,

Hope you've had a great week since my last weekly email graced your inbox! I for one am beginning to feel like I'm cruising through the semester. I've fallen precipitously behind on all of my readings, the Union voted to repeal RFRA (that has to count for something, right? No?), and I discovered the natural proclivity for putting miniature umbrellas in one's hair, though I'm not sure if this is a general trend or if being at a Marxist beach party had any influence on my hairstyle choices. I also finally got some furniture for my suite, so I can put one futon and a coffee table in the "I got that going for me" list. Anyway, we have some fantastic events this week, culminating in the 80th Reunion of the YPU and the return of some of our beloved alums!



This cliff is actually made of the readings I have yet to do.

Come tell us about all of your glorious and not so glorious stories from the past week when the Libs meet **Monday** for **Lib Dinner** at **5:30 PM** in the **Silliman Dining Hall**. Here's to hoping that the line is small enough that I don't just give up and get a salad!

On **Tuesday**, we'll join the other parties in the palatial **Dunham Lab 220** at **7:30 PM** for our **YPU Debate** (seriously, I want to be in LC already). Our guest, Fox Business anchor **John Stossel**, will tell us how unregulated greed of a pure capitalist system magically transforms into giving a hoot about the buying public when he speaks in the affirmative on "**Resolved: An Unfettered Free Market is Better for Consumer Protection.**" I'm confused too.

On **Friday** at **8:30 PM** (Note the temporal changes!!!) in a location **TBA**, the week will heat up when the Libs meet for our **Discussion** on the topic "**Should some books be burned?**" What is the power of information? Who controls the platform for public speech? Is art susceptible to ethical evaluation? There's nothing like a little intellectual activity to get your weekend started! Also, the Lib alums will be back to help spur the discussion with some of that "real world" insight. For a little more preparation, [these articles](#) discuss various issues related to the possible paths that the discussion could go.



The illustrious Eliza Scruton was witness to such awe-inspiring cuteness.

To finish out the week of Lib events with a further bout of nostalgia, join current Libs and alums alike in **Sudler Hall** at **2:00 PM Saturday** for the **YPU's 80th Reunion Debate** on the topic "**Resolved: America Should be the World's Policeman.**" Come hear some great stories from the alums and watch their perfect hissing form!

Lib of the Week

This week's installment of Lib of the week comes to you from the greater New Haven metro area! His love of musicals, amazing knowledge of classic actors and actresses, and his never-ending cheer always leave you with a smile on your face! (Also his Union speech on redistributing real estate was one of the best things, ever).



Timing one of Adrian's comments.

Name: Kenneth Jackson

DOB: The era of cheerfulness

Likes: trains, Joe Biden (see first like) all of the fruit, Nicki Minaj, football (the real one), funny people, parrots, math, Brazil, rice and beans, The West Wing, 30 Rock, traveling, reality TV competitions, pretty colors, group hugs, Casablanca, old movies, Jennifer Lawrence, Meryl Streep, and happiness.

Dislikes: Cars, football (the not real one), airports, shoveling snow, all insects except ladybugs, James Franco, lame people, sadness.

Fun Fact: Yellow is my favorite color.

Hope to see you around this week!

Cheers,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 5

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Mon, Sep 22, 2014 at 12:01 AM

unLIBited

Dearest Libs,

What a wonderful weekend we just had! Our amazing alums returned to campus to check up on the party [read: try to make sure we haven't messed things up yet] and shower us with hilarious stories, the belief in the power of theory to overcome empirical evidence, opportunities to get out of the dining hall, and all of their wonderful kindness. Gathering in Sudler for a YPU debate with all the alums was like some sort of time warp (in a non-Rocky-Horrorresque way?). Watching the alums get riled up one more time at the right's debate antics made for an enjoyable experience, complete with the drama of endless motions that ended up with the body narrowly voting down "Resolved: Man" (what a divisive and thought-provoking resolution!). We're sad about those alums unable to make it, but once again can't wait for their return. It's fitting that this week continues in the line of unique events, as we have several awesome Lib gatherings that happen once in a blue moon! (Really they aren't that irregular. I just wanted to use that expression. Also, we're painting a wall this week, which I'm *super* excited about)



Butterfly meet-ups are really cute and not scary at all. Don't let Kenneth convince you otherwise.

This **Monday** from **5:30 PM** until the end of time (the Party don't stop), the Libs will take up our usual spot in the **Silliman Dining Hall** for **Lib Dinner**. Come reflect on your weekend events and imbue them with a sense of greater meaning through the reassuring (liberal) lens of good company and super amazing awesome great dining hall food!

Taking a break from traditional Union activity, the next event on the list won't take place until **Thursday**. While this two day lull in Lib events will force me to scramble to reconstruct my sense of direction in life, I am confident that I will survive by looking forward to another thought-provoking **Discussion**. At **7:30 PM** in the **WGSS Lounge (WLH 309)**, we will meet to discuss "**Is Fashion Inherently Classist?**" How do we consciously choose to portray ourselves and our identity? How is fashion used as a political tool? Should we all wear the same clothing? Here's an [article](#) that reconciles fashion *done right* with feminism, this [piece](#) discusses fashion more broadly as a form of political communication, and this other [article](#) discusses the phenomenon of brand fetishism (it's as close as we'll get to JSTOR, Evan).



Nature's own fashion statement, without the potential ethical dilemmas!

On **Friday**, the Libs will hold our first **Jonathan Brewster Bingham Forum** (!) of the year with Professor Hélène Landemore. Professor Landemore's work, building on the idea of collective intelligence, focuses on democratic theory and the practical application of this theory to governments. We'll be meeting for this fascinating conversation at **1:00 PM** in the **Morse Fellows Lounge**.

Finally, we will tap into our creative element this **Saturday**, when the Libs join the **Under 91 Project**

for their awesomely-named community service project, the **Paint the Walls Block Party**. I-91 separates the Fair Haven and East Rock communities, and we'll be helping to add some vibrant, inviting colors to the bland concrete underpass there. Meet us at **1:00 PM** at **High Street Gate** before we head out to the event!

