

ANESTHESIA

The american judge Learned Hand successfully summarized much of enlightened thought when he memorably remarked that “the spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure it is right.” Socrates, Copernicus, and Zola would have thanked him, not only for such a prompt advocacy of skepticism, but also for his legitimization of the independent thinker, the doubter, the iconoclast, the contrarian.

Yet the council of five hundred, the crazed Catholic inquisition, and rabid anti-Semites (the respective opponents of these grand men) have become largely

extinct in the western world, and one is left to wonder how germane Hand’s quote is today. Laws protect the individual’s right of free expression, and at the same time, doubt is widely promoted. What could be better?

Nearly everything, actually. The concepts of skepticism and inquiry are, lamentably, being turned against themselves, and have given rise to far more sinister forms of repression and indoctrination. Actual doubt is replaced by surrogate notions thereof which place the subject under the illusion of exercising free thought, precisely the faculty of which they are being deprived.

Those who doubt such an assertion (well done, if you are one of them) need only look around. What are the ingredients of so-called independent thought? Let one of these be examined as a demonstration.

Frequently listed examples of personages to be doubted ironically tend to be quite feeble and clichéd: the corrupt businessman, the dishonest politician, the friendly Nigerian businessman in dire need of your bank account number, etc., etc. But are we not all perfectly aware of how dubious these people are, and who hasn’t seen through them and discovered their obvious questionability? ‘Rednecks’? ‘Old Ladies’? The so-called ‘fools’ and ‘simpletons’ appear sparse. Global warming deniers, creationists – all of these are essentially the ‘unenlightened others’ which, though menacing, rarely actually impact

our life. ‘Free’ thought is now truth, at least in our milieu. The principles formerly championed by doubters have become accepted and widespread, and so being

aware of them doesn’t make anybody an independent thinker.

The trick here is essentially to ‘doubt one’s doubt’, to question the norm, even if it is already being presented as an alternative way of thought. Is Putin the bad man in the Ukraine? Is the US a democracy? Has science killed God? Whatever the answers, questions such as these all deserve intense, unbiased contemplation. Only then can we ever hope to escape the illusion of free thought.

- Frederick Leo



THE MUCKRAKER



THE MUCKRAKER

VOLUME XVI ISSUE VI JUNE 2015 CIRCULATION: 250

Who stole our Moon	2	Juliane Gleitze
The Perks of Helmet Hair	3	Celestine Landt
Jurassic World	4	'Jam'
Got Milk?	5	L. Malin
Anesthesia	7	Frederick Leo

Speaks

Hello Dear Reader!

How are you doing today? Is there anything on your mind? Most likely, there is. And if it's school related, all the better, because The Muckraker is here to help. As your potential therapist for anything associated with JFK, this newspaper embraces your thoughts and opinions and is here to listen and broadcast your voice. Even better than a therapist, however, The Muckraker will not pressure you to divulge discomfoting issues and intimate thoughts or make inept remarks, but rather welcome that which you are willing to share. The only way to receive help from this gratuitous shrink, however, is for you to write an article.

As you can see while leafing through this issue, which, on a side note, we are content to release just one month after the April edition, we have an overwhelming majority of attractive 11th grade females who wrote articles for this release. Where are those pristine boys and girls from the lower grades??? Write us, young ones, old ones, same aged ones, all the like. We want to hear from you! Don't miss your chance for free therapy.

With love,
The Editors

Staff

Founding Fathers: Mikolaj Bekasiak, Seth Hepner, Adam Nagorski

Editors: Cosima Justus, Avelina de Ment, Frederick Leo

Layout Editor: Max Hentges

Journalists: Aqueena Crisp, Celestine Landt, Juliana Garaycochea, Juliane Gleitze, L. Malin, Avelina de Ment, Cosima Justus, Corrie Mathiak, Frederick Leo, Elsa Kienberger

Join Us! Send us an email to be notified about meetings and deadlines

Contact: themuckraker@gmail.com / Facebook

Website:
<https://sites.google.com/site/themuckraker/home>

We are an independent student newspaper. The opinions expressed here in no way reflect those of the John F. Kennedy School.

