

THE PRIDE



THE CHANGES AROUND US



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THE PRIDE

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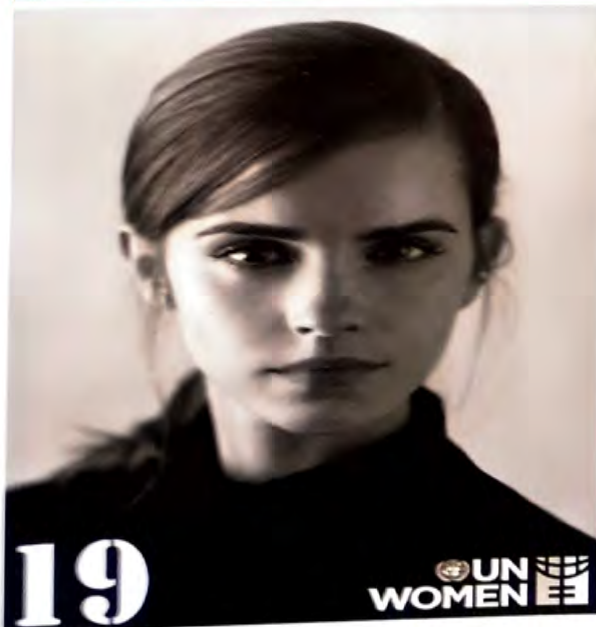
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NETFLIX 12



EDITOR'S NOTE

It is naïve and even self-centered to believe that we, as teenagers are in total control of the past, present and future. We are not the only force that changes lives, and it is our job to mature and understand that.

For this reason, the staff decided to use the first issue of our magazine to explain how the world has impacted us. Current issues ranging from the threats of ISIS in the Middle East to the controversy and race riots in Ferguson, Mo. will affect our lives. Changes occur in our world on a daily basis, and each one will teach us to live and adapt differently in order to better prepare for our future that could spiral into a series of obstacles.

But not everything that we encounter in the world is negative; positive changes occur just as often. Welcoming new teachers to Collegiate Academy is a very good experience to have, as well as new fitness grants, and the exploration of new technology.

The Pride is a source of student voice. What opinions have our writers formed in the midst of our current obstacles and experiences and how do they compare to your own?



Meet the Five Fabulous New Faculty of the Academy Family

Article By Uma Rajiyah

Layout Designed by Maria Czerwinski & Isabelle Vieira

As the 2014-2015 school year begins, Collegiate Academy is delighted to welcome five new faculty members to the family:



Ms. Smrekar is the new member of the Physical Education Department:

Q- What were you doing before you came to Collegiate?

A- "I went to Penn State and I got out a year ago. Then, I taught in Millcreek for a while, at Walnut Creek and at McDowell, and I actually went to both of those schools, so it was cool to be back on the opposite side, teaching instead of being a student."

Q- What is your degree/educational background in?

A- "It's kinesiology, so I went to Penn State and majored in that. It is basically like exercise science, so I took a more science based route and then went toward the health and P.E. direction, and I love it."

Q- What were you involved in during your high school career?

A- "I did softball every year, and I loved that, so now, I would really love to get involved with coaching somewhere. I actually coached for Walnut Creek last year, so I will probably do that again this year. I was also involved in the Girls Athletic Club, and we designed homecoming and the theme for that. And I would definitely like to get involved with something here at Collegiate."

Q- Any future plans?

A- "Just teaching for now. I am still very early in my career, and I still love teaching. Someday, I might want to expand and do something else, but right now I am really happy where I'm at."

Q- What was your first impression of Collegiate?

A- "I was really surprised at how nice and welcoming everyone was. Everyone always says how awesome Collegiate is and how the culture is so incredible, and then, when I got here, I really believed it. Everybody has been great."

Q- Any last words?

A- "I am a goofball, and I try to make everyone laugh because I just want everybody to have fun, and it's important to have fun in life and in my class. I just want everyone to enjoy physical education, know how to be healthy and feel good."



Ms. Whiting is the new member of the Art Department:

Q- What were you doing before you came to Collegiate?

A- "I was working at Montessori Regional Charter School, and I was their peace room coordinator. I also taught the art club after school and at the Erie Art Museum as their children's art instructor."

Q- What is your degree/educational background in?

A- "I went to Edinboro University. I have a Bachelor's in graphic design, a minor in art history, and then I have a teaching degree in K through 12 art education."

Q- Where did you attend high school, and what were you involved in?

A- "I went to McDowell for high school. I was in their CP program, which was an art program where you made a portfolio in order to get in. I was always involved in the art program. I spent a lot of time in the art room and a lot of time in my English teacher's room writing."

Q- What was your first impression of Collegiate?

A- "My first impression was how nice everyone is here, how polite everyone is and just how caring they are. It's a really nice, family-oriented place, and I haven't met anyone here who isn't willing to give you a hand and help out. Collegiate is just a really wonderful place to be."



Miss James is the new member of the Guidance Department:

Q- What were you doing before your position here?

A- "I was working for a program at Strong Vincent, run by Gannon, called "Go College," and it's a college excellence program that works to get students in high school ready for college."

Q- What college did you attend/what did you pursue there?

A- "I went to Chatham University. I have my Bachelors of Art in psychology and my master's in counseling psychology."

Q- Where did you attend high school/what were you involved in?

A- "I went to McDowell. I was involved in marching band, and I danced since I was about three, so definitely up until I graduated high school. I took a lot of classes, and I had a lot of school work."

Q- Where do you see yourself in the future/what do you plan on doing?

A- "This is it! I would love to be able to stay at Collegiate and just keep doing guidance counseling. That's what I went to school for, and that's what I plan for."

Q- What was your first impression of the school?

A- "Everyone is so friendly. Everyone is very welcoming and kind to each other. I haven't noticed any students yelling at each other or any vulgar language, so it's a pretty refreshing change for me."



Mr. Hofmann is the new member of the Math Department:

Q- What were you doing before you came to Academy?

A- "I taught at Strong Vincent for 17 years. Before that, I taught at a school just outside of Reading, Pennsylvania. Before that, I was getting my math and education certification from Gannon. Before that, I taught at a private school just north of Philadelphia, and before that, I was at Dickinson College for my degree in physics."

Q- Where did you attend high school/what were you involved in?

A- "I went to Ft. LeBoeuf High School. I was involved in a group called the Young Marines which was basically a Marine Corps JROTC. I was in the Model UN and I was the editor of the yearbook. In college, I did quite a bit too. I did intermural volleyball, I was in the Society of Physics Students, I hosted a political talk radio show on the campus radio station, I was the astronomy teaching assistant, and I was involved with the Dickinson Christian Fellowship. I was also a member of Alpha Phi Omega, which is a co-ed national service fraternity, and we did nothing but community service."

Q- Any future career plans?

A- "Hopefully I will stay here at Collegiate for quite some time. If I am going to retire from the city, it would be awesome if I am still here."

Q- What was your first impression of Collegiate?

A- "The faculty has been amazingly helpful in getting adjusted to everything. The students are great. They seem very conscientious, diligent and smart. The school is a nice school, and the atmosphere is great here. I have to say I think this is the best start to a school year I've had in many years."

Q- Is there anything you would like us to know about you?

A- "One hobby that I have continued now since I was 12 is comic book collecting. I have also been on the cast or a participant at the Great Lakes Medieval Fair and other Renaissance fairs for 14 years. I have played everything from Ralph the Ogre to King Arthur!"



Mr. Weiss is the new member of the Social Studies Department:

Q- What were you doing before this?

A- "I was a Common Core Facilitator at East High for two years, and I spent five years teaching at Strong Vincent before that."

Q- Where did you attend college/what did you pursue?

A- "I went to school at Allegheny College. I got a four year degree there, and I got certified to teach at Mercyhurst University. My Bachelor's degree is in history, and then I have certifications in secondary social studies and mid-level English."