Lib of the Week

This Lib of the Week is subject to way too many puns about the pronunciation of his last name, mostly because they're so appropriate to his awesome personality. With his Midwestern charm and sympathetic ear, he truly is one of the Neisest [read: nicest] Libs!



Jacob reveling in the benefits of patriarchal capitalism.

Name: Jacob Neis

DOB: 5/29/1913

Preferred shoe type (we're talking about clothing this week, after all): sandals

Likes: Baking, Billy Collins, Sid Meier's Civilization, cheesecake, water skiing, [Nertz](#), buttercream frosting, Wagner as composer, the Nancy Drew computer games, Michael Chabon, the Riemann zeta function, strong smelly cheese, Debussy, Lib alumni, black coffee, Scrabble, milk chocolate, stubble, Annie Dillard, Tchaikovsky 6, caprese salad

Dislikes: Pumpkin pie, Wagner as person, Stalin, jet-skis, Ayn Rand, suburbia, the "free" market, country music, the two-party system, Instagram, mechanical pencils, milk, middle school, "coffee" drinks, religious education, Charles Dickens, libertarianism, raw tomatoes in the absence of mozzarella and basil, Twitter

Fun fact: Jacob is the fifth eldest son in a row on his father's side. This is the only reason he is even remotely nostalgic for the Middle Ages.

Looking forward to another liberal week with y'all!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 6

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Mon, Sep 29, 2014 at 12:36 AM

unLIBited

Loquacious Libs,

I have a problem. I leave my thermos/bottle/ mug/I-don't-know-the-technical-name-for-this-thing (I'll just call it "thermos") everywhere. After losing my first "thermos" on the opening day of classes, I ran to Walgreens to get the exact same one and attempt to erase the memory of my laughable forgetfulness. Since then, I've made approximately 15 mad dashes around campus to the locations where I had, again, picked up my bag but not the cylindrical object 12 inches away from it. I mean, this "thermos" is really shiny, and I have no clue why it keeps slipping my mind to pick it up. Thankfully, I still have it and its restorative [read: caffeinated] properties, and my luck in this arena of life struggles is a good omen for the rest of the semester! Lib events, however, are always awesome and don't rely on the (non)permanence of my "thermos". This week, we have a wonderful slate of events for our collective enjoyment! Of course, my excitement for the events to come will inevitably lead to a distracted mind and another abandoning of my "thermos" halfway up Science Hill, but these Lib gatherings are definitely worth that mini-heart attack of sudden realization that accompanies leaving objects behind in various places.

On a sad note, this **Monday** will mark the end of an era in **Lib Dinner** history. Our once bounteous benefactor, Silliman Dining Hall, has decided to close dinner to transfer swipes for a significant portion of Monday dinner. Though we know Silliman loves us, the Libs have become the proverbial baby thrown out with the bathwater, and we'll be meeting at **5:30 PM** in **Calhoun Dining Hall** this week. Come share your weekend stories with us, and (if you're a freshman) let us help you tailor that Freshman Prize speech!



Bring out your colorful side at Lib Dinner!

On **Tuesday**, we will gather in **Sudler Hall** at **6:30 PM** (note the temporal change!) for this year's **Freshman Prize Debate**, during which large swathes of freshmen fledglings will get their feet wet in the swampy waters of the YPU for the first time! Our glamorous libfrosh will be giving captivating speeches on the topic "**Resolved: Be Good, Not Great.**" For those not currently registered, you can still sign up [here](#).

This **Thursday**, recover from the long grind of academic life by treating yourself to a fine morsel of intellectual activity! The Libs will be meeting in the **WGSS Lounge (WLH 309)** at **7:30 PM** for a **Discussion** on the topic "**What is the Purpose of Punishment?**" How do we hold individuals accountable for their actions? How does punishment relate to justice? Which methods of punishment are acceptable? To provide a little food for thought, here's an [interview](#) with a prison abolitionist, while this [article](#) compares prisons' role as deterrents to their role as incapacitators removing lawbreakers from society.

This **Saturday**, the Libs will be putting on our hiking boots (regular shoes are also great) for our **Picnic at East Rock**! It's a great Lib tradition in which we traverse part of New Haven, grab lunch together, and enjoy the wondrous views offered by an appropriately named monolithic piece of earth. We will be leaving at **11:00 AM** from **Phelps Gate** to make our epic trek (I'm obviously fond of hyperbole). Don't forget to bring water and some sunscreen!



East Rock: New Haven's Matterhorn.

Lib of the Week

This week's chosen liberal is full of laughs, selfies, and great lipstick choices. As one of the most passionate people I know, she is always a strong, constant presence who puts her beliefs into action. She also wields institutional power over me this semester, so I better make sure not to make too much fun of her right now.



The Jenga Star of the YPU?

Name: Sarah "Silla" Giovanniello

Nickname: 'iello (can we make this happen please?)

DOB: Waiting to be reborn as the next Rosa DeLauro

Likes: Honesty, Italian food, block parties, Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand, synesthesia, complaining, Dostoevsky, swearing, titanium, the Director of Development of the Yale Political Union, «Давай поженимся!», ginger ale, black, New Haven politics, Orange, collaging, condescension

Dislikes: Verbal aspect, pork, Tolstoy, steel, J. Crew, bubblegum, pantsuits, gender essentialism, orange, humidity, condescension

Fun Fact: Sarah stands a proud (approximate) 4 feet and 11 inches tall.