Thankfully, German law does not allow for injections and treatments such as bovine growth hormone (BGH), but that does not necessarily protect us as consumers. We must protect ourselves. As of this moment, you are cordially encouraged to do your own research and draw your own conclusions. Empower yourself with information. Learn something new about the industry, the product, and yourself. On another note, consuming milk products not only hurts you, it hurts our world. Animal agriculture accounts for more greenhouse gas emissions than all those transportation combined. A whopping 1 000 gallons of water are needed to produce only one gallon of milk. Live-stock covers about 45% of Earth's total land. The leading cause of species extinction and rainforest destruction is animal agriculture. This info only makes up the tip of the tip of the iceberg.

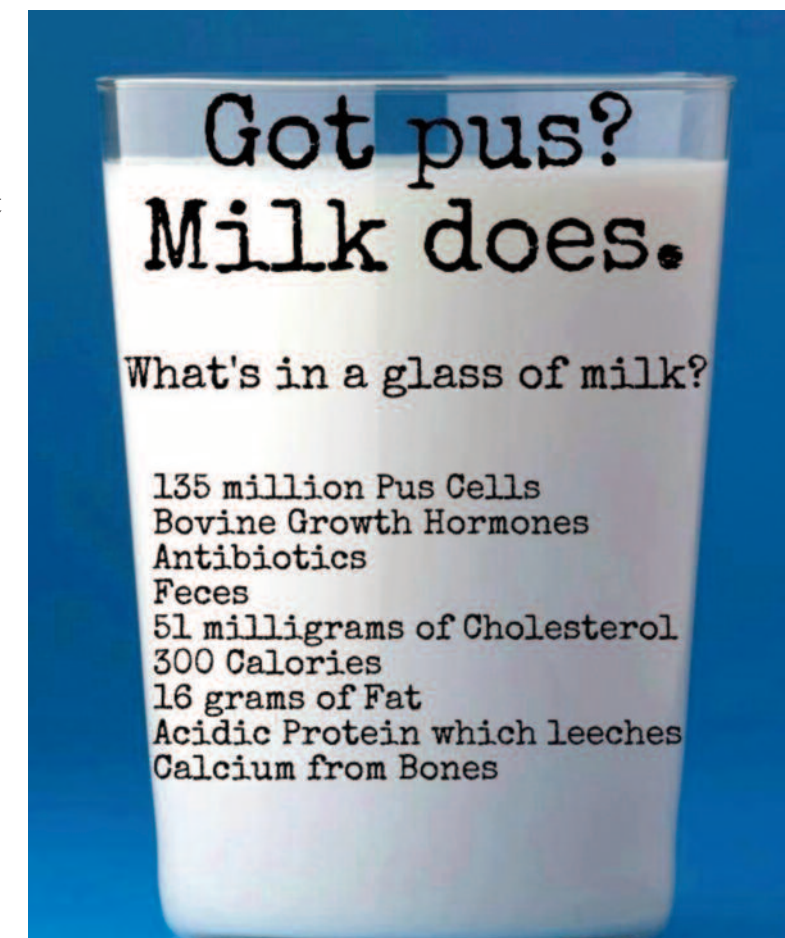
In light of these regrettably overlooked facts, we, as the rational citizens of the world we are, need to be held accountable and act accordingly. The way that the world currently works will not last infinitely. We inhabit a finite planet and need to work together with it and each other if we want to continue to inhabit live on it. The way we lead our lives is our choice. Who we hurt is our choice. We must make these choices consciously. When choosing to buy dairy products, you are also choosing to support cruelty, destruction, and suffering.

Even if you do not personally inflict harm, the purchase of a liter of milk directly allows for a cow's lifelong imprisonment, anguish, and murder. Mothers have their newborn calves torn away from them. Male calves are slaughtered for veal or raised for beef. Female calves face the same fate as their mothers: a life lasting 4 to 5 of the natural 25-year lifespan of a cow, only serving to produce milk, being artificially inseminated by a brutal vet, giving birth, and experiencing the ultimate pain of a mother losing her child.