Q- Where did you attend high school/what were you involved in?

A- "I went to Mercyhurst Prep and was involved in student government. I was also editor of the student newspaper, and I was on the rowing team."

Q- What is next for you?

A- "This is actually a return to the classroom for me, because with the facilitator position, I was only working with the teachers, so this is kind of my latest step. I am not sure what I am doing next."

Q- What was your first impression of Academy?

A- "Obviously there is an importance of culture in the building. We have a new-to-Collegiate training and that meeting was all about the culture of the school and how it was important to the building and administration, and it needed to become very important to me as well."



Wellness Fitness Granted Makeover



Article by Alan Wang
Layout designed by Nicole Glaz



Many students at Collegiate Academy are wondering what happened to Ms. Wiley. She is no longer teaching wellness, but she is now managing a 1.2 million dollar grant for the Erie School District.

"It is district-wide. It is huge," says former wellness and fitness teacher Ms. Wiley. "We are one of 33 grants in the United States."

The Carol M. White Physical Education Program Grant, (PEP Grant) provides opportunities such as upgrading equipment, supplying new technology, and more money for schools and community organizations to enhance their physical education programs in grades K-12.

The Erie School District will receive a grant that the schools will split. However, at Collegiate Academy alone, the changes in the wellness and fitness department will be enormous.

Even now, Collegiate is experiencing small changes. The sports nutrition class now has more technology integrated into the curriculum to better plan healthy lifestyles.

"We [now] have WellNet [for the sports nutrition class], and it is a program on the computer that we will be able to use. We will go in there and put in everything we ate; we can plan meals," says wellness teacher Ms. Smrekar.

The Wellness and Fitness I class will also see small changes like pedometers incorporated into their curriculums. Junior Keay Crandall is one of the lucky individuals to test out the new technology. She says, "[The pedometer] can be helpful because I go on a run every day after I'm done with my homework. By figuring out how many steps I take in a mile, I can figure out how fast I'm going."



Additionally, the PEP grant will allow Collegiate Academy to purchase brand-new treadmills, elliptical machines, a Matrix machine and dumbbells within a period of three years.

However, Ms. Wiley has a more ambitious plan: "I hope to make this happen by October."

Ms. Smrekar adds that there will be a lot more cool activities for kids to choose from, including more cardio machines and free weights.

The new equipment will be replacing very old machines which are in need of repair. Some of the machines are so old that one may notice the exposed foam in the seating. Some broadcast journalism students are currently doing a before and after film, which captures the makeover from its inception to its end.

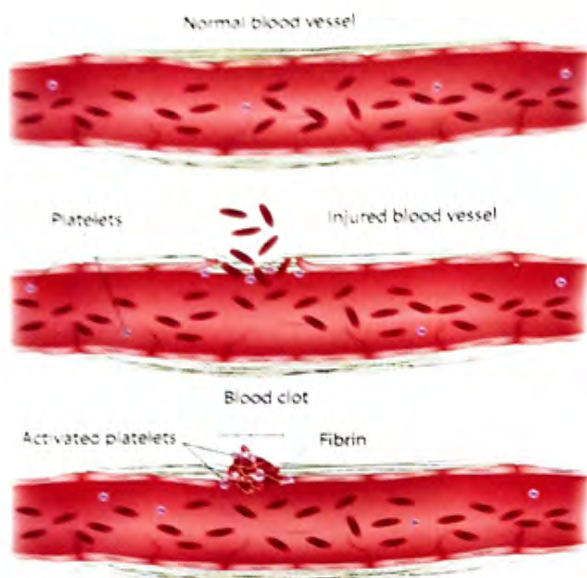
At the end of the renovation, many art students at Collegiate Academy will work together to paint a mural in the new weight room, demonstrating that this project is a school-wide endeavor.

"Synergy makes us different... [The Deans], the wellness teachers, the Parent Teacher Student Organization, art teachers and students are all working together," asserts Ms. Wiley. "If that is not beautiful, I do not know what is."



STUDENTS WALK IN THE SHOES OF BRAVERY

Article By Misty Wood
Layout Designed By Janice Lee



Out of the 800 students who we have at Collegiate Academy, approximately 110 of them have diseases that can cause daily struggles, such as hemophilia, scoliosis and asthma can affect even our closest friends.

The school nurse, Ms. Guerriero says that she gives "three or four specific treatments a day." She gives medications, breathing treatments and sometimes has to administer shots to help keep students healthy, safe and pain-free.

Hemophilia is a disease that prevents the blood from clotting properly. The Kids Health website explains that because the blood clotting factors eight or nine are missing, some of the symptoms are nonstop bleeding and bad bruising. Factor eight clotting deficiency is hemophilia A, and Factor nine deficiency is hemophilia B.

Senior Alex McCarthy, a hemophilia B patient, says, "I cannot play sports or do anything active without hurting myself." Playing sports can lead to more bruising, bleeding and pain for

hemophilia patients.

It is unusual for girls to have the disease; normally they are just carriers of the gene. However, one in every 5,000-10,000 boys is diagnosed with this disease every year.

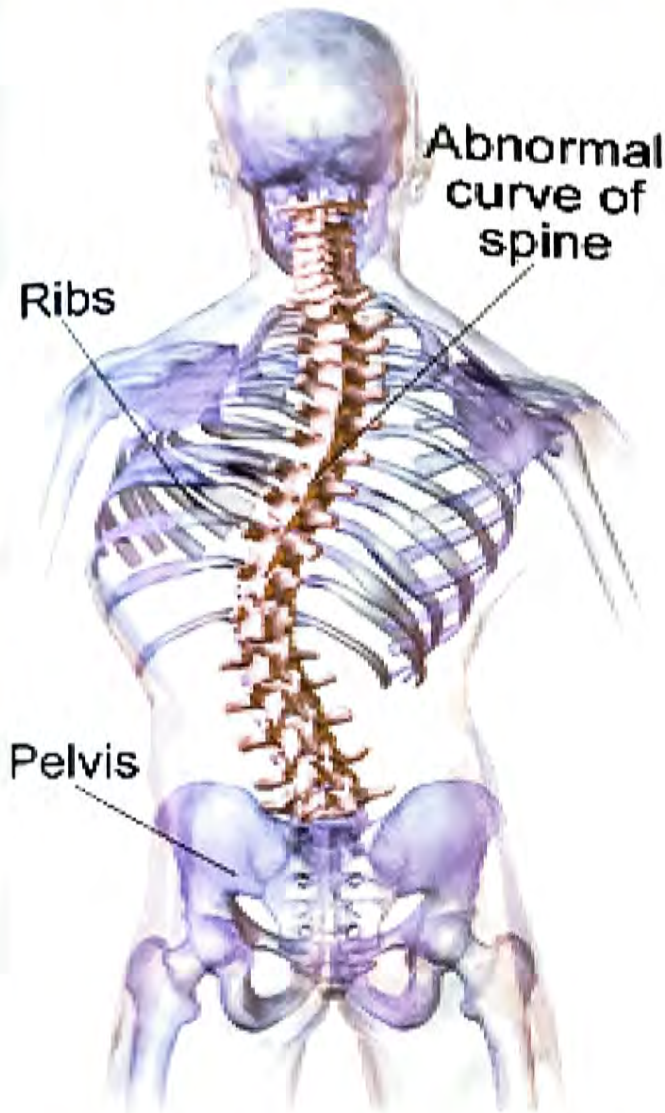
There is no cure for hemophilia, but there are treatment options. Clotting Factor Replacement Therapy is when the blood clotting factors that the body is missing are fed into the body through an IV infusion.

McCarthy does the treatments herself and explains, "I have to stick a needle in my arm, and it infuses clotting factors." She receives treatments about two times a month, and sometimes has to miss school or class because of them.

