Hackney, Sheldon: Humanities Chairman Nomination Hearing (1993): Letter to the Editor 04

Lewis Hoffman
Politically Correct bashing

From his April 29 column, it has become obvious that George F. Will has lowered himself to riding the current wave of Politically Correct bashing of the Politically Correct — using the controversy at Penn to bash liberal ideology.

In the process, Mr. Will practically canonizes Gregory Pavlik, the Daily Pennsylvania columnist who wrote several much-debated columns that lead to the dumping of every copy of an issue in the trash as the sacrificial lamb on the altar of the P.C. god.

Having read his column, I can assuredly say that Gregory Pavlik is no Lenny Bruce.

Rick Nichols doesn't seem disturbed by any speech-muzzling that might be going on at Penn's campus (Commentary Page, May 7). He is still worried that the left is the group that must remain constantly on guard lest its freedom to speak out be compromised.

Mr. Nichols is completely out of touch with the contemporary college scene. It is the conservatives, the orthodox religious and the pro-lifers who are the silenced minorities. The difference though, between the contemporary campus and the University of North Carolina in the 1960s is that there exists a much more complete silencing. Now, not only are the administrations taking the lead in stifling dissent, but they are also being aided by a (for the most part) thoroughly indoctrinated student body.

The Clinton administration is virulently opposed to pro-life dissent. The U.S. attorney general opines that 20 or 30 years for standing in front of an abortion clinic door might not be too much for those evil pro-lifers. Can it be that liberals can see rights eroded only when it is done at the expense of the left?

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