

LIBstick: Spring 2000

Archives of the Liberal Party

Libstick

Op. 1 No. 1

January 9, 2000

A Message from your Secretary

(the one who actually writes this stuff)

You are holding the very first issue of Libstick, the voice of the Liberal Party of Yale University for the Spring Term of 2000. Every week, you will have delivered to you another issue of Libstick. Treasure it, enjoy it, take it for toilet reading or even read it in bed. It will tell you everything about everything that the Liberal Party has planned for the week. And then all you have to do is show up at your friendly neighbourhood Lib event!

The Liberal Party survives the Y2K bug!

You heard it right here so it must be true. The Liberal Party, the oldest party of the Yale Political Union, has survived the newest threat of immediate apocalypse. You know what that means: we're back on campus for an action packed millennium filled with Liberal Party events.

LIBGloss

Lib Dinner: Once a week, the Libs get together to have dinner. Come for the company of people guaranteed to be nice and conversation guaranteed to be interesting.

Lib Debate: This is when Libs gather to have some real good discussion on a topic that divides the left. Not only will you learn from other Libs, but you will also give other Libs a chance to learn from you. Ever been caught in a situation where you couldn't explain why you believe in what you believe in? Here's a chance to get some practice at it.

Viva's Night: Not only are the Libs the smartest, but we're also the coolest. We regularly show the rest of campus how to party with our countless social occasions, where you can relax and get to really know your fellow Liberals. This week, it'll be at Viva's. Watch out for more information.

YPU Debate: This isn't happening this week but will come up soon. The Yale Political Union Debate is where all six parties of the YPU get together to attend the visit of a well-known and well-respected guest and/or to debate with each other political issues of the day. If you're looking for diversity of opinion, this is the place. We think that the Liberal Party is the best (and most respectable) place to be in the YPU.

Election Results

After hours of deliberations and elections, here's how things look for Spring 2000:

LIBERAL PARTY

Adam Rosen, Chair

Shannon Baker-Branstetter, Vice-Chair

Matthew Nickson, Chief Whip

Robert Stockman, Community Secretary

Senwung Luk, Secretary
Sam Yebri, Treasurer

YPU

William Crawford, Independent Party, President
Mitchell Webber, Liberal Party, Vice President for Debate
Aaron Lemon-Strauss, Liberal Party, Vice President for Guests
Kathleen Tappen, Conservative Party, Treasurer
Austin Bramwell, Conservative Party, Speaker
Meghan Clyne, Conservative Party, Secretary
Justin Zaremby, Conservative Party, Floorleader of the Right
Timothy Willenken, Liberal Party, Floorleader of the Left

Congrats to all who won, especially to those of whom are Libs. All members of the Liberal e-board are very nice people and would welcome any emails, phone calls or a greeting on the street.

LIBService

The Liberal Party is the only party of the YPU that puts its principles into action in the community (and that's probably a good thing). Watch out throughout the year for community service activities that you can take part in with fellow Libs.

Liberalism in Action

Throughout the term, LIBStick will profile people from around the world who have made a difference by putting liberal ideals into practice. If you have any suggestions of people you think would be right for this section, please email senwung.luk@yale.edu.

Libstick

Op. 2 No. 1

January 16, 2000

A Message from your Secretary

Libs come in all sorts of shapes and sizes; so does LIBStick.

Rudy Crew to visit Yale

Rudy Crew, the headline-making former Chancellor of the New York City Board of Education, will come right to our doorsteps this week. Well, maybe not your doorstep or my doorstep, but the doorstep of a location to be announced. In fact, he'll walk beyond the doorstep and speak at the first Yale Political Union meeting of the year on the topic: Privatization hurts America's school system. The Libs need YOU to be there. If you want to speak (and you know you do), contact our very own Floor Leader of the Left, Tim, at timothy.willenken@yale.edu.

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of January 16, 2000:

Monday 5:30pm Lib Dinner, Commons, under the portrait of George Bush for irony's sake

Tuesday YPU Org Meeting with Dr. Rudy Crew - watch out for an announcement on the location!

RESOLVED: Privatization hurts America's school system

Wednesday 7:30pm Lib Debate, Saybrook Common Room

RESOLVED: A benevolent dictatorship is preferable to an ineffectual democracy

Thursday Lib Trip to Wooster Street! We'll enjoy New Haven-style pizza at Pepe's or Sally's. Meet at 6pm
at Phelps Gate.

