

The Axiom

The Quaker Dissenter

Feature Article *Squirrel Land Part II*



The squirrels launched a war on Friends University...or did they?



Will poisoned 3 Musketeer bars be used as their next biological weapon?

Read it on Pg. 2

Contact Us

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The Axiom encourages its readers to send feedback: Articles, article ideas, comments, questions, concerns, and (most preferably) angry e-mails are welcome. *The Axiom* will protect the identity of all students who write in... even if they hate our publication.

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Resident Manager bans the *Axiom*

Perhaps the only thing that was more difficult to find on the Friends University campus than a copy of the *Axiom* this past November was a John Kerry supporter. Once again, Friends University proved to be about as tolerant of opposing viewpoints as James Carville. We still believe that the first amendment exists... just not at Friends University.

We are aware of several rumors that surfaced regarding the scarcity of our last edition. Some of those rumors were true, while others were not. The day our November issue was released, a Resident Manager (feel free to guess which one) confiscated close to 60 copies of our publication.

In case you are prompted to question the reliability of this information, we know this to be true because the Resident Manager confessed via two e-mails. Since the e-mails sent by the Resident Manager were so banal and redundant, I have opted to limit my commentary to the parts that are important (or easily made fun of).

Resident Manager: "I believe in Friends Universities policies. If you would like to discuss this, please call me. I removed the The Axiom because it was counterproductive to community in Green Hall. If you would like to discuss this, please call or come meet with me... Anyone who does not understand or agree with any of our policies is encouraged to either meet, or call me to discuss our policies. For those who fear having their identity known, I can you assure you that your anonymity will be respected."

The The Axiom: This comment illustrates the validity of our decision to remain an anonymous publication. Violating the spirit of the community is grounds for eviction (or expulsion). The removal of our publication established that our staff members are guilty of damaging the spirit of the community and thus (hypothetically) provided the Resident Manager the means necessary to push for the eviction of *Axiom* contributors that live on campus. The legitimacy of the so-called infraction is debatable, but the conception that we have damaged the spirit of the community, in the eyes of the Resident Manager, is not.

The 2004-2005 Friends University Catalog states: "If any member of the Friends University community shows continued violation of the spirit of the University and is found to be consistently in opposition to the personal development or well-being of other members of the body, the University reserves the right to request his or her withdrawal." Due to the subjective and ambiguous nature of this policy, our staff members refuse to disclose their identities to individuals who have demonstrated the belief that our publication is destructive to the spirit of the Friends University community.

The Resident Manager asked six times in his (or her) e-mails for us to reveal our identities. I can you assure you that we will not reveal our identities for the aforementioned reason; we are unwilling to do anything that would allow a Resident Manager to evict any of our contributors.

Resident Manager: "Our profanity policy makes sense, as does our enforcement of the policy, and neither our office nor the University is hypocritical. Your article about Dry Campus had some serious errors I disagree with. I would like to speak with you about all of these issues, so I would hope that you would please call me, or come meet with me."

The Axiom: Feel free to interpret this quote as you please; however, it seems that the Resident Manager confiscated the publication because of personal grievances and not for a substantial, warranted policy violation.

Resident Manager: "The problem with written communication is that it leaves a lot of room for speculation, ambiguity and assumption."

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Resident Manager bans the *Axiom* (continued)

The Axiom: The written word can sometimes leave room for speculation, ambiguity and assumption, but so can any form of communication; it can hardly be argued that language can or should be discarded completely because it isn't perfect (unless your name is Jacques Derrida... then you can argue that). The reliability and accuracy of interpretation is dependant upon the linguistic genius of the writer and the insightful wrestling of the reader; since our writers are all immensely articulate, the problem doesn't rest with us (and no... that was not arrogant☺).

Resident Manager: "However, when you frame your email in the context of the article, and put ours following your email, it seemed to suggest that you had asked a simple question, and we had dodged the question."

The Axiom: We did ask a simple (yet paradoxically and brilliantly unanswerable) question that was dodged; that is why it appeared that way. The reason the reply appeared after our e-mail was because it was a reply to our e-mail; it is as simple as that. True, we could have put the reply before the question, but then our readers would have been confused (does A & Q mean anything to you?). The *Axiom* staff would like to apologize for putting the e-

mails in a logical order, because it revealed the fact that our questions were not logically and sufficiently addressed.