A cow's milk is designed for a cow's baby. Not a human. End of story. A cow's milk is designed to allow a calf to double its size in one year. Not provide nonexistent nutritious benefits to people. A cow's milk is designed to build a connection between mother and baby. Not to rip them apart and sponsor misery or murder. If it's not your mother, it isn't your milk. The good news is that none of us have to live without milk. An abundance of appetizing alternatives exist: almond milk, oat milk, soy milk, rice milk, hazelnut milk, hemp milk, coconut milk, cashew milk, and more. Obviously, the reasons to get cow milk seem less and less sustainable. Could a diet in which humans practice kindness, coexistence, and compassion, in which all beings

get a chance to live freely, in which the exploitation of the planet is kept to a minimum, be the best way to go? You decide.

- L. Malin



THE PERKS OF HELMET HAIR

With the S-Bahn striking more frequently the past few months, I considered taking my bike to get to school, in order to avoid the overcrowded trains, stressful departure times, and late arrivals. However, I quickly discarded my plans after getting into a huge discussion with my mother, who was strongly convinced I was to wear a helmet and a reflective vest while in traffic.

Seemingly, nobody else had to take such preventive measures, so why did I? I had no interest in being that one person looking ridiculous while nobody else had to worry about having messed up helmet-hair. I felt like the risk of traffic accidents was far too low to actually worry about them and I was not going to look idiotic for nothing.

But looking at the latest statistics, Berlin had 3800 bike accidents in 2011 (source: <http://michael-hoerz.de/maps/berlin-bike/>), ten of which occurred around Zehlendorf and the JFK-school area. Cyclists are involved in a lot more

crashes than one may expect, and usually carry away greater harm than other traffic participants. As one of the weakest road users, a cyclist is exposed to more dangers than others: While pedestrians have their own paths and car drivers the protection of their vehicle around them, bikers are in recurring interaction with both of the two. Even though the number of bike paths in Berlin has increased in the last years, there are still plenty of areas where cyclists are forced to use the road, driving between buses and cars. Generally, one is in greater danger than other traffic participants as a biker, so shouldn't a cyclist protect himself the most?



It was not until contemplating the statistics I realized looking good and meeting social beauty expectations have become such influential factors in our everyday life that, at times, far more essential things such as safety and security are neglected. Is it really more important to look one's best than arriving at school safely? Nowadays, vanity directs so many areas of our life and while it limits the individual freedom in many aspects, it should definitely not control our wellbeing and physical health.

Admittedly, a bright yellow vest certainly does not highlight one's most attractive features, but neither do scars of former accidents. The individual has to ask himself if he really is willing to risk his comfortable and healthy later life in his youth and act accordingly. But after having listened to my mom repeatedly cursing at bikers entirely in dark colors and praising those that wear light reflecting vests, I may rethink my aversion towards certain preventive methods.

- Celestine Landt



MOVIES

JURASSIC WORLD

Directed by Colin Trevorrow, Jurassic World is the fourth movie installment of the Jurassic Park series, distributed by Universal Pictures and intended to premier in North America by June 12th this year. The story revolves around Owen Grady, portrayed by Chris Pratt, who works on Isla Nublar (the island already featured in parts one and three) as a member of the dinosaur theme park's on-site staff, conducting behavioral research on velociraptors. When the park's attendance drops, the corporation in charge of it requests the creation of a new hybrid dinosaur, which subsequently escapes and wreaks havoc and death in the park. Two brothers, nephews of the

What this does is make Jurassic World a basic monster movie, showing off over-realistic CG of the animals and ruining any sort of suspense and scientific accuracy the previous films were hailed for. Yes, this movie does have one character featured in the previous films. However, it is only one person, who played a minor role in the first installment. This is Henry Wu, portrayed by BD Wong, who should have [spoiler alert] actually been eaten alive by velociraptors according to the first of Michael Crichton's original novels. Yes, this movie has scores by John Williams, however, they are adapted by Michael Giacchino, who produced music for Lost, Star Trek as well as other movies. Granted, this could turn the music of the upcoming movie into a simultaneously nostalgic and deeply enthralling experience, how-

ever, the overall sentiment that comes off from the trailers is that it will be nothing like the initial series. The only way to leave theaters without dissatisfaction is to think



park's operations manager Claire Dearing, who is portrayed by Bryce Dallas Howard, get caught up in the rampage and it is up to Owen, his team of velociraptors, and the security team to save them and stop the hybrid dinosaur.

