

# Lies

Yevgeny Yevtushenko

*Telling lies to the young is wrong.  
 Proving to them that lies are true is wrong.  
 Telling them that God's in his heaven  
 and all's well with the world is wrong.  
 The young know what you mean. The young are people  
 Tell them the difficulties can't be counted,  
 and let them see not only what will be  
 but see with clarity these present times.  
 Say obstacles exist they must encounter  
 sorrow happens, hardship happens.  
 The bell with it. Who never knew  
 the price of happiness will not be happy.  
 Forgive no error you recognize,  
 it will repeat itself, increase,  
 and afterwards our pupils  
 will not forgive in us what we forgave.*

# Gentleness

Yevgeny Yevtushenko

*This can't go on:  
 is after all injustice of its kind.  
 How in what year did this come into fashion?  
 Deliberate indifference to the living,  
 deliberate cultivation of the dead.  
 Their shoulders slump and they get drunk sometimes  
 and one by one they quit;  
 orators at the crematorium  
 speak words of gentleness to history.  
 What was it took his life from Mayakovsky?  
 What was it put the gun between his fingers?  
 If with that voice of his, with that appearance,  
 if ever they had offered him in life  
 some crumbs of gentleness.  
 Men live. Men are trouble-makers.  
 Gentleness is a posthumous honour.*

# Stanford's Bust Policy

The Old Union bust uncovered and hopefully destroyed a certain naivete about the nature of the University. Many considered it a special kind of community, where certain peaceful action, which might not be tolerated elsewhere, would be permitted because of the uniqueness of the environment. We learned, however, what some already knew: that Stanford does not function as a community, but as a business. When threatened, it acts to protect its corporate image and interests. The inclusion of those interests into the decision-making process might justify those interests.

A week ago Provost Lyman rejected a Committee of Fifteen recommendation for student representation of the Campus Committee on Disruptions. He claimed that faculty members were already well ingrained in the process, and that the inclusion of students would upset the working balance. But, according to one faculty committee member, the only collective decision ever made by the committee was "between a colon and a comma" in reports. Its members are supposed to represent fictional campus constituencies (i.e., a liberal, a conservative, etc.). It is not so much an advisory committee as it is a sounding board -- a group of men whose individual opinions express possible reactions of those constituencies to Administration policies. The committee thus does not represent an effort to formulate policies acceptable to the Stanford community; its "advisory" function is completely dependent on which members plug hardest for their "constituencies" (Prof. William Raabe is an especially diligent member) and on whom the administration is most interested in hearing.

Student behavior inside the Old Union interested the administration only with regard to the hour of the day. Actions judged by Pitzer to be non-disruptive and non-threatening before 5:00 PM unexplainably became a clear and present danger shortly afterwards. At the time of the

the sit-in, according to Stanford News Service director Bob Beyers, Provost Lyman had "no time" for demonstrators who asked to talk with him about measures to ensure the non-violent character of the sit-in. The lack of a clock transformed a peaceful meeting into a criminal trespass, because, according to Robert Rosenzweig of the Provost's office, "the decision that an overnight sit-in would not be tolerated... has been firm for some time." The nature of the sit-in was irrelevant.

One of the University's first responses was to call in the police, at least for consultation. Bob Beyers reported that Sgt. Law and Capt. Rosa of the Santa Clara Sheriff's Office were on campus "throughout the afternoon."

Pitzer claims that the tractor was officially turned over to the police after the 3:00 University warning, and that this signalled an end to University control and responsibility for events. But Rosenzweig said that the police warning at 4:00 p.m. was "at the request of the University," thus acknowledging influence over at least certain police actions. The decision to call the police was made "final" at 7:00 p.m., although "it was reviewed throughout the night," according to Rosenzweig. To review a decision presupposes the possibility of changing it, and casts serious doubt on Pitzer's assertion. One can only conclude that the University favored a bust.

In expelling the University or permit what Yale Braunslein termed "intermediate protest" -- something between petitioning and rock-throwing -- students were harbouring an antiquated notion of the University. It was assumed that a community professing dedication in its response to peaceful criticism. After the Old Union bust this assumption will not be made again.

Radicals tapped the University lightly on the knee and were bruised by the reflexive kick. Next time a more vulnerable spot must be found.