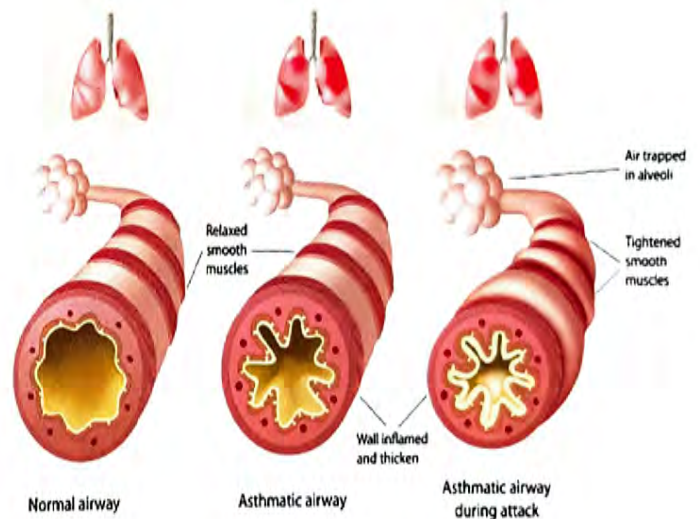
Hemophilia can also affect one's personal life. Alex says that the disease has made her stronger, even throughout the negative side effects.

Another disease students face is scoliosis, a back issue usually formed during a growth spurt.

NO DISEASES CAN HOLD THEM BACK



Pathology of Asthma



Sophomore Ashley Lombardo, a student with scoliosis, sometimes has to sit differently to avoid pain. She says that her disease has made her stronger because it has given her a higher pain tolerance.

According to the Mayo Clinic, scoliosis is a curvature of the spine. It normally causes a lot of pain, and some children or adolescents may have to wear a back brace to help the spine grow straighter. Luckily, Ashley's ailment only needs chiropractic care, and she does not have to wear a brace.

Almost three out of 100 people have scoliosis, and it can affect two percent of girls, and less than one percent of boys.

Both pain and nonstop bleeding can be scary, but another very prominent ailment that affects students is lung disease. According to the website for Healthy People more than 23 million people in the U.S. have a lung disease, and that does not include breathing problems that are undiagnosed. Asthma is one of the main lung sicknesses that affects many people daily.

Asthma is when the breathing airway is inflamed and causes wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath and tightness in the chest. Treatments include inhalers or nebulizers.

Sophomore Abby Matha says that her asthma is getting better as she gets older. As the website for Scientific American explains, although there is no actual cure for asthma, it can be controlled and seems to go away entirely with the right medicines or treatments.

Matha admits that her weaknesses often reveal themselves. She says that she can get out of breath by going up the stairs when switching classes.

Many people do not realize the daily struggles and trials of an adolescent with an ailment or disease. Suffering can stop for the afflicted, but only with temporary relief such as medicines or treatments. Maybe one day a Collegiate Academy graduate will be the one to find a cure.

The Reward Outweighs the Risk; Creating Another **Big Bang**

Article by Cody Dolak

Layout Design by Maria Czerwinski

The Large Hadron Collider, or LHC, is a device that can send protons colliding into one another to replicate similar conditions to the Big Bang. Now, the scientists working at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, want to expand the LHC to further their experiments into physics. But is this necessarily the best course of action?

The expansion of the LHC must continue, because with experiments come results, and results will always yield new knowledge regardless of whether or not the experiment was successful.

The first reason why the expansion should continue is that society could finally begin to unravel the mysteries of the universe.

The website for How Stuff Works explains that, "By smashing protons together hard and fast enough, the LHC will cause protons to break apart into tiny atomic sub particles...But according to the Big Bang Theory, all matter in the early universe consisted of these sub-atomic particles."

When the LHC causes two molecules to collide, it produces several things: photons (which are particles of light), positrons (which are the anti-particles of electrons) and muons (which are particles that are both negatively charged and are heavier than electrons).



One of the main concerns is the safety of the people conducting the experiment.

Advanced Placement physics teacher Mr. Reed says, "Why of course there will always be inherent danger. You are sending particles racing at each other, which causes a massive release of energy. Safety is a huge issue."

One scenario that worries many people is that the collision could create a black hole that would envelope Earth.

Reed says, "No, [the black hole] would not happen." The only possibility of that happening would be with the implosion of a sun."



The website for How Stuff Works maintains that "CERN (the place where LHC is located) states that if a black hole were to be created, it would be on a subatomic scale, and would collapse almost instantly."

At this point, even a failure would be some kind of success in the field of physics.

However, scientists have many hypotheses about what we could do with the new knowledge.

Reed says, "Who knows? It is really an open door." One of the things that may be proven could be the existence of gravitons (gravity particles). With this finding, we might be able to begin work into repulsion technology (anti-gravity)."

At the end of the day, it is science, and there will always be a reward for the risks taken. The reward might not be as apparent as hovercraft or repulsion technologies, but maybe it could be one day.

The recently popular service offered to people nationwide known as "Netflix" has grown tremendously since its first public streaming in 1997. Even though Netflix has grown so much in the past 17 years, the real question is, what is hot on Netflix today?

To answer this, many people are interested in suspenseful shows, or even horror.

Collegiate's Movie club president Junior Logan Ford says he appreciates a movie with "believable characters" or even a "cool plot twist". Ford says he would enjoy a movie on Netflix over a television show because movies tend to have a more "complex story."

CEO of Netflix, Reed Hastings, says, "Today Netflix has over 50 million subscribers, and the streaming experience is better than ever."

Many of the shows in Netflix's top ten list are popular for their appearances on cable television, but others such as "Orange is the New Black" are newer shows known as "Netflix

originals." Netflix originals are independent shows created by Netflix, and this year they are topping the charts with ratings and viewer satisfaction.

Netflix's original series documentary "The Digital Video Maven" has already scored one Golden Globe, three Emmys, and even an Oscar nomination in the documentary category.

Although there is a wide variety of shows and movies offered on Netflix, history teacher Mr. Sheldon, says, "They should offer more accurate history shows and war movies."

Netflix has expanded its collection of films across the years, but this year Netflix plans to add a brand new Netflix original called Marco Polo. This will be Netflix's first ever attempt at a historical drama, coming in mid-December.

Netflix has pleased over 50 million customers and has something for everyone no matter what the viewer is looking for.

NETFLIX

By LeeAnn Reynolds
Layout Designed
By Janice Lee

AND THE EXPANDING TRENDS

WHAT COLLEGIATE STUDENTS LOVE TO WATCH

A recent poll taken by

Netflix shows the top ten shows watched on Netflix across the nation are:

1. "Breaking Bad"
2. "Family Guy"
3. "How I Met Your Mother"
4. "Supernatural"
5. "The Walking Dead"
6. "Pretty Little Liars"
7. "Arrested Development"
8. "Doctor Who"
9. "Grey's Anatomy"
10. "Orange is the New Black"

STAFF PICKS:



Ms. Parthenakis - House of Cards,
My Big Fat Greek Wedding

Emily Valentinetti - Gossip Girl

Heba Alsahlani - The Fosters

Cody Dolak - American Horror
Story



Henry Palattella - Breaking Bad,
Trailer Park Boys

Uma Rajiyah - Modern Family,
Friends

Daivonna Battle - Hemlock Grove,
Anastasia

Chelsea Smith - Vampire Diaries,
Orange is the New Black, Parks
and Recreation

Lexi Ednie - Parks and Recreation

Misty Wood - Criminal Minds, NCIS

Colleen Campbell - The Wave

Maria Czerwinski - Vampire
Diaries, Gossip Girl

Isabelle Vieira - Criminal Minds,
Gossip Girl, Orange is the New
Black

Nicole Glaz - Supernatural, Pretty
Little Liars

Alan Wang - Law and Order
(original)