Liberalism in Action

This week - Emiliano Zapata

Emiliano Zapata was born the son of a poor peasant farmer in the Mexican state of Morelos in 1879. He grew up resenting the control that large landowners held over the lives of millions of ordinary Mexicans. At the age of 18, he was arrested for protesting the appropriation of communal land. He began agitating the peasants in his region, and eventually earned a large following. He led the army of the Mexican Revolution under the banner of agrarian reform, and forced landowners off their land to restore communal property. He was still fighting in 1919 when government troops that were apparently mutinying lured him to a meeting, where he was killed. His cry of "Tierra y Libertad" still has great potency in Mexico, and although he is officially recognized as a national hero in Mexico, many of his ideals remain unfulfilled. However, he has definitely left his mark, even in the nightspot scene of our fair New Haven.

Sources: <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/3102/ipazap.html>, <http://www.zapatistas.org>

LIBGloss

If you read the other side of this issue of LIBStick, you would know that this week, the Liberal Party is planning a little excursion to the Wooster Street neighbourhood of New Haven. This part of the city was planned in the early nineteenth century, at the height of New Haven's period as a great port city. It was called the New Township. This name encapsulates the hope that the city had that the building of the Farmington Canal (now covered over by railroad tracks) would bring prosperity. The canal failed, however, and the city turned to manufacturing, the New Township becoming an important centre for that

as well. Many of the labourers who dug the Canal, and later worked in the factories were Irish. Later, in the 1890s, large numbers of Italians moved to New Haven, settling in this neighbourhood, and the Irish community gradually moved out. Interesting landmarks to pay attention to: Wooster Square, laid out as the New Township's response to the Green; the Columbus statue in the Square.

Source: Elizabeth Mills Brown, New Haven, A Guide to Architecture and Urban Design, YUP1976

The Last Word

It was great to see so many new faces at last week's debate. Hope to see even more of you this week!

Libstick

Op. 3 No. 1

January 23, 2000

A Message from your Secretary

Sorry! Before we start off this week, LIBStick would like to sincerely apologize for the conspicuous absence of Rudy Crew from Yale Campus. To all those who scoffed when LIBStick announced that Mr Crew would appear on our doorsteps: you were right, and LIBStick was wrong. LIBStick would like to add further, however, that it played absolutely no part in his non-arrival. But, alas, as they say, let bygones be bygones. For a whole new week of exciting LIBStuff awaits us.

Internet Censorship vs. Larry Flynt

Reports are already coming in of thousands of Yale students visiting www.hustler.com in order to "learn more about this guy coming to campus on Monday." That's right: publishing magnate Larry Flynt, outspoken, unabashed, and definitely very colourful, will speak to the Yale Political Union on the resolution, "Government should not censor Internet content." To those of you who are thinking of going just to get free subscriptions from Mr Flynt, word is that that's not part of his plan. For those of you who are thinking of attending for other reasons though, we assure you there are plenty of those. You should come at least to cheer on Adam as he makes his speech about us (the Liberal Party, that is). And of course, we always want people to speak out about issues on the liberal side of things, and if you want to oblige, let Tim Willenken, Floor Leader of the Left, know attimothy.willenken@yale.edu.

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of January 23, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner, 5:30pm, Commons

YPU Organizational meeting with guest Larry Flynt, 7:30pm, Law School Auditorium

RESOLVED: Government should not censor Internet content.

Tuesday Lib Debate, 8:00pm, Saybrook Common Room

RESOLVED: We don't have a right to property.

Friday Lib Movie Night! 7:00pm, Davenport TV Room

Michael Moore's anti-corporate classic *Roger and Me* and a second surprise movie TBA

Liberalism in Action

This week - William Gladstone

William Ewart Gladstone was the son of a wealthy grain merchant. At a young age, he aspired to a career in the Anglican Church, but his father forced him into politics. Even as a Member of Parliament, he was considered rather eccentric. He believed that God planted the vision of universal manhood suffrage in his mind, and that he was an agent of God responsible for reforming the political system in favour of democracy. He believed in democracy as an extension of the belief in the common fatherhood of God. However colourful his beliefs may be, he was often characterized as dull and uninteresting. An Emily Eden remarked, "If he were soaked in boiling water... I do not suppose a single drop of fun would ooze out." Nevertheless, he became Prime Minister in a Whig government. Despite his seemingly serious mannerisms, Gladstone was someone who tried to reach out to the masses. His whistle-stop speeches from a railcar horrified many, including the Queen. By his actions, he earned the admiration of a large number of people. Gladstone's work culminated in the granting of universal male suffrage in 1867. British women, however, would have to wait for the next century to get the vote.

