

E306 demise a victory for all

The defeat of political correctness, otherwise known as E306, should be celebrated by all who believe in academic freedom at the University. The pseudointellectual onslaught against Western culture and the traditional roles of universities, though alarming, has served to awaken those of us who support honest scholastic inquiry.

We now understand that there are those like Linda Brodkey, and others who share her mindset, who oppose academic freedom and don't trust the students enough to let them decide what courses to take or how to think. Unfortunately, there are those who view a university as a body of political correctness whose moral obligation is to indoctrinate its students, to transform them into "literary terrorists" as one professor put it — social workers, if you will, who can't read or write, but sure are sensitive.

The academic totalitarians who support sensitivity training, as well as restrictions on free speech deemed insensitive by the thought police, attempt to posture themselves as vanguards of equality for minorities; this minority, however, hold these mental midguts in contempt.

In an attempt to win the hearts and minds of students, the proponents of multiculturalism have abandoned intellectual debate, instead using the McCarthy-like tactics of race-baiting to instill shame and silence upon the academic freedom fighters. They would have you believe that the only way to support the advancement of minorities is to subject oneself to the E306 experience, where you too can learn to be ashamed of being white, straight, or anti-affirmative action. Even minorities like myself who don't buy into the Big Lie wouldn't be sensitive enough to the plight of the oppressed in the eyes of the "open-minded" and "enlightened" minions of multiculturalism.

Some would label me a traitor to my race for placing America and her youth above that of a narrow agenda, and I'm comfortable with that. I believe that the way to help minorities is by demanding that they meet the same standards as everyone else, not by lowering requirements and pampering them with ethnic feel-good programs that often punish the majority.

I understand the anger some minorities feel toward someone like me who questions the assumptions of the minority factions on campus. Even though my last name is Peña, some would argue that my exposure to E306 is more imperative than that of a blond-haired, blue-eyed fraternity member. God only knows what would happen if the P.C. found out about my friendship with, and admiration for, both Dr. Joseph Horn and Professor Alan Gribben. Perhaps my punishment would be an eternity of Racist Anonymous meetings so that I could learn how to

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The true racists are the ones screaming loudest about racism, multiculturalism, and all of the other -isms that one can ponder, for they're the ones who lack faith in the ability of minorities to compete in the classroom without preferential treatment. We who oppose E306 as well as affirmative action believe that minorities can achieve equality and scholastic success without the condescending proposals of reduced standards. Nor do minorities need policies forcing students to attend courses designed to instill guilt upon them. That's what liberalism is for.

In the scurry to avoid the label of racism, the University has become hostage to a lunatic fringe movement, and has proven itself willing to abandon academic principles in order to prove itself sensitive. Each student should resent these groups for cheapening our education and replacing it with their selfish agendas.

With the defeat of E306, perhaps President Cunningham will do what's right and force minorities to earn success, rather than provide them with excuses to fail. All too often, minorities invent racism to explain their own lack of success. It's a chronic case of denial that feeds upon guilt-ridden liberals and their programs.

The minority factions love Martin Luther King Jr., but refuse to adhere to his most basic dream of a colorblind society where character, not color, determines success. Yes, they love King, but apparently they love race-based scholarships even more. Perhaps a colorblind society would be a curse for some minorities, for if equality were truly realized, who would they blame for their failures? Themselves?

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