LeeAnn Reynolds - New Girl

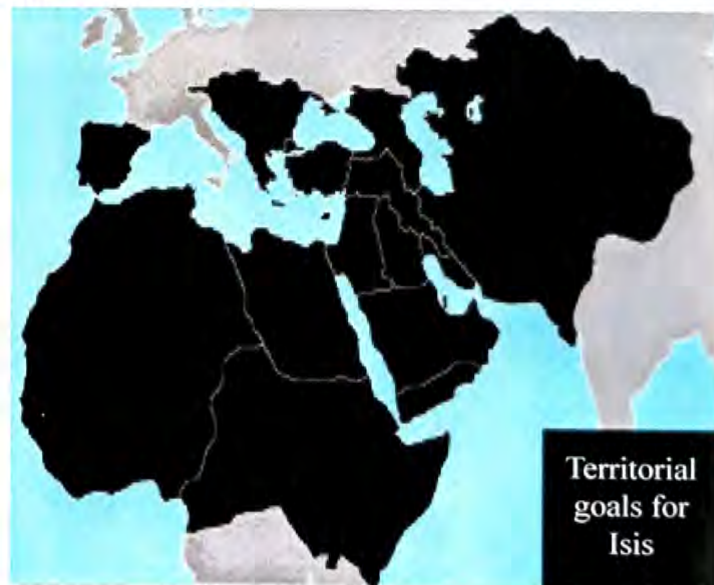


ISIS, ISIL AND HAMAS:

Currently, there has been confusion for many Americans on which groups support certain ideologies in the Middle East. The group everyone refers to now is ISIS (The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria). But who is ISIL? They are the same.

ISIL is the Islamic State in Iraq and Levant. Notice how the two names both start with the phrase the "Islamic State in Iraq." This is because the translation of al Dawla al Islamiyah f'il Iraq w'al Sham is the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham. The debatable word in that phrase (the one referred to as the Levant and Syria) is al Sham.

The term has multiple meanings. Al Sham is a subdivision of the state of Bilad al Sham. The website, the Inquisitr, explains that this is the Levant. However, the Associated Press says that the Levant "refers to a region stretching from southern Turkey through Syria to Egypt." Also, in traditional Arabic, al Sham refers to Syria.



It does not matter if one refers to this group as ISIS or ISIL; the most difficult question still remains. What do they want? This group has gained power and now wants to impose their beliefs on people.

The Inquisitr says, "Some believe ISIS wants to wrench control of the Middle East away from the United States. Others claim that it wants to establish a worldwide Islamic caliphate [i.e. an Islamic state ruled by Sharia Law]. Some even say that it is simply trying to establish strongholds from which it could carry out future terrorist attacks against the United States and its allies."

No one truly knows what it is that ISIL wants, but these

people have established a settlement and do not plan on leaving soon.

ISIL has mentioned that it has come to bring Sharia Law, which is the conservative or traditional way of life Islam teaches (aka Islamic Law). However, they are raping and killing women, beheading men and murdering children. Thousands have fled and more remain awaiting death.

Sheik Mazin Alsahlani of the Almakarim Islamic Foundation of Erie says, "This is not the Sharia Law. The Sharia Law came to disseminate peace and to make people respect each other, not to fight each other, not to kill innocent people." Some say ISIL comes from the same moral beliefs as al-Qaeda,

WHAT IS THE DIVIDING DIFFERENCE?

Article By Heba Alsahlani
Layout Designed By Nicole Glaz
and Janice Lee



a jihadist movement called Salafism, which rejects the idea of nationalism and seeks a pan-Islamic caliphate. Salafists are said to be Sunni Muslim.

Alsahlani says, "ISIS is a terrorist group. They came to kill the faith and to kill the humanity. They claim they are faithful people but in reality they are animals."

All around the world many have wondered time and time again how a religion that means peace and submission to Allah could have such violent, cruel and horrific people pledging that they themselves are Muslims. The followers are following their alleged form of beliefs.

Sheik Alsahlani says, "Those who follow ISIS are ignorant. They are deceived by them. ISIS wants them to believe that they are helping the people, but in reality they are destroying them. In this manner, ISIS has formed their army." Moreover, Sheik Alsahlani identifies that the followers of ISIL are not educated themselves about religion and what

Islam truly means. Furthermore, if ISIL is not educated about diverse religions then how is their ever going to be peace in their hands?

AP World History teacher Mr. Lasher says, "Religion teaches us how to deal with the corruptions of the society."

Religion has always been the main reason why some people think less of others, how they choose to act and live. To this day, there are still problems that people of all races face daily. They live amongst one another, some in peace and others in the midst of war.

This raises the question, should religion govern a country?

Mr. Lasher says that religion should "advise but not supervise."

One religion cannot govern all types of people- that is why government fails. However, if government does not base itself on any morals then it too will fail. Every country needs to find a balance that works for them.

“Degrade and destroy

ISIL.”

Not far away from Syria and Iraq lies the turmoil in Gaza. Hamas and Israel are now in the midst of another war as destruction under ISIL takes place. Hamas requests that the blockade that Israel holds over Gaza be lifted. However, they also desire a Palestinian state. Israel fought back.

Sociology teacher Mr. Sheldon says, “If you’re going to poke the bear, the bear will poke you back.”

The war between Israel and Hamas has caused the loss of thousands of civilians, mainly in Gaza. Both sides tend to blame the other on why so many have died. Approximately 500,000 people have been displaced by the waging war. The US even has asked Israel to cease fighting in densely populated areas.

The Israeli Prime Minister, Netanyahu, has said, “Hamas is ISIS. ISIS is Hamas.” Is this true? Are these two groups the same?

The United States does categorize them both as terrorists, but they are not the same. Their ideologies are different. Hamas leader, Khaled Meshaal, has even rejected any “Hamas-ISIS” comparison.

Then why did Netanyahu make this assertion?

The website Vox has emphasized that “Netanyahu is trying again to convince Americans that our enemy and his enemy are one and the same, so therefore the US should adopt Netanyahu’s hard-line stance against Hamas, should increase its support for Israel and should definitely stop ‘second-guessing’ Israel’s heavy-handed military actions in Gaza.”

Regardless of Netanyahu’s questionable judgments, over 50 percent of Israelites still believe that he is doing a respectable job.

However, what does the US think about the Middle East current crisis as a whole?

On September 10th, United States President Barack Obama has said, that America will get involved in the Middle East to “degrade and destroy ISIL.”

Obama has enforced four points that are essential to his motives: 1. Send air-strikes in Syria and possibly in Iraq 2. Send 475 service members to Iraq, not as a combat mission, but to train and equip the Syrian rebels 3. Strengthen America’s efforts and work with the UN and other supporters 4. Provide humanitarian aid to IDPs (Internally Displaced Peoples). Through Congressional and allied support, Obama wants unity in America to combat this mission in the Middle East.

Mr. Sheldon says, “The UN and US need to step in and broker peace.”

However, Mr. Sheldon further explains that a military response, as Obama also mentioned, is not what should happen. Other people also believe that this issue cannot be solved with outside help because it is the people in the Middle East who should try to resolve the problem.

Obama also explains that America can help the Iraqis, for example, create a new government and provide necessary aid.



Above: President Obama speaks on Isis at the White House.
Below: Another terrorist group, Hamas, gets involved.



Above: Iraqi soldiers arresting members of Isis.
Below: Suspected members of Isis detained in Kuwait.





However, he complies that "America cannot do for Iraqis what they can do for themselves."

Mr. Lasher reiterates, "We will have peace when Muslims (God-fearing people) are willing to live under a government that has Islam advise but not supervise."

An ideal answer to go about solving the problem in the Middle East today is to sit down with one another and come up with a resolution. But that is not possible now that lives are lost and the world waits for something to happen.