Have a great week, and I hope to see you at some of our events!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 7

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Oct 5, 2014 at 11:01 PM

unLIBited

Laudable Libs,

Based on my sequential numbering of weeks, it appears that the semester will soon be halfway complete! Time is certainly flying, though I am still awaiting the return of autumn (and its more important accomplice, sweater weather). We have already entered the thick of Lib events, as evidenced by our return to Pepe's this Saturday, where even a framed picture of an overly enthused Ronald "Regan [*sic*]" hanging over one of the tables could not dim the liberal merriment taking place. Additionally, our wonderful libfrosh competed admirably at the Freshman Prize Debate, with Eugene Lim '18 (yay redundancy) receiving a signed book as a prize! With such an auspicious start to the semester, it may seem like an era of transcendence is upon us. By this I mean that I can foresee our bad puns reaching a state of perfection never before achieved (they've been particularly *bad* recently, keep it up!), which is the first sign that the establishment of the Lib Commune can't be far behind. Since I've now concluded that destiny is on our side, I hope you'll be a witness to history and join us for our awesome events this week.



It's written in the stars (whatever it is).

Join us in our new refuge, **Calhoun Dining Hall**, this **Monday** at **5:30 PM** for the traditional **Lib Dinner**. We have lots of things to talk about! Subjects may include, but are not limited to, our future careers as meteorologists (or our ability to use weather.gov to figure out that East Rock just wasn't in the works this Saturday), the impending hissfest that will be Union with Alberto Gonzalez, and the yet-to-be-taken-out knife-in-the-back that is Silliman's new transfer swipe policy (yes, I'm still sore about this).

If your week needs some drama (like, on the level of that kind of climactic tension that few things other than Tommy Wiseau can create), join us **Tuesday** at **7:30 PM** in **Sudler Hall (WLH 201)** for our **Union Debate** with former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who will be speaking in the affirmative (duh) on "**Resolved: Do Not Grant Citizenship to Undocumented Immigrants.**" If you feel like America has *any* responsibility for our actions in other countries (or subscribe to one of the variety of other reasons to be infuriated), come hiss with me a lot.



A clinical case of Union shock.

This **Thursday** the Libs will meet at **7:30 PM** in the **Branford Trumbull Room** (It's in Branford) for a **Discussion** on the topic "**What Do We Owe Our Families?**" (The fact that it's on the eve of Parents' Weekend is pure coincidence, we promise). Here's some questions (potentially) worth pondering: is there legitimacy to the claim that a biological connection necessitates a different kind of relationship? How do we balance responsibility between family units and others? Do I have a responsibility to carry on the legacy of grandma's chicken dish recipe? Additionally, for some intellectual feeder, here's an [article](#) on the psychological repercussion of bad parenting, as well as another [work](#) detailing the nature of "special obligations." Despite points raised at discussion, it's recommended that you don't cancel on seeing your parents if they'll be here this weekend.

Lib of the Week

This LotW (just noticed that connection) is the most adorable and over caffeinated person ever. She is also a profound thinker, ridiculously fast reader, and a provider of an endless *Gemütlichkeit* wherever she is found (she was in Germany this past summer, lucky Germans).



Ah, the joys of fruit identification.

Name: Emaline Eyebright Kelso

Preferred material for a statue likeness: Caffeine + Hugs

Likes: coffee, friendship, books, German pop music, cuddling, puns, frosting, santa cruz, poppies and lilac, candy-making, bee and puppycat, diners, 'Patons Shetland Chunky Yarn, Biscuit,' cheesecake, g. a. cohen, cosmopolitanism, dark beer, ugly blazers, being out in the rain, being read poetry, arguing

Dislikes: being sad, tomatoes, loneliness, regular blazers, bananas

Fun fact: Her nickname is Preshi, short for Preciously Pretty Princess, if you asked her mother.

See y'all around sometime this week!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 8

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Oct 12, 2014 at 11:13 PM

unLIBited

Lucky Libs,

If you're through with midterms, you may have ventured outside for long enough to notice the change in the air. Saturday greeted us with frost-tipped wings (why Saturday is of avian nature is still unclear), and along with the gradual seasonal shift from wearing the last vestiges of summer gear to looking like [Bibendum](#) (aka "The Michelin Man") by winter break comes several great changes. One of these revolutions is that flourishing of microorganisms which leaves us all exhausted and sick. I recall with sharp clarity the apocalyptic warnings delivered by one of my freshman fall professors proclaiming the terror to be wrecked upon the student populace by the agglomeration of diverse microfauna in a dense locale (what was equally interesting was the Foucauldian clinical gaze with which the professor mapped out the development of disease among members of the class). While this insight now allows me to blame my current cold on California, it also has no relevance to anything the Libs are doing this week. In forming a perfectly cheesy segue, instead of opting for touting the healing properties of Lib events ("Lib events prevent colds"), I'll go the other route and say that sickness won't dampen the spirit of our upcoming events. After all, the party that sneezes together, stays together!



It's never too cold to hit the beach!

To start off your libtastic week, join us once again for another lovely round of **Lib Dinner** on **Monday** at **5:30 PM** in the **Calhoun Dining Hall**. Come share stories of how your parents embarrassed you this past weekend (I've got quite a few) and tell us about your plans for fall break! If you're not convinced that Calhoun dining is better than Silliman, listen to this rave review by a fellow lib: "The food was slightly different."

If photo-ops with politicians are your thing, then we have a treat for you! (Just in case Alberto Gonzales isn't your favorite person to take selfies with) The ever-coiffed **John Edwards** will be visiting the **YPU** on **Tuesday** to enlighten our feeble, sophist minds with a speech in the affirmative on "**Resolved: Build Coalitions, Not Bases.**" Come to **SSS 114** at **7:30 PM** as we argue (again) about America's conduct on the international stage.

On **Wednesday**, join the Libs at **7:00 PM** for a chance to help impact the course of Connecticut history! The gubernatorial race is dead even, and we'll be meeting for a **Ward 1 Committee Canvass** to support Governor Malloy in the momentous vote which is now less than a month away. Meet at **1175 Chapel St., #303** to fight political apathy on campus!



Group hugs are the best way to get through midterm season.

