

Editorial

Whatever happened to reality?

That generation of Americans who was most targetted by the evil crew who designed the 1960s' counterculture is now in positions of control, from the U.S. President, down to members of the teaching professions and (of course) those who shape the media. Ironically, these very liberal folk have introduced a new McCarthyism—thought control on university campuses, and such perversions of the U.S. Constitution as the idea of “hate crimes,” by which is meant any remark which someone might construe as derogatory, such as the view that homosexuality is a psychological disorder rather than an “alternative life style.”

This new McCarthyism probably won't last. The very depth of the social and economic crisis is going to push more and more people into reconnecting with reality. Clearly the young upwardly mobile professional (yuppie) paradise is not only fast becoming a hell, but is being perceived as such by more and more Americans. An article featured in the January issue of the magazine *Science* is a case in point.

The authors are a professor of psychology, H.W. Stevenson, an assistant professor of social ecology C. Chen, and S.Y. Lee, identified only as an assistant research scientist. These experts of the paradigmatic New Age soft sciences argue that American parents have so lost touch with reality that they refuse to recognize that their children cannot compete internationally. The authors focus on mathematics achievement tests, in which young Americans rank below Chinese and Japanese children.

It seems that as long as their children receive good grades in school their parents are complacent. Both they and their children are satisfied with school systems which don't assign much homework. They wishfully suppose that American young people will still have high achievements because 1) they are innately more intelligent, and 2) they are better adjusted socially. Both of these delusions are effectively attacked by the authors of the article.

Disconnection with reality is the hallmark of deconstructionism, the hegemonic ideology on American campuses. No longer is a work of art or a philosophy

to be judged in terms of its effect upon a given society, or in terms of its historical genesis, but only in terms of how it effects the untutored perceptions of a student. This degradation of education is occurring in tandem with the collapse of the discipline of history. You can't find a competent history book produced for high schools, in which there are not errors in the dates of major events in American history, never mind wild misconstructions of pivotal events such as the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

The problem is epitomized by the campaign against “Dead White European Males,” a category which includes Plato, Nicolaus of Cusa, Leonardo da Vinci, Johannes Kepler, and Gottfried Leibniz—in short, the very founders of our civilization. This is a call for a return to the appalling conditions inflicted upon mankind by the Roman Empire.

After more than two decades of counterculture, the United States is a culturally inferior nation. A generation of university presidents and tenured professors—the ones who grant advanced degrees—is ignorant to the point of illiteracy and motivated by hatred and fear of reason. For the man on the street, Hollywood plays the role of the university, serving up a faked version of history, pushing ecologism as a replacement for scientific thinking, and brainwashing people by soap operas, game shows, and sports orgies.

The New Age is here, not just in the schools. In the words of the Master of Ceremonies of the MTV Inaugural Ball, “This is the first time in history there is a Rock 'n' Roll inaugural ball because this is the first time there is a Rock 'n' Roll President!”

We propose that the therapeutic action begin by unleashing the talents of a certain group of “Dead White European Males,” such as Boccaccio, Chaucer, Dante, Erasmus, Thomas More, Rabelais, Cervantes, Shakespeare, and Swift. They knew how to skewer hypocrisy and pompous ignorance, and although they were surely European and male, and some of them may have been light-skinned, today's Lilliputians and Yahoos will soon find out that they are definitely *not* dead.