Resident Manager: "My primary concern with the *Axiom* is that it is an anonymous publication which insults university staff and officials... This is highly destructive to community. Friends is a Christian institution interested in forming individuals of virtue, integrity, and character. Allowing individuals to insult others anonymously demonstrates none of these."

The Axiom: We highly doubt that allowing individuals to insult others un-anonymously would demonstrate the Christian ideals of virtue, integrity and character any further. The truth is that our publication, though anonymous, has only critiqued intangible, indefinable and unnamed elements of this institution. Notice that (regardless of how tempting it was) we decided not to mention the name of the staff member who confiscated our publication. If that isn't Christian of us, we don't know what is. It is our stance that there is nothing wrong with anonymous people attacking other anonymous people anonymously. Being Christian does not require submission to policies that one perceives as unjust. Look at the Quaker faith for instance; is their empirical civil disobedience and dissent

really outside the context of Christianity?

Resident Manager: "If you are willing to put your name on the journal, then I will return *The Axiom* to the Green Hall lobby. If you have nothing to fear, (are not planning on breaking any policies in the future, because you haven't broken any major ones yet,) then there is no reason to remain anonymous."

The Axiom: Oh... now the truth comes out. Our publication was hijacked, taken hostage in an attempt to root out the culprits behind the blasphemy. If we haven't broken a major policy, why was our publication confiscated? The truth is that the Resident Manager wants to know who to punish. His (or her) strategy will fail; we will not be rooted out. We are as difficult to track down as Bin Laden. Now that we have a copy available on-line, our publication is indestructible... at least until Resident Managers learn how to hack.

Editorial note: The Axiom will forward a copy of these e-mails to anyone who believes that anything was taken out of context (and if they are naïve enough to assume they can stomach them).

Quotes from the Friends University sponsored film *50 First Dates*

Editorial Note: Residence Life can feel free to discard their own questionable material before ostracizing and eliminating our policy-abiding publication. Nothing about 50 First Dates is "Christian." Notice that we decided to take the high road by avoiding Community Life Standard violations.

"Sharks! They only bite when you touch their private parts!"
 "Don't forget to use a condom, or in your case, a Hefty bag."
 "I guess I prefer sausage to taco."
 "All I know about walrus is that out of all mammals they have the second largest penis. I have the first."
 "He pounded me like a mallard duck."
 "Harry... Harry paratesticles"
 "You get some booby, some *bassy, a pull on your poi-poi?"
 "Give her the Waikiki sneaky between the cheeky."
 "Stop! No, my nipples are too sensitive."
 "I was petting my walrus all morning and thinking of you the whole time."
 "If I promised a woman's father that I would not see her, I would simply shut my eyes while she serviced my manhood."
 "Aquariums make me super horny."
 "I'm entitled to unlimited boob access."
 "She's wishing I had Jacko the Walrus' schlong."

Squirrel Land parable part II

Editorial note: Our fact checker did not make it to this article; read at your own risk.

The squirrels on campus began gathering around the Golden Squirrel in large numbers. They appeared to be worshipping the Golden Squirrel in a cultic fashion. The squirrels held hands and swayed as they sang the Friends University Hymn (raising their hands while feeling the spirit of the Golden Squirrel); the Hymn finished with the squirrels singing "F.U" (forgetting the amendment that mandated that the Hymn end with "Friends U").

The Golden Squirrel opened his mouth and spoke in a loud, thunderous voice, threatening to throw the squirrels into the fiery flame from *heck for taking the

name of the university in vain. To pay for their sins, the squirrels spent the evening collecting acorns to place at the Golden Squirrel's feet.

As the Golden Squirrel's sermons grew in popularity, he began offering night services for humans. The number of students and faculty members that attended the services grew exponentially.

Shortly after the commencement of these services, strange events began happening on campus. The strangest occurred on November 10, 2004.

Students who live in the Friends Village found Snicker bars outside their doors. Hours later, students in the Village received phone calls

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As Quaker as apple pie

What do Friends University, Quaker Oatmeal, and Quaker State motor oil all have in common? They all exploit and parade the Quaker historical legacy and reduce it to a vacuous marketing strategy engineered to foster monetary gain. Although Friends is aligned with generic Christianity (more affordable than the name brand), the university acts like a chameleon finding its way to lists of both Quaker and Christian institutions.