If you want a greater philosophical underpinning for telling that humanities teacher why you can't interpret the

artworks listed for your next paper, join us **Thursday** at **7:30 PM** in the **Selin Lounge** (in **TD**) for our **Discussion** on the topic “**Must art be accessible to everyone?**” Is art produced for the artist or for the people? Does high art have a right to exist? What is the role of museum in forming perceptions of art? Here's an interesting perspective on **populism's** effect on art.

Does Mother Nature ever win? Well, probably in the long run, but not this week! Our will to believe will hold back the vile forces of precipitation as we trek up to **East Rock** this **Saturday**. Bring good hiking shoes and plenty of water. We'll be meeting at **Phelps Gate** at **11:00 AM** before heading out to scale the heights of New Haven!

Lib of the Week

Lib of the Week returns (surprise!) with a lib whose name is synonymous with awesome. Always humble (even in admitting the class on display during Barca's 5-0 2010 victory over Real), his capacity for self-reflection consistently challenges us to ponder our convictions at a deeper level. He's basically the chillest.



The cutest baby in the Lib Commune.

Name: Daniel Giraldo

Started wearing winter clothes: end of September (those Floridians)

Likes: Real Madrid, futbol, social democracy, Chicken Tender thursday, Vampire Weekend, Wenzels, James Rodriguez, stoke's theorem, woads, pizza, Pulp Fiction, Millonarios CF, the Arctic Monkeys, LBJ, The Big Lebowski, The Godfather, the Strokes, Marx, the White Stripes, Bernie Sanders, Luis Carlos Galan, Breaking Bad, John Rawls, The Stranger, Ernest Hemingway, Ajisen Ramen, DTF (Din Tai Fung), Cien Años de Soledad, Cristiano Ronaldo, the French Revolution, Candide, Brazil National Team 1982, spadel

Dislikes: Republicans, Barcelona FC, Death Cab for Cutie, Ronald Reagan, Dead Poets Society, Lionel Messi, Leibniz, neoliberalism, the CIA, Teddy Roosevelt, Metternich, Chavez, Clinton, supply-side economics, Dani "flop to get Pepe sent off in the Champions League semifinal" Alves, the Brazil National Team post 1986, Chicharito Hernandez, hair metal, that Chelsea team that won the Champions league, the Mexican National Team, Univision.

Fun Fact: His full name is William Daniel Felipe Giraldo Paez

We have cool events, and I hope you'll be there to make them even cooler!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 9

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Oct 19, 2014 at 11:52 PM

unLIBited

Lackadaisical Libs,

“Brevity is the soul of wit,” said a guy who got stabbed while hiding behind a tapestry. While this week may be cut short by the Yale administration’s sad excuse for getting us out of their hands for a few days (you thought they gave us a break because the students wanted it?), there’s no reason for me not to ramble on about life at Yale or how great caffeine is for long car drives to Boston and back done on minimal sleep. However, just as Bush’s watercolors speak for themselves (while the [cryptic bathing scenes](#) are certainly of interest, my favorite is his portrait of [Václav Havel](#), which I’ve interpreted as a classis rendering of the “cute old guy” theme), this week’s events don’t need the lengthy introduction I’m giving anyway. Just to be clear, the manner in which these events speak for themselves is quite different from the former president’s artistic habits (as a sidenote within a sidenote, I hope he’s learning from the magical being, [Bob Ross](#), who produces trees out of thin air).



The wonders of fall foliage, yet to be rendered in watercolor by our former president.

First things first (can I still use this expression in a post-Iggy Azalea world?), we'll be having **Lib Dinner** this **Monday** at **5:30 PM** in the **Calhoun Dining Hall**. Tell us about your break plans, cats, that new TV show which has you four weeks behind on your humanities class's readings (it's fine, it *is* a humanities class after all), and your love (or disdain) of sweater weather! Eat too, because that's important.

Now, as we all know, the left is a nefarious force corrupting the youth and slowly turning the once spotless, courageous, independent hearts of American citizens into slabs of jello not proud enough to stand up for those core American tenets of xenophobia, discrimination, pretending that equality of opportunity exists, tacitly accepting oppressive power structures, and, of course, "*family values*". It's with proud distinction that we get to stand next to this week's **YPU Debate** guest, notably rich conservative guy **Sean Fieler**, and debate whether or not we are attempting to destroy the family (at least, the type of family that Fieler holds dear) with our desire to ensure all people have access to anti-family things such as food and healthcare. We'll be meeting in the glorious **LC 102** at **7:30 PM**, following Lib Dinner this **Monday** (note the date!), to debate "**Resolved: the Left is Destroying the Family**." If anyone's down to go catch a suburban nuclear family and put them in a cage for us to throw tomatoes at during the debate, let me know ASAP!!!



Better hide from those scary liberals and their nefarious plots.

While this week is short, that certainly doesn't mean it is short on opportunities to make an impact on campus. This **Tuesday**, the Graduate Employees and Students Organization (**GESO**) will be having a **RALLY** to push the administration to finally allow graduate students to unionize! The Libs will meet at **4:45 PM** at **High Street Gate** to be a part of this important effort to win a seat at the table for an integral part of this university whose voices are so often ignored by our administration.

Lib of the Week

This Lib of the Week has a knack for all things Русский, a great sense of humor, some of the best facial hair this party has ever seen, and an ability to state his insights succinctly and eloquently (most notably through his passion for limericks, which sum up discussion nicely even when he's not present and sends us one beforehand, somehow).



Secretly proud of those who vandalized his glasses.