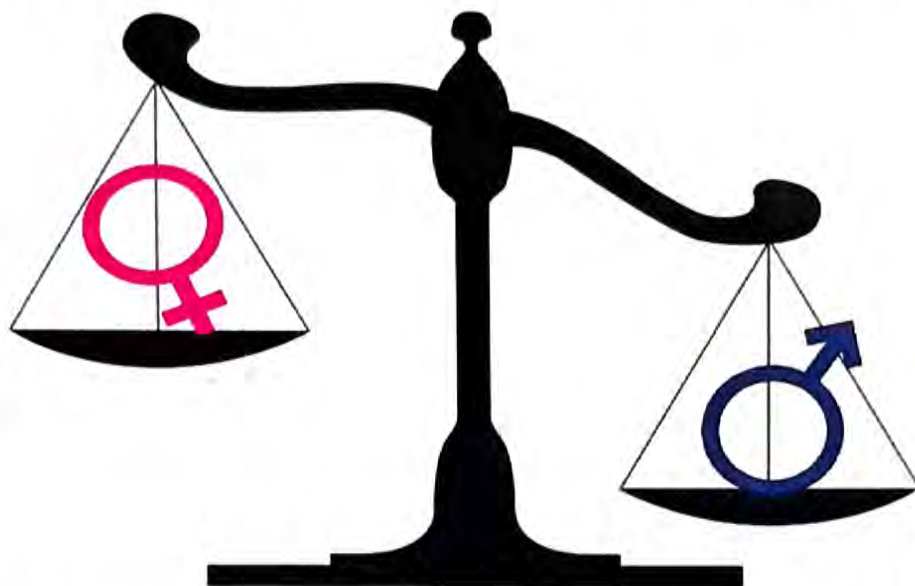
Will it ever end?

Iraq and the Middle East as a whole have countless sub-problems that are both religious and political. A solution is not yet found to "broker peace," but it must be.

In a nation where stability is inactive, it still can happen, but it will take many years and a lot of people to help accomplish yet another impossible mission, together

"We will have peace when Muslims (God-fearing people) are willing to live under a government that has Islam advise but not supervise."

100 YEARS IS MUCH TOO LONG FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN POLITICS



In May of 2013, the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) shared the astounding prediction that men and women may not hold an equal number of seats in Congress until the year 2121.

Additionally, Joelle Schmitz of USA Today states that "Eighty-nine is the number of nations that still surpass the U.S. in terms of women's representation in government. Some [of these] nations [are] not known for human rights. [They include] Rwanda, Uganda, Tajikistan, South Africa and Cuba."

Currently, with all of the light society is shedding on feminism and women empowerment, one would wonder how these statements could possibly hold true. The prominent and developed nation of the United States, who other nations view as having progressive laws and forward thinking, trails behind much less-developed nations in the representation of women in government. This atrocity is eye-opening, and it is about time for America to combat this issue.

As a whole, the current generation of youth in this nation tends to have a more progressive outlook on gender equality. However, perpetuating gender roles that stereotype women may be hindering younger females from pursuing their goals.

English and journalism teacher Ms. Parthenakis says, "I think traditionally, politics have not been seen as a 'female thing,' and it is also hard [for women] to get elected.

Traditionally, a woman's place is to take care of the kids, so some women do not feel like they can do that while running

for office. Also, I do not think a lot of voters really vote for people who have kids and are raising a family. [These standards are] holding women back."

If society as a whole makes a strong effort to expel these social norms, then women may have an equal chance of representation in government. If women are equally as smart and capable as men, then these gender norms should not be the deciding factor for one's choice of political candidates.

Mr. Sheldon, social studies teacher says, "I have served in combat behind women—my squad leader was a woman—and they did their job. They proved their merit. If you can do the job, you deserve the job."

Convincing young adults of this idea will most likely be relatively effortless when compared to convincing many of the older citizens of this nation.

Ms. Parthenakis says, "I think that a lot of voters still think that the world should be run by men. Even some women feel like this, like my grandmother. But this generation is different from [her] generation. They have grown up with dads helping out in the house. I think this generation and hopefully my generation has seen things differently."

Gender inequality and the reduction of diverse opinions are more obvious reasons why it is detrimental to have a country governed mainly by men. However, what many fail to realize is that some rights that only pertain to women are being left in the hands of men to control.

Ms. Parthenakis says, "I do not care if a woman or

By Uma Rajiyah
Layout Designed By Janice Lee



HeForShe
UN Women Solidarity Movement
for Gender Equality



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women



man is senator, I care about what their policies are. But when we are talking about reproductive rights, [the issue] does become important because men just do not get it. When they talk about birth control as abortion, men do not realize [what they are discussing], because they do not have to take responsibility."

Ms. Parthenakis continues, "Again it comes back to tradition; women have to take care of the child. When you are saying that birth control is abortion, you are putting women right back into house all over again, and you are reducing their role in society to just being a mom. It is all just male senators deciding these rights, and that is crazy to me."

Thus, it is vital for women to take a stand and run for office. But more importantly, the responsibility lies within the hands of the voters to make a difference.

When asked why he believes there is a lack of women in politics, Mr. Sheldon says, "It is the women's fault."

He justifies this by saying that there are so many women in this nation, so they have the power to change the circumstances. He says that they must step it up and get involved in the voting process.

Ms. Parthenakis adds to this by saying, "It is up to women [voters] too, because a lot of women just hold each other back. A girl will become successful and other girls will just drag her down. I think education is really the key, and if we are giving girls an equal footing, hopefully we will see [gender parity in congress] before 2121."

If this country is interested in seeing an equal representation of men and women in government, it is truly up to all voters, both men and women alike, to make a difference.

It is vital for young women to recognize powerful role models in society. Take actress and United Nations' Women's Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson, for example. She is a perfect example of a strong, intelligent and enlightened woman who is making a difference with her recent campaign HeForShe, an effort in dealing with gender inequality.

The idea behind the campaign is to try and encourage males to be advocates for gender equality, while also dispelling common stereotypes that are associated with each gender.

Watson says, "Men don't have the benefits of equality either. We don't often talk about men being imprisoned by gender stereotypes, but I can see that they are and that when they are free, things will change for women as a natural consequence."

She powerfully continues, "If men don't have to be aggressive in order to be accepted, women won't feel compelled to be submissive. If men don't have to control, women won't have to be controlled. Both men and women should feel free to be sensitive. Both men and women should feel free to be strong... It is time that we all perceive gender on a spectrum, not as two opposing sets of ideals."



Racing in the Wrong Direction: Historical Racial Tensions



abcnews.go.com



blackpast.org



Article by Henry Palattella
Layout Designed by Isabelle Vieira



framework.latimes.com



A city with tear gas, unlawful treatment of protestors and journalists, no electricity and authorities who barely have any control over enraged citizens may sound like it belongs in a war-torn country, but this past August it was only 10 hours away from Erie. And this is not the first instance of protests and riots of this magnitude.

This depiction is Ferguson, Missouri when a white police officer shot an unarmed black teen, Michael Brown, on Aug. 9, 2014. This incident reverberated throughout the Ferguson community, primarily in the black community. A peaceful protest began on Aug. 10, but after a candlelight vigil, a minority of the protestors became unruly, and eventually started rioting in Ferguson.

Senior Anvar Bidzinov says, "I believe what is happening in Ferguson is an embarrassment to the principles and ideas that this country was founded upon," He continues, "The paramilitary police, the abuse of power and blatant violation of rights is a very serious matter that should definitely be discussed."

A rallying cry that the protestors used was that there was unlawful treatment by the police force.

"The African Americans felt threatened in this community before the Michael Brown incident," social studies teacher Mr. Lasher says, "The police had a practice where they would raise

money through [driving] tickets." But he also believes that some things were overblown in this protest: "You will have to remember the spark that lit this was misinformation, there were a lot of details that were withheld from the community."