Initially, as a fan of the previous Jurassic Park trilogy, my excitement was great and I was anxious to get to see the movie, yet after watching the trailer, I felt a major disappointment. Yes, this movie features dinosaurs, however they are completely CG, are not related to paleontologists' new findings in the dinosaur world, and there is no animatronics whatsoever.

of the new installment as a completely different series and non-related to the trilogy.

- Jam

GOT MILK?

This famous ad campaign for milk was launched in 1993, and people still recognize and identify with it twenty years later. The “got milk?” advertisement was extremely successful across the United States and promoted innumerable sales. In our day and age, milk is an everyday product that many people could not imagine living without. But how did this come to be? Have humans been drinking the milk from a cow’s udder since the beginning?

No, they have not. Sorry to disappoint. An agricultural form of life only came around about 10 000 years ago. That’s also when lactose tolerance started to increase, since it became an advantageous trait. In various less “developed” countries, where the majority of the population relies on a plant-based diet to survive, milk consumption is and has been at a minimum, meaning that more people remain lactose intolerant, the original state humans were in way that

humans developed. Seems logical, though, doesn’t it? Human babies need human breast milk for the first year of their lives to grow; physiologically they do not require the ability to digest lactose thereafter. No mammal consumes milk after ceasing to feed off of their mother’s pro-

duced nutrition, let alone from another species. Except humans.

Humans started to ingest the milk of other animals many, many years ago (I do not want to dwell on whatever strange reason for which this may be). Today, the Western way of eating incorporates cow milk as a substantial element of our diet.

Mothers feed it to us, advertisements thrust it upon us, supermarkets offer it to us. So why should we think there’s anything wrong with milk? There isn’t. It’s a completely natural combination of carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and proteins, right? Wrong. The milk that humans ingest truly could not be worse for us health-wise, environmentally, and ethically.

Unfortunately, the countries that consume the most dairy per capita also experience the highest rates of osteoporosis, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and heart disease. All of these afflictions may be influenced by genetics but primarily result from unhealthy living. Humans consume cow milk all the time, for numerous reasons: calcium, vitamins, protein. But what many do not understand is that milk can do more harm than good, to you and to the cows.

It can be difficult to see beyond the ad campaigns, physicians, and dairy industries that promote milk as an essential part of the human diet. However, it is invariably important to understand fully and completely what these people strive for: profit. Corporations could care

less whether you eat well, exercise, or live healthily. All they want is for you to buy their products and believe you are doing yourself a favor by it. Don’t be fooled by the claim that these companies

care about you as an individual. They don’t. Why would they insist milk serves as the best source of calcium phosphate out of its bones to compensate for the acidic environment that milk creates? When it actually stimulates cancerous growths? When it contains cow pus due to infections like mastitis? When it causes imbalances in the body’s hormones?



WHO STOLE OUR MOON?