Likes: Bridges, Trains, Emma Goldman, the District of Columbia, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, John Lennon, Ralph Nader, limericks, Howard Zinn, Bulat Okudzhava, socialism, Regina Spektor, the Paris Commune, Being slightly too loud when I should be quiet and slightly too quiet when I should be loud, blueberry pie, cherry pie, Lenin, optimistic nihilism, Hobbes the Tiger, the words "absurd" and "indubitably", Team Wombat, well-timed sarcastic comments that are inappropriate to the situation and unappreciated by a substantial portion of whomever I am with, scarves, squirrels, Wes Anderson, Richard Dawkins (more for the biology than the atheism), Former Soviet Republics, man purses, Monty Python, Bulgakov, The West Wing, Cherry Blossoms, walking, Putin (in that he's fascinating), bouncy balls, squirrels with little hats, love, heading west in times of doubt

Dislikes: People who dislike bridges, boredom, Hobbes the philosopher, Ayn Rand, Camels, Jingoism, coercion, Milton Friedman, Instagram, Putin (in that he's an authoritarian autocrat), milk, permanence, libertarianism, apathy, pretty much all of Russia's infrastructure, Aristotle, twitter, neocolonialism, people who tell me my limericks have to have a particular meter, conservative counter-revolutions, guns, vodka, lampreys, tradition for tradition's sake, Mensheviks, that one guy who said that very specific thing to me at the bar with the stuff next to that other place (you know the one I'm talking about), meat and meat products

Fun Fact: While hopping along some stone staircases in the Moscow metro system this summer, Joe hurt his toe and has since been unable to bend it in the ways he once could.

Hope to see you at our events this week, and have a relaxing fall break!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 10

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Oct 26, 2014 at 11:24 PM

unLIBited

Lazy Liberals,

I hope your break has been as unproductive and lazy as my own. Despite the pile of assignments due the week back, it's always nice to kick back, relax, and pretend like you're not *actually* enrolled in a university at all. What is homework, anyway, but a means of reinforcing the traditional teacher-student power structure? (By connecting this break's escape from reality to an escape from oppressive hierarchies, I hope I've demonstrated the inherent value of being lazy). Luckily, the end of this week brings another fantastic chance to put the world behind us, and to pretend we're characters that aren't even of our own creation, whom we chose because, despite our nominal desire to chuck reality out the window, we're still stuck trying to communicate a shared experience to other humans in a way that reinforces the bonds of society we pretend to be escaping (how... depressing?). This cultural phenomenon is, of course, Halloween, and its occurrence coincides with a distinctive Lib event that is also all about inverting the norm. Feel free to wear costumes to any Lib event this week (or any week), although I'm guessing that if you do so Monday or Tuesday everyone around you will be confused why you've started Halloween so early (despite the fact that Halloween is the favorite holiday(s) of college students, who seem like the only part of the populace willing to undergo the emotionally exhaustive challenge of preparing three different costumes for one weekend).



October Break. Sleep you next year.

Monday means **Lib Dinner**. Lib Dinner is an event where the Libs gather around a table. We also eat dinner together. We share stories and laughs and, (sometimes) we have fun. I hope you can join us for Lib Dinner. It will be held in **Calhoun Dining Hall** at **5:30 PM**. Come check it out! Monday means Lib Dinner. Lib Dinner is an event...

Need to get the rust off your intellectual organs (it's a metaphor, don't think about it too much) after a long break? **Tuesday** provides the perfect opportunity to do just that (to get you ready for the intellectual rigor needed this Thursday, most importantly). We'll join the rest of the Union for a **YPU Debate** with Professor **Jason Stanley**, who seems pretty cool (and **pensive**), on the topic "**Resolved: Propaganda Is Bad for Democracy**." This shindig will take place at **7:30 PM** in **Sudler Hall**. Regardless of the outcome, I hope that ads like [this one](#) get banned soon!



Democracy: about as contorted as this tree.

On **Wednesday**, the Libs will take part in a **Ward 1 Committee Canvass** to support Governor Malloy in his reelection bid. The race is the closest in the country, and the Libs will be helping to get out the crucial student vote. Please meet at **1175 Chapel Street, #303** at **7:00 PM** to support progressive governorship here in Connecticut and throughout the country!

Once in a blue moon ;) there comes a time when the seductive appeal of Robert's Rules weakens even our strong liberal constitutions to the point of submission ;) Despite this role reversal that might seem to leave the party's identity up in the air ;) we keep in check this hidden lust for the debate format by allowing only the most (ig)noble of resolutions to be entertained on our floor ;) This **Thursday** ;) we will meet at **7:30 PM** in the **Branford-Trumbull Room** to debate the topic "**Resolved: You've Been Naughty ;)** ;)" What guilty pleasures have you been satisfying recently ;) Does private morality even exist ;) Why am I using winky faces instead of question marks or other proper punctuation ;) Costumes are *required* for this exciting event ;) Personally ;) I'm hoping someone goes as **socialism with a human face** ;)

Before heading off to enjoy the wonders of YSO (or, like me, to mope around after not getting a ticket), come join the Libs this **Friday** for a **Halloween Party**! Please do come in costume for this spooky event (although, what's truly spooky/frightening is the Libs' taste in costumes). The festivities will take place in **Branford H-31**, starting at **7:00 PM**. Come with plenty of duct tape so we can restrain Matt and prevent him from attempting a séance with Jonathan Brewster Bingham (please let sleeping Libs lie).

Lib of the Week

This week's chosen one hails from the great land of dairy and beer (Wisconsin). A former Vice Chair (and one-time fellow secretary!), this compassionate fellow does not fear our robot overlords (he's MCDB), gives basketball the great praise it's due, and has a unique energy which makes him so passionate about the topics that interest him while also making time spent in his presence so enjoyable.



Separated by ages, but one in heart.

Name: Nate Rein

DOB: When Ishtar returned from visiting Ereshkigal in Irkalla

Lykes: the People's Liberation Army of Yale (PLAY), microbiology, Godzilla films, Milwaukee, IPAs, Magic: the Gathering, Hank Hill, Russ Feingold, the differential effects of antibody Fc sialylation on inflammatory pathways, Sufjan Stevens, the NBA, the Sierra Club, Flying Lotus, technocracy, the Dune series, ambient beat music, stream-of-consciousness literature, reading the leaflets dropped over Japan before the atomic bomb while listening to Threnody for the Victims of Hiroshima, phō.