Things that shouldn't be true but just may be

More people read *Hustler* than LIBStick.

There's more salt in dining hall food than on the streets of New Haven.

In The End

Lennon and McCartney, in their masterpiece symphony of a final album, let us know that "In the end, the love you take is equal to the love you take." While that may be true, LIBStick would like to let you in to another truth: The more you do at Yale, the more time you feel like you have. This seemingly oxymoronic statement is really true! And if you don't believe LIBStick, you can test it out yourself by coming to Lib events this week!

Libstick

Op. 4 No. 1

January 30, 2000

Who Wants to be a President?

If you asked quite a few of Liberal Party members how they really wanted to vote for President, they would probably name a fringe candidate whose chances of winning are about as impressive as the amount of money in my bank account. So, the best chance for the White House to implement what could be interpreted as liberal policies is still the Democrats. Come to a discussion sponsored by the Liberal Party, the Yale College Democrats, Students for Bradley and Students for Gore on who would make a better left-leaning presidential candidate. This would also be a great place to go if you want to find information on voter registration and absentee ballot information. See you there on Tuesday, at 7:30 in the Saybrook Common Room.

The Liberal Party presents for the week of January 30, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner, 5:30, Commons, at a secret location*

Tuesday Lib Debate, 7:30, Saybrook Common Room

co-sponsored by Yale College Democrats, Students for Bradley, Students for Gore

BRADLEY VS. GORE

Thursday - YPU Debate, 7:30pm, LC 102 with guest Dr. Lenora Fulani

RESOLVED: Ending Minority Politics is the Key to Black Political Power

LIBGloss

Dr Lenora Fulani is a self-described "black progressive." Due to her frustrations with the two party system, and her theories as a developmental psychologist that such a system limits the energy and creativity of a political system, she became interested independent politics. According to her website, she was the first ever African American woman to ever appear on the presidential ballot in all 50 states. As for this presidential election, she has, perhaps not as surprisingly as it may sound at first, put her support behind Pat Buchanan of the Reform Party. Sounds like it's going to be an interesting evening at the YPU on Thursday!

Liberalism in Action

This week - Aung San Suu Kyi

Aung San Suu Kyi's father was Aung San, a military leader who led the Burmese to victory against both Japanese and British colonial powers. Like many revolutionary heroes, he suffered the fate of assassination in 1947, leaving his daughter when she was only two years old. She attended St Hugh's College, Oxford University, majoring in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and graduated in 1967. She then worked for the United Nations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bhutan. She married Michael Aris in 1972, and in the 80s she worked in academia in Asia. In 1988, her mother, who was still living in Burma, fell very ill, and Aung San Suu Kyi returns to attend to her. At the same time, student protests were breaking out in Rangoon against the dictatorial regime of General Ne Win. His resignation triggered a pro-democracy movement that ended up in massacre after massacre of protesters by soldiers. The military regime then set up the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) and promised free and fair elections, while hoping that would splinter the opposition. Aung San Suu Kyi, however, emerged as a leader, and traveled around the country campaigning, engendering massive support. Even though 80% of

Burmese voted for her party, the junta refused to let go of power, and instead put her in house arrest. In 1991, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Her husband, who was not permitted to visit her, died in 1997 of severe illness.

Your Turn!

So now that you've gotten to the end of LIBStick, there's still one more thing to do. You've got to let me, the Secretary, know what you think of the quality of this whip sheet. Email me to tell me what you like and don't like about it! Constructive criticism is always preferred. If you're interested in providing content for either the whip sheet or the Liberal Party website, it would be great to hear from you too!

Libstick

Op. 5 No. 1

February 6, 2000

I Wonder if the President is Gay?

Should you have to ask that question? If the President were gay, should he or she let the public know? Do public figures have a responsibility to come out? Would such actions push forward the progress of gay rights? Or is it an infringement of privacy? I think you can see that this issue has a lot of far reaching implications. Come for a joint debate held by both your favourite party of the YPU, the Liberal Party, and our good friends at the Queer Straight Alliance on Wednesday to let us know what you think. See you there!

