

★ ★ ★  
*SPECIAL*  
 ★ ★ ★  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

★  
*A warm welcome  
 to our new staff*

- DEAN GRODZINS
- ★
- WILLIAM KAPLAN
- ★
- LEXY MAYERS
- ★
- WILLIAM MEYERHOFER
- ★
- KRISTINA SCHULTZ
- ★
- MARGUERITA TILIGADAS

★  
*Farewell to our  
 graduating  
 seniors*

- HILARY COLLER
- ★
- FRANK LOCKWOOD
- ★
- DOUG STIFFLER

★  
*And announcing,  
 four years after the  
 founding of  
 Perspective, the birth  
 of our first Apple  
 Laserprinter.  
 Weight: 77 pounds,  
 2 ounces.*

*Thank you,  
 Apple,  
 from all of us at  
 Perspective.*

# EDITORIAL

ON APRIL 23, 1989, the Harvard-Radcliffe Undergraduate Council resolved 41-24 that "Harvard should have an ROTC program without academic credit on campus and calls upon the Faculty of Harvard and the armed forces of the United States military to reinstitute ROTC as an on-campus program so that Harvard undergraduates are not disadvantaged unduly and that the armed forces of the United States are insured a well-educated and diverse officer corps." On April 30, 1989, the Harvard-Radcliffe Undergraduate Council voted 43-39 to declare this resolution unconstitutional on the grounds that ROTC's discrimination against homosexuals violates the UC's constitution. We, as editors of *Perspective*, applaud the decision of the Undergraduate Council. Beyond the issue of homosexual rights, there exist a number of reasons why we still strongly oppose the reinstatement of ROTC on the Harvard-Radcliffe campus.

The military not only discriminates on the basis of sexual preference but also on the basis of sex and race. Women are not allowed to serve in combat roles even if they are physically superior to males who do serve in combat. And, while there are not explicit rules discriminating against minorities, the Congressional Black Caucus has found that "racism has become institutionalized at all levels of the military.... Black and other minority service men are victims of discrimination from the time that they enter the services until the time that they are discharged." Will Harvard choose to ignore this discrimination?

ROTC does not meet Harvard University's academic standards. ROTC's status as an extracurricular is not in question, but inviting ROTC back requires making it more than an extracurricular. In the late 1970s, ROTC agreed to come back to Harvard without their courses receiving academic credit if ROTC classes would be listed on transcripts, ROTC would receive space on campus for its operations, and ROTC teachers would constitute a special faculty of professors of military science. Military science is not a liberal art. No other undergraduate career training programs are listed on Harvard transcripts or given space on Harvard's campus. ROTC is not run by Harvard or accountable to Harvard—blanket institutional support for ROTC compromises the university's academic mission. We do not object to there being courses taught

about the military by Harvard professors in the Government or History departments. We do object to courses sponsored by Harvard and taught by military personnel. Making a special faculty of military science is not a reaction to a lack of classes in the field; rather, it is merely an acquiescence to the demands of the ROTC program.

Students should not have to choose between ROTC and not going to college. Bringing ROTC on campus is not the best way of helping the economically disadvantaged. Rather, the way to attack the problem of unaffordable college education is through increased university and federal scholarships so that low income students can go to college without being forced to join the military. Students should join ROTC out of a desire to serve this country, not because that is the only way they can afford a college education.

Harvard should not increase its ties to the nation's military. The military is an important mechanism by which the US projects its power around the world. The name of Harvard University should not be used blindly to promote every aspect of US military activity world-wide. Not to say that all US military actions are reprehensible; however, perhaps the most significant mission of a university is to maintain the distance necessary to critically examine each issue separately. Harvard is a private academic institution, not an arm of the US government.

The values enforced by the military—submission to authority, unquestioning obedience, and a hierarchy of power—are contrary to the University's values of independence, thoughtful inquiry, and equality for all. Openness and critical inquiry are the foundations of a liberal arts education. Some argue that Harvard officers could reform the military from the inside. However, the structure of the military is one where officers execute policy, not determine it. Harvard officers, no different from other officers, will have to follow orders. We, as editors of *Perspective*, firmly believe all people should have the right to choose whether or not to be in the military, but we believe a university must not sanction a philosophy that is founded on an unquestioning submission to authority.

SIGNED,

SCOTT MURPHY  
 MIKE RAWSON  
 JEANNE THEOHARIS

# PERSPECTIVE

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