Dyslykes: St. Louis, Phoenix, Kraft american "cheese," Subway, The Lonely Island, all the hate that Yale Mental Health gets, the War on Drugs, the sad decline of Ludacris' music, warmongering, Wenzels, people who pretend that there is a massive void of nothingness between the Appalachians and the Sierra Nevada, my GPA.

Fun Fact: Tamarind lions are adorable.

Have a frightening(ly good) Halloween week, and I look forward to seeing y'all at our events!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 11

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 12:00 AM

unLIBited

Lovely Libs,

This week carries with it several major developments. First, the weather today has heralded that fall weather will soon no longer consist of light breezes, light sweaters, and lovely walks to see autumnal colors (just remember, please *avoid* enjoying the above with pumpkin spice lattes in hand!). For all those students transplanted, like me, from more moderate climates, this change for the cold informs us that it is time to prepare for hibernation (one can sleep away the winter, I promise). Please contact me if you'd like to help me collect supplies and map out all the routes around campus that maximize time spent indoors. Second, and most importantly, there is an Election this Tuesday! The Connecticut governor's race is neck-and-neck; if you want to see progressive governorship continue in this country, get out and vote Malloy! Finally, we have another full week of great Lib events to help you rediscover your purpose in life. Culminating in a lovely trip outside the bounds of New Haven, this week's events will contain the proper ratio of liberal (revolutionary) camaraderie to (geo)political discourse necessary to keep the world spinning and keep certain [baleful influences](#) at bay.

This **Monday**, the Libs will once again grace **Calhoun Dining Hall** with our presence for another traditional **Lib Dinner**. Talk about your Halloween activities (and your great costumes!), the onset of late semester procrastination, and that winter-is-coming-type weather that I'm so unexcited about. The festivities will begin at **5:30 PM**.



Don't let fall foliage deceive you: it's cold outside.

This **Tuesday** is **Election Day**. This election is *too close* to throw away your vote, so do get out and vote! Seriously, go vote :) Once that has been taken care of, join the Libs for another **YPU Debate** in **Sudler Hall (WLH)** with the rest of the Union at **7:30 PM**. Environmental Activist **Helen Slottje** will be speaking on the expertly-worded topic "**Resolved: Frack, no!**" I sincerely hope her speech is as expletive-laden as the resolution suggests, but considering it's the Union I'll settle for more puns (how does "get the frack out of our water" sound?)

Intellectual stimulation is basically as good as caffeine, and this **Thursday** offers another chance to get energized with a Liberal double-header. First, join us at **4:45 PM** in the **Saybrook-Branford Room** to talk with Professor **Nuno Monteiro** about nuclear proliferation and other topics related to international relations. Come for a chance to learn from a field expert and interact with a professor outside the classroom (they're real people too!).

For the second act this **Thursday**, the Libs, after one short, hilarious moment of indiscretion last week (during which the *mightily efficient* Liberal debate machine managed to bring three resolutions to a vote), will be returning to the **Discussion** format at **7:30 PM** in **TBA** (just think of your favorite place to meet on campus, and bring down your expectations a notch or two). The topic worthy of our return will be "**Support Online Anonymity?**" Are lawless spaces possible? Should we support freedom of speech with or without accountability? How is the internet used to further the interests of the marginalized or, conversely, their oppressors? Here's an [article](#) discussing anonymity in the context of minority rights and cyber-bullying (yes, it might be about Facebook, but it's still valid).



When it comes to hiding, this foal isn't fooling anybody.

Finally, to give your week an appropriately memorable Liberal ending, take a short ride on the Metro North (yay public transit!) this **Friday** with the Libs as we take part in our wonderful **New York Trip**! We'll be frolicking around "the City" doing various liberal-related things for a whole day of lib-awesomeness. Contact splendidly fantastic Vice Chair Emaline Eyebright Kelso for more information!

Lib of the Week

This week's awesome Lib is a Berkeley freshman from Brooklyn who sometimes masquerades as the embodiment of Christmas spirit (by sometimes I mean this Halloween), which is pretty appropriate to her spirited personality and consistent level of enthusiasm (!!!)



Even her expressions of discontent have a certain amount of pizzazz.

Name: Eleanor Womack

DOB: during that awkward time period where you're not sure if you count as a child of the 90's or of the 2000's

Likes: Boyhood, dark chocolate, Game of Thrones, sushi, leggings-as-pants, social mobility in French literature, water, bees, puppies, cats, Blue State, GORP, Neville Longbottom, whale puns, organized religion, matching socks, modern art, solidarity, clickhole, Birkenstocks w/ socks, gothic architecture, enchilada day, dirt, kale, butternut squash, you lovely people(!)

Dislikes: fingerprints on stuff, team sports, Instagram, leet speak, Reagan, tomato juice, the cold, having no bev, being caught no bev, self-serve frozen yogurt, bananas, when the dining hall is out of whipped cream

Congrats on making it this far through the email (unless you just skimmed it), and I hope to see you at some of our events this week!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 12

2 messages

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Nov 9, 2014 at 11:45 PM

unLIBited

Luscious Libs,

One could call last week a week of extremes. From a [REDACTED] that should be for the most part forgotten, to a wonderful time spent traveling the streets of New York, there was a little too much excitement for me to process properly. Thankfully it didn't lead to an existential crisis, but then again I've already met my quota for those this semester (not even counting those lovely "what am I gonna do for the rest of my life" kind of moments). Also going for me is the revelation I had (all thanks to [this](#) video!), which reminds me that I don't really have to think about complex processes when peanut butter proves it all wrong. I'm personally a fan of peanut butter, so I get reminded on the reg'. With that in mind, we have a bunch of cool events this week, which are happening not because there's precedence from the past for how Lib things work, but because of peanut butter. After all, if Lib events are due to a process of people meeting up and scheduling them over time, why don't lib events appear when I open up a jar of peanut butter?



Did not originate in a jar of peanut butter. Case closed.