The Liberal Party presents for the week of January 30, 2000

Monday - Lib Dinner, 5:30, Commons, at a secret location*.

Wednesday - Liberal Party/Queer-Straight Alliance Joint Debate

RESOLVED: Queer public figures have a responsibility to come out.

Dwight Hall Common Room, 8:00pm

Thursday - Yale Political Union Gardner-White Prize Debate -Win **\$100!**

7:30pm. Location TBA. Come and compete to win some cash by speaking on a topic to be decided.

Details to follow via e-mail.

Friday - Lib Friday Night Dinner at Slifka Centre!

6:30pm Slifka Centre. You can't miss your second chance at having dinner with the Libs!

Liberalism in Action

Ken Saro-Wiwa was born in 1941, and attended university in Nigeria, where he was active in both the literature and dramatic scene. He, however, had to wait until his forties before his literary work began to receive acclaim. Not long afterwards, he became involved with environmental issues in the homeland of his Ogoni people in Nigeria. Shell, the oil company, has, according to environmental groups, since 1958 extracted over \$30 billion worth of oil from the area while destroying once fertile farmland and plentiful fishing stocks. In January 1993 he led a march of Ogoni people to demand that the Nigerian government address these wrongs. After many brief jailings, he was finally sentenced by a military tribunal to death in October 1995. He, along with eight of his co-defendants, were hanged on November 10, 1995.

Libstick

Op. 6 No. 1

February 13, 2000

Do You Smell Bad?

Have you ever wondered how you smell to other people? Good? Bad? Or maybe we all smell bad and it's just a matter of familiarity? Many people believe that you don't smell as bad to people you've been around for a long time. That would be a good reason to get married, so you feel more comfortable around your spouse. Is that the only reason to get married? Or are there many more good things about having a spouse, a special one who you love and live with forever? Should the institution of marriage be recognized by the government? Maybe you're reading this and thinking, "What's the world come to these days? LIBStick - even that's turned into romantic drivel in time for Valentine's Day." Either way you feel, you would have a great time telling everyone what you think at the Liberal Party Valentine's Day-inspired debate on the topic, "Marriage should be abolished," in Trumbull on Tuesday.

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of February 13, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner, 5:30 under the nose of George Bush '46

Tuesday Lib Debate, 7:30, Trumbull - (in honor of Valentine's Day Week) Resolved, Marriage Should Be Abolished.

Wednesday YPU Gardner-White Prize Debate, 7:30, Davies Auditorium, **Compete to win \$100!!** Resolved, Political Activity is Essential for Happiness.

Saturday New Haven Trip! Check your email early and check it often for details. This is going to be really exciting! Contact Commie Sec Rob Stockman for the latest info.

Liberalism in Action

Wang Dan was a university student, much like most of the people reading LIBStick today, but unlike us, he was in China, and the year was 1989. After almost a decade of economic reform, China was beginning to experiencesome measure of prosperity, albeit benefiting by and large only the élite and well-connected. Corruption was rampant. Wang Dan, like hundreds of millions of other Chinese, saw these problems as results of an unacceptable totalitarian system. Wang led the student protests in 1989 in Beijing, protests that brought out people from all walks of life in cities all across China. For a while, it looked as if the Chinese government would accept demands for reform, but on June 4th, 1989, the tanks rolled in to Tiananmen Square and crushed the students, killing hundreds, if not thousands, and put Wang on the top of their most wanted list. He survived underground until 1996, and, at least partly due to international pressure, was released to the United States in 1998. He now attends Harvard University but is still deeply committed to the cause of democracy.

Libstick

Op. 7 No. 1

February 20, 2000

The YPU, or the Jerry Springer show?

As you've probably heard by now, Jerry Springer is coming to town. With this, the YPU sets a new standard, a new record for...for what exactly? You decide. When all of you are cramped and cozy in front of Mr Springer on Thursday, you better not all be chanting, "Jerry! Jerry! Jerry!" Or do you think Jerry agreed to come because the people on the YPU stage are usually weird enough to be on his show?

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of February 20, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner Discussion, with guest Kelly Brownell 5:30pm Silliman Fellows Lounge

A discussion on Master Brownell's proposal of a "fat tax"

Tuesday Liberal Party Joint Debate with the Conservative Party!