The misinformation that he is referring to is the fact that many people were not told that Brown had robbed a store before he was stopped by the officer, and other rumors that made the situation get blown out of proportion.

Now, while this may be the most recent example of racial tensions gone awry, it certainly is not the only instance. In the past 30 years, there have been many occasions of racial tension imploding and leading to rioting and overall panic. One of the biggest occurrences of this would be the public reaction to the Rodney King beatings. In March 1991, Rodney King was speeding on a Los Angeles freeway when he became involved in a high-speed pursuit with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). After the LAPD caught King, the court showed video footage of five white LAPD officers beating him unlawfully. King then took the LAPD to court, and had most of the nation on his side. But then in April 1992, the jury acquitted the officers of all the charges, and this led to outrage within the Los Angeles community and also throughout the country.

"This was a very different time," Sociology teacher Mr. Sheldon says, "In LA in 1992, it was cops versus everybody." Many citizens believed that anything the police did seemed to violate their rights, even when it did not, so the tensions between the police and citizens boiled over.

The outrage was so large that looting and rioting were prevalent in LA for six days after the verdict. But the police were not the only people who suffered because of this, as many white and Korean civilians were beaten for no apparent reason.

All of these occurrences were linked to something else that angered the black communities, as they felt that they were underrepresented politically. In both Ferguson and LA in the 90's, a majority of the local governments and police force were white. Thus anytime that there was an arrest or an incident involving the police, white police officers were called in, and this seemed unfair to the black community.

The race riots in LA are an example of a perfect storm of community tensions, the underrepresented black community felt anger toward the white community, who always seem to be the police officers punishing them, which causes them to lose faith in the authorities. As protester Jay Rhee said, "We have lost our faith in the police. Where were you when we needed you?"

Snowden: The Whistleblower That Froze the NSA

Article By **Cody Dolak**
Layout Design By
Maria Czerwinski

It has been one year since former National Security Agency (NSA) agent Edward Snowden leaked confidential information to the public. This leak became famous on an international scale, causing widespread unrest.

People know him by many names, from "traitor" to "hero". However, few people know the full story of what occurred, and the impact that his actions caused.

It all began when Snowden began compiling various documents and information regarding the NSA spying on the citizens of the United States.

The website for Biography writes that, "After he had compiled a large store of documents, Snowden told his NSA supervisor that he needed a leave of absence to undergo medical treatment."

It was at this point that Snowden fled to



Hong Kong, and watched the events unfold. Less than a month later, the United Kingdom newspaper named The Guardian published classified information received from Snowden regarding the NSA's desire to have the phone company Verizon report back to them every day with information on their customers.

The next day, the leaks continued, both The Guardian and the Washington Times released information from Snowden, this time detailing PRISM (Planning Tool for Resource Integration, Synchronization, and Management), which is the method the NSA uses to collect information.

This revelation caused a massive uproar, causing people to want to either a) have Snowden arrested or b) leave him free and see what else he has to offer.

During an interview after the information on PRISM was released, Snowden stated, "I am willing to sacrifice [my former life] because I cannot in good conscience allow the U.S. government to destroy privacy, internet freedom and basic liberties for people around the world with this massive surveillance machine they're secretly building."

EDWARD SNOWDEN



ENEMY OF THE STATE

請美國停止監控香港網絡
拯救斯諾登
Save Snowden
Save Freedom

Snowden sees no difference in the types of private information. He stated in an interview during his stay in Hong Kong to the Guardian, "The question is, why are our private details that are transmitted online, why are our private details that are stored on our personal devices, any different [from] the details and private records of our lives that are stored in our private journals?... But governments, in the United States and many other countries around the world, increasingly seek to **make** that distinction because they recognize that it actively increases their powers of investigation."

In mid-June, the United States government pressed charges on Snowden, according to the website for Biography, "theft of government property, unauthorized communication of national defense information, and willful communication of classified intelligence with an unauthorized person."

During this time, Snowden left Hong Kong and entered Russia, where the U.S. government revoked his visa, trapping the whistleblower in an airport for a month before being granted asylum by the Russian government.

In October of 2013, he stated that he had no more information to give, and the work of whistleblower Edward Snowden faded into memory; quiet, but unforgotten.

President Barack Obama addressed the NSA's secrecy in a speech he gave in January, stating that, "Intelligence agencies cannot function without secrecy, which makes their work less subject to public debate. Yet there is an inevitable bias not only within the intelligence community, but among all who are responsible for national security, to collect more information about the world, not less. So in the absence of institutional requirements for regular debate -- and oversight that is public, as well as private -- the danger of government overreach becomes more acute."

However, as a result of Snowden's actions, the NSA is in the process of revising its means of gathering information on citizens.

President Obama comments on their revisions, "The task before us now is greater than simply repairing the damage done to our operations; or preventing more disclosures from taking place in the future. Instead, we have to make some important decisions about how to protect ourselves and sustain our leadership in the world, while upholding the civil liberties and privacy protections that our ideals -- and our Constitution -- require."

Recently, Snowden had applied for an extended asylum in Russia after his allotted time ended in August.

Many people are calling for his execution due to his treasonous crimes; however, others picture him as a modern day Guy Fawkes, seeking to stop the NSA's attempts to control every part of people's lives.

"For me, in terms of personal satisfaction, the mission's already accomplished," Snowden says during an interview in December with The Washington Post, "I already won."



Ebola: What Will Humans do Next

Article by Heba Alsahlani
Layout designed by Nicole Glaz



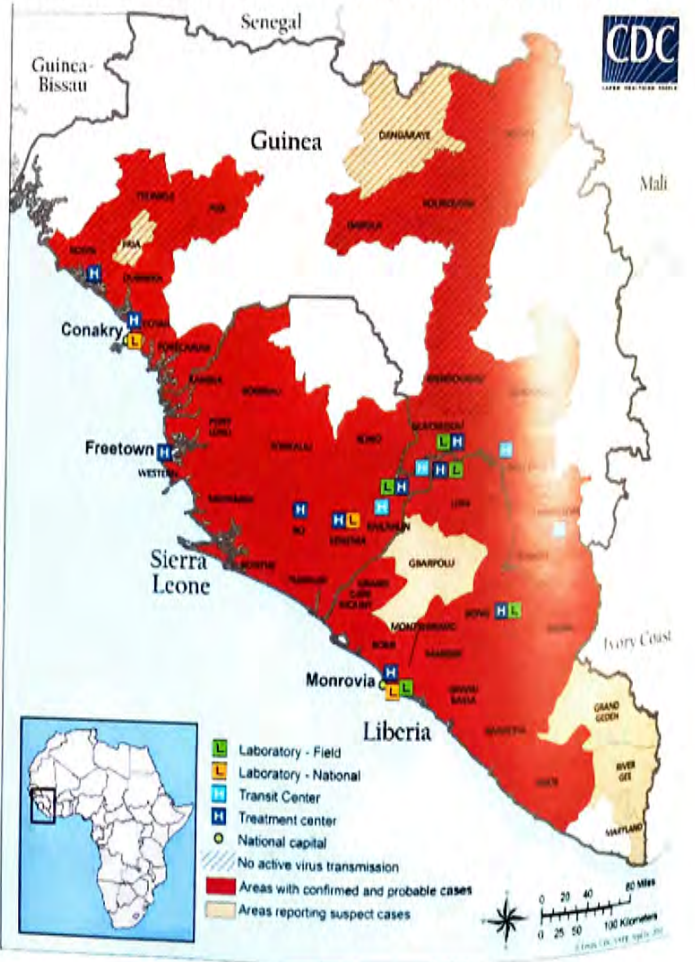
By late October Ebola has killed over 3,000 west Africans since March, and doctors are still diagnosing thousands more. This outbreak first exploded in west Africa and began to diffuse into various countries including Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and now the United States and Spain. The Ebola virus has existed before, so why have humans become so vulnerable to it now?