I know your fingers have been crossed and you've been sweating it out all weekend, and I'm here to happily announce to you that **Lib Dinner** will in fact be happening this **Monday**. Join us at **5:30 PM** in the **Calhoun Dining Hall** for another round of our favorite cultic ritual in which we ingest mysterious substances while purging our minds of all the thoughts we'd like to get off of our chest.

Why do you need to go to Lib Dinner to let us know what you've been up to? Why not have the government take care of this for you and record all you say and do? The revolution **may not be televised**, but why not allow the government a little sneak peek into your aspirations to one day establish the Lib Commune? On the flip side, if you think privacy is a thing, make loud noise in support of **Amie Stepanovich** as she speaks in the *negative* (a bit unusual but oh well) at the **YPU Debate** this **Tuesday** on "**Resolved: If You Have Nothing to Hide, You Have Nothing to Fear.**" This rendition of Union enlightenment/bedlam (it's all a question of *perspective*) will begin at **7:30 PM** in **Sudler Hall (WLH)**.

After distilling your thoughts about the overpowering seductiveness of a surveillance state this Tuesday, come explore the diverse world of identity politics this **Thursday** when the Libs meet for a **Discussion** on the topic "**If the label doesn't fit, should we make our own?**" Why and how is identity articulated? How are identities used for political purposes? What is the effect of identifying with a label that doesn't fully fit us? Do identity politics prevent the formation of coalitions? For a few primers, here's an **article** critiquing identity politics (from a Marxist perspective!), and **another** in defense of identity politics against some common objections raised. We'll be exploring the nuances related to these issues at **7:30 PM** in the lovely **TBA**.



Butterfly swarms aren't analogous to identity politics, but I might as well use this picture.

Self-conscious of your singing abilities? Well, so are we, but luckily we can all decide to put that aside for one night and show off that hidden "talent" for Ke\$ha covers. This [Friday](#), the Libs will be gathering in the [Saybrook TV Room](#) at [9:00 PM](#) for a night of merrymaking and doing (in)justice to your favorite tunes. This [Karaoke Night](#) is a tradition not to be missed! Please put in at least 3-4 hours this week deciding which songs you'll serenade us with.

Lib of the Week

This Lib of the Week was apparently uniquely identifiable back in her NJ community as "local girl scout" because she was so awesome at being one. While she may or may not still be in the game of selling tasty cookies (maybe if you ask nicely), she's currently involved in infusing our events with her spontaneous energy and insightful thoughts!



Way too happy for being indoors.

Name: Ariel Murphy

Favorite Girl Scout cookie: thin mints (sure, I didn't actually ask Ariel, but is there any other answer?)

Likes: puns, mashed potatoes, protests, singing, Girl Scouts, playing the cello, music, competitions, laughing until you can't breathe, making campfires, robotics, dancing around like a small child, hiking boots, big hair, debating, socialism, glitter, tea and coffee, burping, Libs

Dislikes: untied shoes, laryngitis, time wasted pooping, broken flip-flops, when you accidentally get eyeliner on your forehead, patriarchy, beats in physics, backpacking, capitalism, boogers that you can't feel but that other people can see, glitter, screaming children, sad story endings

Fun fact: I once sprained my ankle standing still in gym class.

Have a fantastic week and see you at our events!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

Ariel Murphy <ariel.murphy@yale.edu>
To: Monica Wang Hanratty <monica.hanratty@yale.edu>

Mon, Nov 10, 2014 at 12:43 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

unLIBited- Week 13

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Nov 16, 2014 at 11:12 PM

unLIBited

Lackadaisical Libs,

While we wade through the final stretch of the semester trying to survive that final rush of coursework with as few lasting scars as possible, it is important to note that we actually have reasons to be excited about the next few weeks! Not only will the Libs still be having events, but there's also the impending exodus to Boston this weekend and the Thanksgiving break which follows! While I recognize that many Libs' apathy for football outweighs their hatred of Harvard, I am actually super excited for the sporting events of this week (yes, we all might hate physical activity, but it's okay to watch other people doing it). Additionally, the festivities surrounding the Game are a great time to prove you're a loyal Yalie by othering Harvard students, trying way too hard to come up with (mostly lacking) Harvard jokes, and singing [our new cheer](#). While there's nothing like a college rivalry to bring out the [most interesting aspects of humanity](#), I'm also excited to be in Boston in the presence of my fellow Libs, because it will basically be cheating and having two out of town trips in one semester. So consider this weekend a logical end to another great week full of Lib events!

This **Monday**, a few Libs will arrive early to **Calhoun Dining Hall** and commandeer a *whole* table, with their scarves, sweaters, Czech-English dictionaries, and copies of *Why Marx was Right*. While these brazen claims to a whole swath of dining hall territory might be cause for an ethical crisis, other Libs will luckily be streaming in at **5:30 PM** to displace the surprisingly taciturn inanimate placeholders and make us look less like jerks for taking a whole table (but at least we'll still look like a cult!). Once you've reflected on the nature of this process, you can proceed to talk normally, because it's **Lib Dinner** after all.



~8: Number of Libs it takes to seat-check these wide expanses

The recent drops in temperature may mean that the average velocity of the molecules outside is decreasing, but the Union continues to chug along at full speed! My taste in bad jokes remains similarly unaffected. Anyway, this **Tuesday** at **7:30 PM**, the Libs will be claiming a whole section of seats (yes, more stealing of public goods) in the front left part of **Sudler Hall (WLH)** for another **YPU Debate**. This week features a very pertinent debate on the subject of the role of academic institutions in politics, as our guest, professor **Stanley Fish**, will speak in the affirmative on “**Resolved: This House Does Not Support Academic Boycotts.**”

Trans*/gender Awareness Week at Yale is currently ongoing, and this **Thursday** the Libs will be participating in an event to rally against the violence inflicted upon the trans community, with a vigil afterwards to commemorate those lost in the struggle for trans rights. The Libs will be meeting up at **4:45 PM** at **Phelps Gate** before heading out to this **Trans Day of Remembrance Rally** and **Candlelight Vigil**.