7:30pm Saybrook Common Room

RESOLVED: THE UNITED STATES SHOULD POLICE THE WORLD

Thursday YPU Meeting with Jerry Springer!

7:30pm, SSS 114, Topic TBA

Friday Lib Ladies' Lunch! 12:30pm

Meet at Indochine Pavilion, at the corner of Chapel and Park Sts.

Liberalism in Action

All too often, we see examples of how those who claim religious conviction hurt others, but we do not hear enough the stories of those whose religion gave them a mission in life to serve those who needed it. One such example was Catholic Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador. He was born in 1917 and was ordained a priest in 1944. He worked for twenty-three years as a very successful secretary of a rural diocese. In the 1970s he rose in the hierarchy of the church, eventually becoming the Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977. In that same year, a protest in the capital was crushed by the military, and a radical priest friend of his was tortured and killed. Romero decided he could not sit on the sidelines and watch while all of this happened. He began to document the human rights abuses that were taking place all around him. Many criticized him for bringing politics into the church, and he began to fall out of favour with the Catholic authorities. On March 24, 1980, he was assassinated while celebrating mass by a death squad trained by the United States. Although Romero is no longer with us, his message is still very relevant: "The church would betray its own love for God and its fidelity to the gospel if it stopped being 'a defender of the rights of the poor' a humanizer of every legitimate struggle to achieve a more just society." Today, there is a movement within the church to canonize him.

Smaller, Shorter, and Cut in Half

You might have noticed that recently LIBStick has been smaller, shorter, cut in half, and less satisfying in general. Due to recent budget cuts, everyone's favourite Spring 2000 whip sheet has been shrunk to one page in length. If anyone wants to correct this situation by organizing a PBS-style pledge campaign, or is interested in building up a Liberal Party endowment fund (if Harvard had a Liberal Party, we'd have an endowment half their size, of course), please let LIBStick know.

Libstick

Op. 8 No. 1

March 19, 2000

Time to Get Past Third Base with your Partner

You know, of course, that your best partner is the Liberal Party, and that now that we're back from break, it's time for the home stretch. This is a really great time to go to a Lib debate, or especially a YPU meeting, because you need to go to **and sign-in at** three or more meetings in order to qualify to vote in the YPU elections. Come and just sign up if you don't have time, but we really need you to come out and vote for the good guys!

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of March 19, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner, 5:30, Commons

Tuesday Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen Night. Meet at the Post Office, 5:15pm. Contact Rob at robert.stockman@yale.edu if you want to go.

Thursday YPU Debate with **Allan Stam** at 8:30pm in Davies Auditorium

RESOLVED: A United States National Service Program Open to All Should Be Launched

-might be good to attend just to find out exactly what the resolution means

Saturday Dixwell Day!

3:30pm debate, location TBA - watch for email on this very exciting alumni event.

RESOLVED: Human Rights Are A Cultural Value

8:00pm Meet at Phelps Gate for the telling of the Dixwell story on the New Haven Green

8:30pm Mory's Toasting Session

Liberalism in Action

This Week - Vaclav Havel

Vaclav Havel was born into a wealthy cultured family in 1936. After the Communists gained power in Czechoslovakia, his family were declared class enemies, and consequently, was only allowed to complete elementary school. He was required to work as a lab assistant while taking evening classes to complete high school. Afterwards, the only educational opportunity Vaclav Havel was allowed to pursue was economics classes at a technical institute, but left after two years. He became a stage technician, and eventually became involved with the theatre scene in Prague in the '60s, and started writing plays. Many of them were banned because of their content. Havel became interested in the counterculture of the '60s, especially in musician Frank Zappa. In 1977, a Czech rock band was arrested by the authorities; Havel lead the movement of intellectuals to protest the Communist dictatorship. He would, as a result, spend half of the '80s in prison. In 1989, with the wave of reform sweeping Eastern Europe, Havel was elected President of Czechoslovakia, naming Frank Zappa as his culture minister. He presided unhappily over the breakup of his country, but still enjoys great popularity, as evidenced by his election to the Presidency of the new Czech Republic. Vaclav Havel stands as a great symbol of a democratic Eastern Europe.