The International Business Times website note, "One reason the current Ebola outbreak is so much worse than previous ones (the virus was first identified in 1976, and has cropped up numerous times, until recently primarily in Central Africa), is that it began in a new area where three nations intersect. Cross-border travel enabled it to spread to cities that offered concentrated opportunities for growth."

Cross-border travel does not only refer to humans, but animals as well. Animals are dangerous to humans, because they may carry different diseases with them. Thus, one's own travel history is important to consider.

The website One says, "It is now thought that the original host of the Ebola virus was bats in west and central Africa. These infected bats bite or cut and infect other species such as duikers and chimpanzees, raising the probabilities of any infectious contact with humans. Still, very little is known about how the virus initially transfers to humans and triggers human-to-human transmission."

Since Ebola has entered the United States, this is not only Africa's problem to handle. This is a global outbreak



because if new medical technology does not end the virus soon, then it may spread further.

Various myths have made people believe that Ebola is easily caught.

One further states that, "As the Center for Disease Control [CDC] affirms, you cannot be infected with Ebola through the air, water, or through food. The only way to get Ebola is from touching the bodily fluids of an infected person."

Therefore, Americans should not be worried about going about their daily schedules. However, it is necessary to take precautions by constantly washing hands and keeping track of one's own health, and the health of those around you. The Ebola virus is on the decline now in certain regions because of countries and organizations willing to help, such as United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF] and the World Health Organization [WHO], donations through Doctors Without Borders. China and Cuba have sent aid, and recently on September 16th, President Barack Obama has sent 763 million dollars over to Africa, and 500 American healthcare workers are training to assist in the destruction of the virus every week.

According to CNN President Obama says, "This is a daunting task, but here is what gives us hope. The world knows how to fight this disease. It is not a mystery. We know the science. We know how to prevent it from spreading. We know how to care for those who contract it. We know that if we take the proper steps, we can save lives. But we have to act fast."

Furthermore, someone's chances of contacting the virus are low. One is more likely to contact

an antibiotic-resistant bacterial infection in a hospital, for example. Antibiotic-resistant bacteria are considered by CDC to be "an urgent health threat."

Scientists are scrambling to develop various forms of medicine to combat such diseases. However, these life-threatening bugs, such as Ebola, cannot depend on just any supplement.

The website Advanced Bio Nutritionals says, "Perhaps the best treatment that could handle these nasty bugs is not a supplement. It is a doctor-administered set of treatments called oxidation therapies. These include IV hydrogen peroxide, ozone therapy, and high-dose vitamin C IVs. These oxygen therapies are your best line of defense once you contract a killer disease."

President Obama has proclaimed that America knows how to combat the Ebola disease, but the current rave about antibiotic-resistant diseases has had many suspect that this may be the end of the era of "miracle drugs." Nurse Guerriero says, "So far, there is nothing absolutely resilient to every medicine, but we are getting there." In the website Medscape, Dr. Frieden, says, "We all have a role to play -- clinicians, patients, health services, and public health. We have to emphasize that drug resistance is an enormous problem. We talk about the 'pre-antibiotic era' and the 'antibiotic era,' and if we are not careful, we will be in a 'post-antibiotic era.' We have to understand that these medicines have risks as well as benefits, and that part of what we have to do is be good stewards of antibiotics so that they will be there when we need them later on, and when our children and grandchildren need them."

"YOU CANNOT BE INFECTED WITH EBOLA THROUGH THE AIR, WATER, OR THROUGH FOOD. THE ONLY WAY TO GET EBOLA IS FROM TOUCHING THE BODILY FLUIDS OF AN INFECTED PERSON."



Above: Doctors carrying the body of an Ebola victim.

THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

CURRENT REFERENDUM PROBLEMS

Article By Emily Valentinetti
Layout Designed By Janice Lee



On September 18, 2014, people residing in Scotland had the chance to change their homeland forever. The voters decided that they would rather stay with the United Kingdom than try and carve out a name for themselves.

Residents were split on the issue, with 55 percent of voters not wanting to part with the United Kingdom and 45 percent wanting independence.

In November of 2013, the Scottish Parliament passed the Scottish Referendum Bill, which made it possible for Scottish people to vote on independence. For almost a year voters had time to decide where they stood on the issue.

Representation from both sides of the argument overwhelmed the media in mid-2014. The independence voters wanted to have more control over tax spending and general usage of their land, because England has been storing their nuclear weapons in Scotland and a lot of Scotland residents do not want them there. They also want more say on the current foreign policy, as in the past Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland have not had any say in how the United Kingdom would respond to international emergencies.

The 'no voters' had support from the Queen of England and the President of the United States, Barack Obama. They decided that the passive threats thrown by the United Kingdom made sense and would rather try to solve their current problems than deal with

having to create a new currency (or adopt the pound), having to join the United Nations, losing relations with major countries and being used as an example.

The Scottish Independence Referendum might have influenced other cultures, using Scotland as a springboard to explain why independence is a valid choice.

In Western Europe alone, Catalonia wants independence from Spain, Flanders from Belgium and Padania from Italy. They are all seeking liberation for different reasons, whether it be control, cultural differences or discomfiture, and people all around the world are unsure how to feel.

Advanced Placement World History teacher Mr. Lasher says, "There is a difference between independence and autonomy, autonomy allows a local entity to make decisions that affect their own lives, and I am a big proponent of that."

Mr. Lasher goes on to say, "Unless a decision needs to be made on the national level, and the examples I give for this are foreign policy, defense, foreign trade and monetary policy, decisions should be made at the lowest level possible."

These dilemmas, of whether or not countries should seek independence, try to enforce autonomy or remain united are on an international level. Some hope that the countries will go about solving these issues in a peaceful manner.



“There is a difference between independence and autonomy”.



All photos taken from <https://ca.news.yahoo.com>

PhotoShop: Changing Our View of the World, One Face at a Time

By Chelsea Smith

Layout Design by Maria Czerwinski

In the past photographers had to be patient and persistent if they wanted to capture something amazing. They had to wake up at five in the morning to catch the sunrise or stay up until midnight to get the moon in the background.

Now there is Photoshop to help with editing digital photographs. The website for Photoshop defines the software as an Adobe photo-editing program that helps with modifying and enhancing pictures.

Huffington Post states "650 participants of a survey that looked at self-esteem issues on woman ages 16 to 45 said that they struggled with confidence issues because of Photo-shop." Image editing has led people to believe that models are actually perfect in appearance, when in reality these photos have been modified.



Junior Clara Danielson says, "When I see magazines, I know they are using Photoshop, but at the same time it still lowers my self-esteem just looking at them... I know no one is that perfect."

Photoshop is giving teens a false reality of what models, actors and role models look like in real life. Photoshop is causing negative effects on today's culture by altering people's opinions on what is beautiful and what is ugly.

Seth and Eva Matlin have launched a campaign to pass a bill that would regulate the digital correcting of models in magazines and commercials.

The website for Daily Mail states, "Seth and Eva Matlins, founders of magazine and fashion label Off Our Chests, believe that the so-called Self Esteem Act will protect children and teenagers from unrealistic ideals when it comes to body image."

off our chests!

EXPOSE YOUR SELF

The fashion label Off Our Chests are on a mission to make the world an easier place for women and girls to be happier and to help get past the self-hatred in their lives. They are in this fight because they are the parents of a little girl (and boy), and they want her to have the best chance of being the happiest version of herself as she grows up. Eva states on the Off Our Chest website, "It is so hard growing up a girl, and so hard becoming a truly, madly, deeply happy woman in today's world, things like social and cultural messages, images, norms, standards, ideals, expectations, inhibitions, sacrifices, insecurities, stress, magazine covers, mean people, traffic... can keep a woman from being her happiest self."