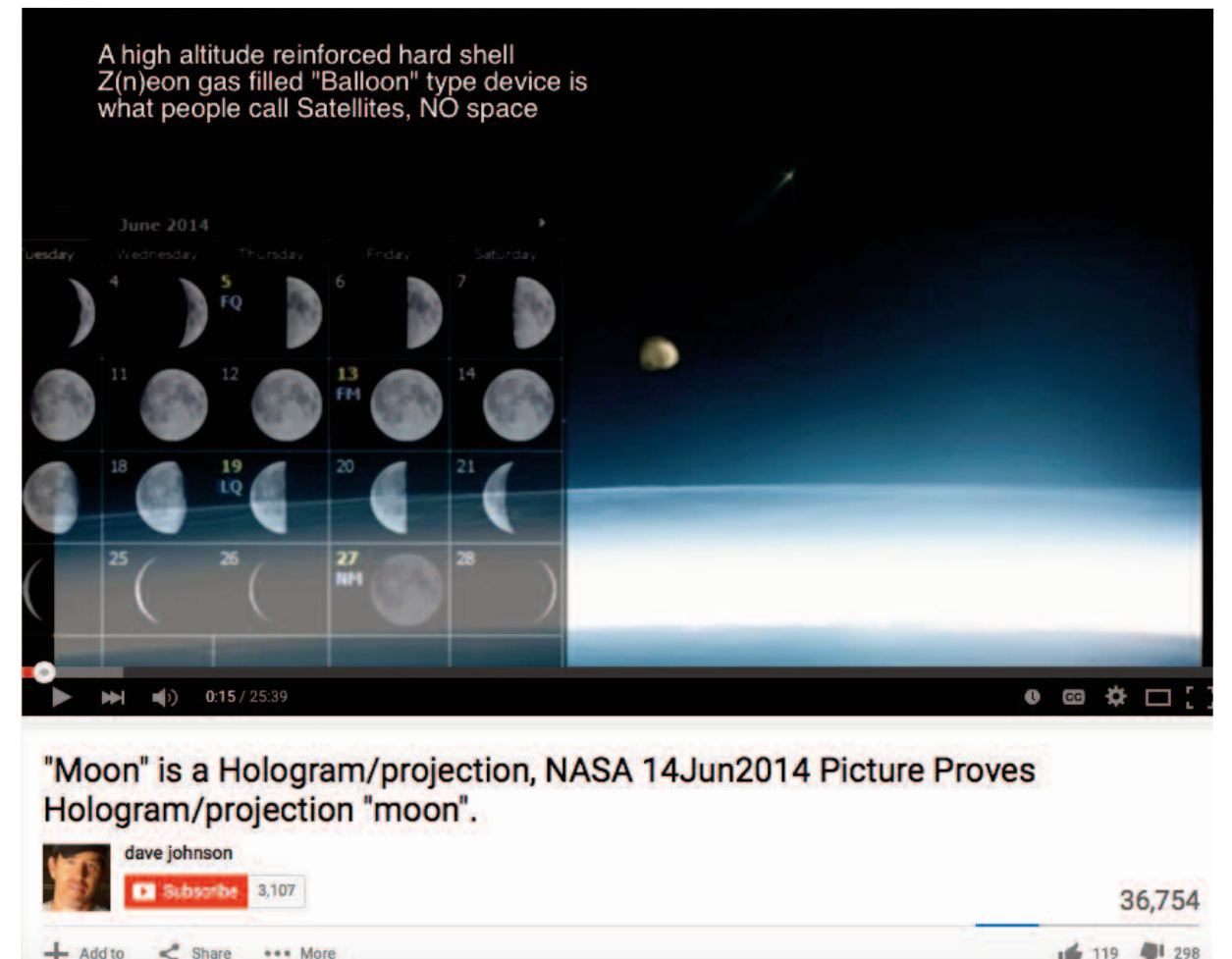
We’ve all started off watching one harmless YouTube video and ended up watching random funny trick shots or cute cats an hour later. Another destination you could arrive at in the endless universe of videos on the world wide web is the road to conspiracy theories. This, I had to learn the hard way. Dave Johnson has a talent in uncovering countless conspiracies on his YouTube channel. According to Johnson, the picture below shows the so-called-earth and the so-called-atmosphere in the area where NASA claims that the International Space Station is located. There, 250 miles from Earth, is the source of the projection of the moon. This source of the projection is a cube, filled with neon and powered by solar panels. Johnson goes on to provide his proof by describing the moon in the picture as “fuzzy” which clearly should convince everyone that the moon is not real. Any other pictures of the moon have been photoshopped, says Johnson.

Apparently, all you need to prove the moon is, in fact, a hologram, is this picture, a wikipedia article, and a video camera with a zoom button.

Now only one question remains: Why would NASA lie about the existence or non-existence of the moon? To this question, Johnson doesn’t really have an answer.

Instead, he wonders, and for quite some portion of his video, why he gets called a liar, a “bible thumping hypocrite”, and a moron.

- Juliane



Picture of the projection of the Moon with the source of the projection released by NASA