Are there any components of Friends University that are uniquely Quaker? There are the Singing Quakers (whose title is somewhat oxymoronic since early Quakers were opposed to the use of music in their worship services).

The university does have a couple of buildings named after famous Quakers, but that does not mean that students actually know who those people are. It would be fun to launch a venture similar to Jay Leno's *Jay Walk All Stars* and travel around asking Friends University students questions about Quakerism (we should send the results to all the websites and publications that still list Friends University as a Quaker school).

The title of the university is derived from the official title for the Quaker faith (Friends Society). Essentially, the university is Quaker in the same way that oatmeal and motor oil are Quaker (by title alone).

As long as Friends University is pretending to cherish its Quaker Legacy, something might as well be done to make the connection more genuine. Something as simple as the addition of a Quaker history or religion course would be a step in the right direction. If nothing else, the university can align itself with its roots by embracing the *Axiom*, the *Quaker Dissenter*.

Reader comments

Comment: "Just a response to the responsibility that College students show in drinking, much like what we see on Cops."

-S. Cool A. Thourity-

Response: Maybe I am missing the connection, but it seems to me that you are comparing students to criminals. The only similarity that I am aware of between *Cops* and college drinking is that whether you are drinking alcohol or watching *Cops*, the faces you see are blurry.

Squirrel Land parable part II (continued)

from the Residence Life office instructing them not to eat the Snicker bars, because they feared possible contamination (this paragraph really is true).

Since Snickers are most likely squirrels' favorite candy bar (because of all the nuts), Friends University officials suspected that the hostile squirrels may have launched an attack. Squirrel terrorist leader, Lex Luthar, was arrested and held for questioning until his escape (see information below).

It is rumored that the university purposefully released a computer virus into the network to justify searching rooms in Green Hall where Lex Luthar was suspected to be in hiding. Many students' rooms were entered (sometimes when the students were not there) without the Residence Life office making any attempt to notify students about these entries beforehand (this sentence is true; we received e-mails from two separate students who were outraged that their computers were looked at while they were not home). The university plans to work harder to educate students to make sure they use protection to avoid viruses (kind of like in middle school when they made the boys and girls go to different (computer) classes).

In response to these squirrel attacks, the university has set several traps with the intent to eliminate the squirrel problem. The main trap is outside the entrance of Edmund Stanley Library. A concrete slab is detached from the walkway and is waiting to fall over (this part is true). The slab appears to be held up by several hundred acorns. Surprisingly, none of the acorns have been eaten.

The second trap is set in a trash can outside of the cashier's office. There is a squirrel shaped hole in the lid of the trashcan (that is true) to encourage entry. In the bottom is a stash of Snicker bars (most likely the same ones found in the Village). So far none of the Snicker bars have been eaten, heightening the odds that the squirrels were responsible for the Snicker bar biological attack or that they suck at opening Snicker bar rappers. *Are the squirrels guilty? Read more in next month's Squirrel Land parable part III.*



A squirrel lifts his hand in praise while feeling the spirit of the Golden Squirrel.



Have you seen this squirrel? He goes by the alias Lex Luthar. After the Snicker Bar incident, Lex was arrested; however, he escaped the first night he was there. Apparently, his body was narrower than the distance between the cell bars. Some suspect him to be the mouthpiece for the Golden Squirrel.

Comment: "Freshman living in the dorms are required to purchase a large meal plan. At the end of the semester, if they haven't consumed all their credited meals, they don't get the money back. That's crazy."

-Alan Greenspan-

Response: The last day of the spring semester Friends University students should turn Casado into a soup kitchen. Advertisements should be posted

everywhere: "Friends University students will buy lunch for the city of Wichita." At the end of winter semester, thousands of meals were left unused. If we fed a few thousand hungry people on the last day of the semester it would showcase altruistic, Christian values (and perhaps more importantly, it would annoy Sodex ho).

Comment: "A no profanity rule does not

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Reader comments (continued)

mean that Friends University faculty and staff will or should closely monitor student language; this would be an impossible task, and could be likened to Orwell's "thought police" and infringe upon the privacy of students. However, this does mean that if a faculty or staff person should bear witness to foul language, either written or spoken, they are by the rule provided with a means to take action against the profanity."