Libstick

Op. 9 No. 1

March 26, 2000

Yale Mascot to become the MOUNTAIN GOAT

Why not? If studies show that mountain goats will bring more people out to football games, then why don't we throw Handsome Dan the whatever numberth out in favour of Bambi I? (Was Bambi a deer? Hmm...maybe Bambi is not the best name) Or maybe you find such a change absolutely repugnant, against everything Yale stands for? If you think this is an interesting debate, we're holding a debate along similar lines, with the resolution, **You should be paid \$20 to vote**. I'm sure you see the parallels already. PS: LIBStick is NOT a tabloid.

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of March 26, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner, 5:30 in Commons

Tuesday YPU with Ethan Nadelmann 7:30pm - watch out for an email announcement for this speaker, who is probably going to talk about *drugs*

Thursday Lib Debate, 7:30pm Resolved:

You Should be Paid \$20 to Vote

Saturday New Haven Trip & Tie-Dye Party! - Details to follow

Liberalism in Action

This Week - Pierre Trudeau

Pierre Elliot Trudeau is perhaps the political figure most widely hated by conservatives in Canada. He has often been compared to Jack Kennedy, but his appeal and legacy go far beyond charisma. He was educated at a Jesuit college named Jean-de-Brébeuf, Harvard, the École des sciences politiques in Paris, the London School of Economics, and received his law degree at the Université de Montréal. After travelling widely around the world, he returned to his native Montréal, and became known in intellectual circles for his liberal views. He caught the attention of the Prime Minister, who invited him into cabinet in 1967 as Minister of Justice, where he played a pioneering role in legalizing abortion and homosexuality in Canada. In 1968 he became Prime Minister himself, starting what would end up being a sixteen year career at the head of the country. He immediately gained tremendous popularity with his flare for fast cars and hot dates, one of whom was Barbra Streisand, and set off a wave of "Trudeaumania" that rivaled the Beatles. During his time in office, he directed the country towards a bilingual future, instead of a past where the French were treated as the bottom rung of society; he founded the policy of multiculturalism, and wanted to build a Canadian economy that could stand on its own two feet. He had to deal with a period of Québec separatist terrorism as well as a referendum on independence. In 1982, he performed the symbolically important act of repatriating the Constitution from Great Britain. He was perhaps the greatest Canadian prime minister of the twentieth century, and his career will be remembered as a man that shaped the essence of modern Canada.

Libstick

Op. 10 No. 1

April 2, 2000

Liberating the Big Apple

New York, New York. Home of the infamous street pretzel, George's parents, and Rudy Giuliani. Looks like a job for the Liberal Party. This is a call to all of you to come and join forces to liberate the Big Apple— not by force, not by persuasion either, but with our positive karma. We need **you** this Friday, or New York might never be free. Sorry folks, you do need to miss class to come because the famous people we'll meet won't be at work on weekends.

Don't Forget to Qual!

In case some of us have forgotten, the Liberal Party is also a part of the YPU. (The merits of that I will leave you to judge for yourself.) That's why it's doubly important that you come to the YPU Party Prize debate this Tuesday! First, you have to come out and support the veteran Libs on stage against the other, lesser parties. And, you have to sign in to so that you can qualify to vote at the YPU elections. **You need to sign in at three meetings in order to qual.** Check out www.yale.edu/ypu for the Teller's Report to see how many Libs have qualled and then check the numbers for the lesser parties. We need you to be able to vote, because many of your favourite Libs will want to run for YPU office. This is very, very important!

The Liberal Party presents for the week of April 2, 2000

Monday Lib Dinner, Commons 5:30pm

Tuesday YPU Party Prize debate, 7:30pm, SSS 114

RESOLVED: THE AMERICAN DREAM IS DEAD

Friday New York trip! Watch for announcements.

Liberalism in Action

This Week - Lech Walesa

Lech Walesa was born to a poor peasant family in Poland in 1943. He worked as an electrician in the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk, and was astounded by the repressive conditions of the supposed worker's paradise in which he was living. The government raised food prices in the 1970s, leading to large protests that were quelled by the regime. Walesa was also fired for speaking out. Again, in the late 70s, the government tried to raise prices again, a strike at the shipyard ensued, and Walesa climbed over the wall of the shipyard to join the workers. With his populist style, feisty wit and charisma, he soon lead the protest to demand what was unheard of in the Communist world: free trade unions. The government gave in to the demand, and by 1980, Walesa was leading a movement of 10 million called Solidarity. The government grew fearful of him, imposed martial law, and jailed him for 11 months. Though suppressed, Solidarity lived on underground, and Walesa won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983. When Gorbachev came to power and tried to reform the Soviet block, Solidarity came out to demand free elections, and in 1990, Walesa was elected President.