Later **Thursday** night, the Libs will have one of our most enjoyable events of the semester, **Toasting!** Come to share stories (storytime is such a thing), reflect on the Libs and life, and toast to whatever you want (as long as it isn't Reagan or Thatcher). This semester's rendition of this time-honored tradition will be taking place at **7:30 PM** in the **JE Seminar Room**. Yes, we're taking up a whole room for this event (curse our imperialist impulses!).



The feels.

Lib of the Week

This Lib of the Week is a lover of all things outdoors (well maybe not spiders, I haven't asked him about that yet). This Silliman freshman is also known for his soothing, magical voice which turns his enemies into best friends and allows him to ask birds for directions when hiking in the vast wilderness of the forests of the Northeast (so maybe they aren't "vast" or really "wilderness," but you get my point).



This is, like, way too much fun for one picture.

Likes: Trees, potted plants, chocolate, maps, quiet time, campfires, Amazon Prime, outer space, chicken tenders day, coalitions, revisionist history, airplanes, airports, Fitzgerald, the Paper Kites, kites, the Philae lander

Dislikes: John Green novels, bad fanfics, airplane food, exceptionalism, loud talking, cold, crunchy peanut butter, yams

Fun fact: I once wrote a terrible sci-fi young adult novel titled "Halcyon Skies"

See you around at our events this week!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell

unLIBited- Week 14

1 message

Mitchell Weldon <mitchell.weldon@yale.edu>

Sun, Nov 30, 2014 at 11:24 PM

unLIBited

Luscious, Luscious Liberals,

Tonight I can actually write the saddest lines, as the semester draws to a close and my tyrannical control over party information comes to an end. It has been a pleasure subjecting y'all to my own brand of humor(?), my use of landscape photography (which has unfairly led to a deep cognitive dissonance among party members in terms of reconciling these images with the psychological need for pictures of cute animals), and my lack of just about anything that could be considered "laconic." Anyway, as my reign of terror comes crashing down, I hope you'll tolerate my madness one last time (if you've made it this far I guess you already have). Anyway, despite the rampant sentimentality of the winter season (or, alternatively, the woeful dread of finals), the Libs have successfully resisted the temptation to sit around doing nothing, and have another full week of events to satisfy that overriding need to have a sense of community (in the wise words of Nelly Furtado, that archetypal voice crying in the wilderness, "Who wants to be alone?"). While you should seek to critique capitalism constantly, this is your one last chance this semester to do it in the company of friends and the endearing warmth of institutionalized events! Unfortunately, our critique of capitalism can't possibly be as cute as this [gem](#) from a pre-Thatcher UK children's show.



These cliffs are almost as cute as pictures of kittens.

You should definitely stop by **Calhoun Dining Hall** this **Monday**. While I can't promise that we'll be ending neoliberalism once and for all, we'll definitely be trying (I'm not sure how mealtime conversation will be effective in achieving this goal, but we'll cross that bridge when we get there). It's debatable if **Lib Dinner** is the bread and butter of the Liberal Party, but it *is* literally bread and butter, so it's worth your time. We'll be meeting at **5:30 PM** once again for this lovely comestible-fest.

The last week of the semester gives us time for one last foray into the world of the **YPU Debate**, one last chance to reach that quota for the amount of hissing we had set at the start of the semester. Sure, hissing might not be practically quantifiable, but we can always have *more* of it. This **Tuesday**, **Edmund Haislmaier** from the Heritage Foundation will be reminding us of how our current Healthcare system is horrible when he speaks in the affirmative on "**Resolved: America Needs a Single-payer Healthcare System.**" This week's debate/potential hiss-fest will take place at **7:30 PM** in **Sudler Hall (WLH)**.

Having an existential crisis about the holiday season? Not sure what the proper intersection of the rational and the emotional looks like? Luckily, the Libs will talk about these issues this **Thursday** during our **Discussion** on the topic "**When should we defy the wishes of the dead?**" Should a system of inheritance be allowed or thrown away entirely? Does ritual actually even matter? How are the deceased objectified? How do narratives of legacy affect the future actions of others? We'll be reflecting on these issues and more in a location that is currently imaginary (**TBD**) at **7:30 PM**. To give you some food for thought, here is an **article** written in the wake of the death of Margaret Thatcher that is strongly against respecting her (and dead people in general), while this **piece** advocates for the rationality of ritual.



Does my irrational love for puffins impede the construction of the Lib Commune?

Finally, to usher in a new era of Lib-tasticness, this **Friday** the Liberal Party will be holding **Elections**. It's that lovely time of the year when officers are abruptly reminded that their dream job will not last forever, will in fact be over after the night, and that a new face will now be associated with said dream job. So many feels, so little time, but a new crop of officers awaits to lead us into next semester!

Lib of the Week

For the last Lib of the Week, I'm happy to present a longtime Lib and the current Speaker of the YPU. This sometime chair is always there for support (with a reassuring smile and his patent-pending pat on the back), has an amazingly wide variety of interests (even if it leads him to be the youngest attendee at a Boston Symphony Orchestra matinée), and always brings plenty of great insight to every Lib function.



The lighting makes this scene even more surreal.

Name: Adrian Lo

Grad courses taken: all of them

Likes: Cities, immigration, Bela Tarr, turtlenecks, metric system, penguins, gavels, Leonard Bernstein, Manchester United, tea, wine, Unions, Wong Kar-wai, Diplomacy (board game)

Dislikes: Mass surveillance, Vladimir Putin, Saybrook dining, technocracy, air pollution, pepper spray, Grand Strategy, Monday

Fun Fact: My brother and I kept a colony of guinea pigs as pets (well, we started off with two and ended with like twenty at some point or another)

It's been a real pleasure to be your secretary this semester, and best of luck with all your endeavors!

Liberally yours,

Mitchell