-Nineteen A. Defore-

Response: The fundamental challenge perpetuated by ideological guidelines disguised as policy is an open door for personal bias to evidence itself through subjective, selective condemnation. Basically, a policy that is virtually allergic to universal application allows the enforcers of the policy to apply it according to their whimsical desires. For example, a student recently wrote to us telling of a poster in the writing center that has the curse word *shizzel on it. No one is trying to confiscate their poster, but if the same word appeared in this publication, pens would be signing expulsion letters. The product of loose policy and selective enforcement is chaos and hypocrisy.

Comment: "There are plenty of colleges and universities that do not care about whether or not a person swears, or even whether or not they drink on campus, and if this is such a serious issue as to cause unrest, the people who have a problem with

these policies should go somewhere else."

-Ore Thodox Frenstudnt-

Response: Every rebellious, criminally inclined college kid only has fun swearing and drinking when it is against the rules. In all seriousness, at any normal college this publication would never be considered even remotely controversial; it would not annoy and irritate people like you. Where is the fun in that?

Comment: "To say that to allow drinking is to be open to religious practice is allow ridiculous."

-Adrunck A. Gentsdrenking-

Response: I am not sure what you are saying here. Are you saying that if you allow drinking that people will be open to religious practices, regardless of how ridiculous they are? If so, then I agree; the church of Scientology should incorporate drinking into their services (this is a joke... if you belong to the church of Scientology, then our apology letter should find its way to your mail box shortly). I know what you are trying to say, but you missed the point. Drinking and Christianity are not mutually exclusive; therefore, Friends University should not be allowed to use Christianity as justification for their policy.

Comment: "I know many smart people who swear; but honestly I have to admit it knocks them down a couple of notches when they use the "F-word" as every part of speech. It is crude. Now in your example, a car crash, no body in their right mind is going to think twice to hear someone let loose after a traumatic or unexpected situation."

-Nod A. Saylor-

Response: It is a good thing that college students rarely find themselves in traumatic and unexpected situations. I reject the notion that crudeness is a character trait that indicates stupidity. It is very possible to

be both crude and brilliant; most brilliant people would contend that brilliance often catalyzes crudeness (or maybe I would just contend that). No body that writes no body with a space and every every time minus an e could be more intelligent than a swearing genius regardless of how traumatic (a before u except after r?) the profanity was.

Comment: "Maybe our precious tuition dollars could go towards a C.O.P. [Cursing Or Profanity] unit. This person could walk the campus writing up people for cursing infractions. I suggest he attend football practices."

-Donald Rumsfeld-

Response: Hmm... not a bad idea. I would probably just call it C.U. or P.U. (cursing or profanity unit is redundant). Go with P.U. The acronym gives you more ways to make fun of them.

Comment: "As a lover of squirrels, having only been the cause of the death of one squirrel in my driving career, I take exception with the poor squirrels being referred to as creatures that attack "voraciously" in "packs". Perpetuation of this idea may cast a shadow, as does the ground hog from time to time, on the safety that visitors to Squirrel Land may expect."

-Sayfe T. Inspictr

Response: The squirrels only seem to be interested in attacking students and professors; they are unthreatened by tourists.

Comment: "It is risky to poke fun at the nature of the food offered in Casado. As long as your identity is protected, however, you will probably not be successfully silenced by poisoning."

-Dee Lenchlaydee-

Response: I do not think that you have to poke fun of the food offered in Casado to be at risk of poisoning.

See errors in the *Crimson Chronicle*?

If you discover any errors in the *Chronicle*, or are displeased in any way with the publication, notify us at TheAxiom@hotmail.com

See errors in the *Axiom*?

If you discover an error in this publication, keep it to yourself... you may be the only person smart enough to notice.

Editorial note: We do not edit reader comments; they are printed as is. Most of the names have been changed to protect the guilty.

Disclaimer

The Axiom is in no way, shape or form sponsored by Friends University (because we do not offer lawn care services). The views of this publication are intended to represent the independent beliefs of *the Axiom*. Students are strongly discouraged from reading this publication (it may contribute towards reprehensible conduct like thinking for yourself). We encourage conservative students to think for others. Although the *Axiom* may appear to disagree with some university policies, *the Axiom* actually disagrees with all of them. No matter what this publication contends, policy is not to be broken; noncompliance with university policy will always result in expulsion, death, or something much worse... an eternity spent in Freshman Seminar.