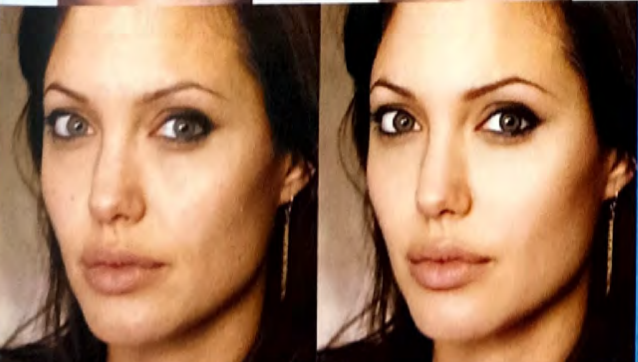
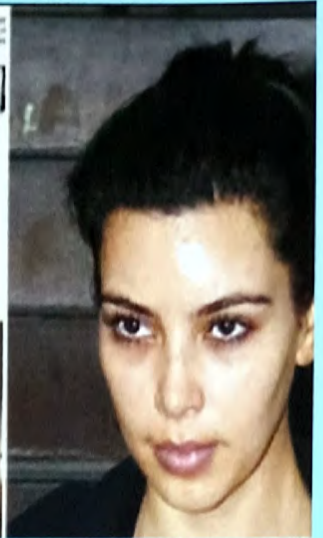
The Matlins want commercials and magazine spreads to be accompanied by disclaimers if models have been drastically airbrushed or Photoshopped.

Dove global research shows: Only 4% of women around the world consider themselves beautiful, and anxiety about appearance begins at an early age.

Six out of 10 girls are so concerned with the way they look, that they actually opt out of participating fully in daily life - from going swimming and playing sports, to visiting the doctor and going to school.

With the help of organizations like Dove and the Matlins Act, Photoshop can be reduced and the self-esteem of people can rise.





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Every Nine Seconds

Article by Dai'Vonna Battle

Layout by Nicole Glaz

"Every nine seconds, a woman is abused in this country, every nine seconds this is going on." -Meredith Vieira

When the public finally saw the leaked elevator footage of Ray Rice dragging his wife's limp body out of an Atlantic City hotel elevator, the National Football League (NFL) Commissioners Office and many of the women who were in a similar situation to that of Janay Rice were in an uproar.

After the incident and discussion of Janay's choice to stay with her husband, a trending topic soon arose on Twitter under the hashtags of #WhyIStayed and #WhyILeft. These hashtags have been allowing women nationwide to share some of their strength with other women in violent relationships.

The start of these hashtags goes back to a writer and domestic abuse survivor, Beverly Gooden. On her website Gooden explains why she created the hashtag, stating that, "I believe in storytelling. I believe in the power of shared experience. I believe that we find strength in community. That is why I created this hashtag. I hope those tweeting using #WhyIStayed find a voice, find love, find compassion, and find hope."

Within two days of being noticed by Twitter users the hashtag was mentioned more than 45,000 times. To date, it has been mentioned over 120,000 times on Twitter according to the website for Topsy. The explosion of responses caught the eyes of several celebrities who used the hashtag in some of their daily tweets.

According to the website for Safe Horizons, a domestic abuse relief website, 25 percent of women will experience domestic violence at some point in their lives which is apparent in Meredith Vieira's story.

During her show, Meredith, well-known journalist, game show and talk show host Meredith Vieira described her experience in an abusive relationship. "It started out with, we would have a fight and he would just sort of grab my arm. I didn't think a lot about it, and then it turned into actually throwing me against a wall. And then, into him grabbing my face and saying, 'I could ruin your career if I wanted to and no one would want you.'"

Relating to the tweets and some of the stories she was told, she also says, "... I was scared of him, and scared if I tried to leave something worse could happen to me... part of it was guilt." This is something many women in an abusive relationship would agree with, "So when people talk about domestic violence it really is a complicated issue. It's not that easy to just get away. You think it would but it is not," she continues.

This hashtag is an extreme example of how powerful social media really is. The responses give power to the large number of women in similar situations. "It is not just an issue with the NFL it's an issue in all of our lives."

If you know someone in an abusive relationship or are in one yourself, talk to someone you trust or call the domestic abuse hotline at 1-800-799-7233. Someone will be on the other side of the phone 24 hours a day seven days a week.



#WhyIStayed because he told me I couldn't do better so much that I believed him. #WhyILeft he was a liar so he must be lying about that too

The guilt and shame of losing your family or not being able to 'fix it' meant more than safety & peace #whyistayed #whyileft



I was too young to understand mental abuse is just the same as physical. #whyistayed



People tend to blame the victim and the #whyistayed tweets are such an amazing way for those who have been attacked for their decision

Teenage Domestic Violence Statistics:

The 2011 survey for Youth Risk Behavior produced by Center of Disease Control and Prevention reported that 9.4% of high school students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt by their current or former partner. In the same survey, 20% of women and 14% of men who reported rape, stalking or physical violence by a partner confirmed that it happened when they were between the ages of 11 and 17.

Erie's only accredited domestic violence help center is SafeNet. SafeNet is a nonprofit organization with offices located at 1702 French Street. SafeNet offers legal advocacy and protection, safe housing and emergency shelter, counseling and prevention education.

Make an appointment to find shelter or call the hotline available 24 hours seven days a week at 814-454-8161.

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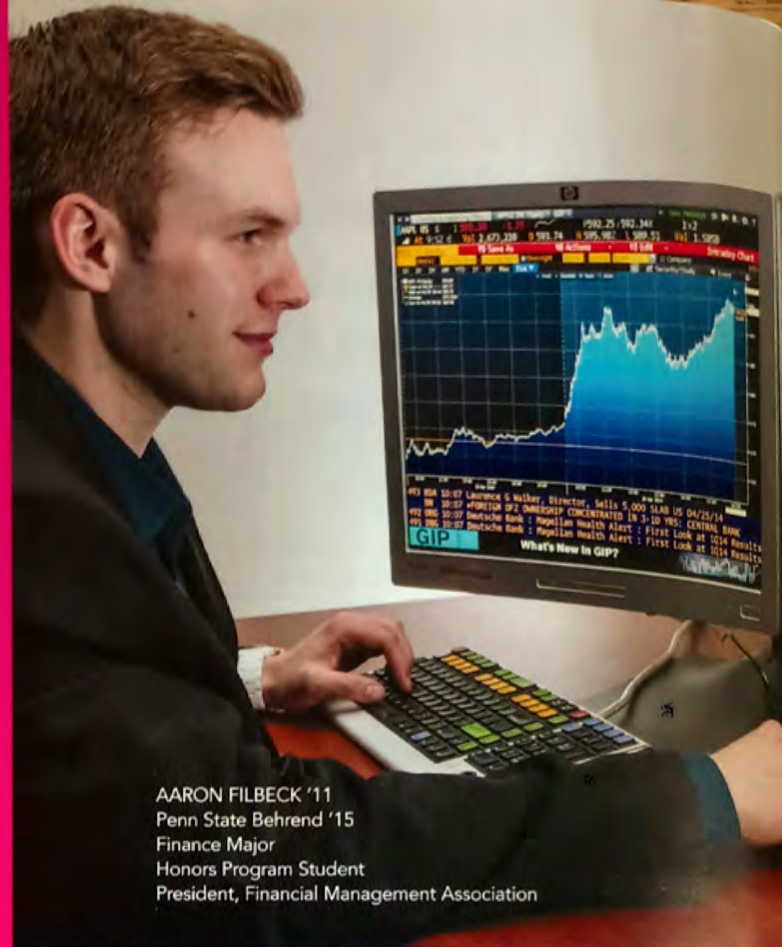
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