Don't Forget the E-board

Chair Adam Rosen

Vice-Chair Shannon Baker-Branstetter

Chief Whip Matt Nickson

Com Sec Robert Stockman

Secretary Senwung Luk

Treasurer Sam Yebri

FLL Tim Willenken

Libstick

Op. 11 No. 1

April 9, 2000

So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Adieu

You're holding in your hands the final copy (ever!) of LIBStick, your favourite Liberal Party whip sheet this semester. It is not without a slight tinge of sadness that your Secretary bids you farewell. No more corny jokes, repetitive layouts and oddly chosen pictures. This is it! We've gone through twelve issues so quickly. Thank you for taking the time to read! It's been fun for me, and I hope it's been edutaining for you too! But now, it's time to say goodnight.

PS: Thanks to all the whips!

The Liberal Party Presents for the week of April 9, 2000:

Monday Lib Dinner 5:30, same Bat time, same Bat channel

YPU Debate with Nadine Strossen, President of the ACLU, 7:30pm, Location TBA

Tuesday Lib Debate! 7:30pm, Saybrook College Common Room

RESOLVED: HUMAN RIGHTS ARE A CULTURAL VALUE*

Thursday YPU Debate! Info TBA. Come and sign-in as a Lib to QUAL! Last chance to qual this semester.

Liberalism in Action

LIBStick isn't the only thing saying good-bye this week. The seniors among us will be gone shortly, only to make all-too-brief appearances during all-too-brief visits. Let their names and work be forever preserved in the annals of Lib history (the Secretary's files). Senior Sometime Chair Louis Tompros writes about how the Liberal Party Class of 2000 has put liberalism in action in their own way throughout their time at Yale.

Like the alumni seem to do at every Dixwell Day debate, we, the class of 2000, have taken over: we're writing this week's edition of Liberalism In Action. While we would never compare ourselves to the other liberals who have been the focus of this column, we certainly have among our ranks a number of great activists, volunteers, and community leaders. Even though **Simon Brandler** has squeezed four years worth of classes into three, he has also found time for a lifetime's worth of activism during his Yale career. During and after his time as Lib Chair, he not only helped to lead Students Against Sweatshops in its formative stages, but has worked for the American Federation of Teachers, fighting for the rights of educators and for intelligent educational reform. Lib **Shane Dizonis** taking his liberal action from the courts to the courts! Following two years as Lib basketball captain, Shane is off to work for an immigration law firm in California. After her term as Chair, **Christine Evans** went on to lead what is arguably Yale's second most liberal institution: the Slavic Chorus. And **Joey Fishkin** went from Liberal Party office to not only found the *Yale Review of Books*, but to work as a Public School Intern at Timothy Dwight Elementary School. **Adam Gordon**, during and after his unprecedented two terms as Community Secretary continued his liberal activism: he as worked tirelessly for Habitat for Humanity, SAS, and the Rails to Trails organization. During all four years at Yale, **Josh Kagan** has served his community by mentoring pre-school children for Jumpstart, and has participated in political action as both the President of the College Democrats and as an intern for the National Organization for Women. Lib guru **Peter Norman**, ever after his self-sacrificing tenure as YPU President was instrumental in the founding of *Dandelion*, perhaps the best political-esque magazine this campus has seen in years. And **Surav Sarkar**, has fought for justice

throughout his Yale career, giving time to SAS, SLAC, and the movement against the School of the Americas. Finally, Sometime Lib Chair **Louis Tompros**, also worked with young children for Jumpstart (which he hopes to continue doing over the summer) and served as YPU President. All in all, we're a pretty active bunch. We hope that we will be able to continue in our service even after graduation and that the Libs of the future will keep alive this great tradition of activism.

* You might remember this topic from debates such as the Dixwell Day alumni debate. The alumni, however, chose to usurp the e-board with their superiority in numbers and change the debate topic (some would say for the worse). The e-board thought that a good topic shouldn't go to waste because some people chose to undermine the will of the undergraduate members of the Party. So: Is the e-board recycling this topic? Yes, the e-board supports recycling and other such good causes. Was the e-board too lazy to think up a new resolution? No, because the e-board thought that a chance for a good debate shouldn't be missed.

The Liberal Party Spring 2000 has been brought to you by:

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