

Freedom of expression: Hallway passion has a place in school

Senator's Stance



Michael Cohen

My friends and I were discussing a "hot" topic the other day. I feel terrible admitting that we were talking about couples making out in the hallways. (An all time low.)

I guess this all came about from Dr. Love's little statement over the intercom. He announced that, although spring is in the air, he is in no mood to see students all over one another in the hallways.

Well, duh, no one in their right mind would want to watch a couple all over one another. (Actually, I can think of a few sorry people that would enjoy those sorts of exhibitions.)

That's the real reason, above any other, why the school does not allow "public displays of affection."

The school doesn't allow PDAs because it wants to spare other students from the sight of a nasty make-out session, and it doesn't want to allow the voyeurs to get their free entertainment, either.

The administration might try to defend their policy in other diplomatic ways like saying: PDAs disrupt the learning and nurturing environment where students feel most comfortable.

There is a point in that argument. For example, have you ever been on a double date where the other couple is all over one another?

It's uncomfortable. It makes it difficult to drive to the mini-golf course when the couple in the back seat is fogging up the windows.

But that argument doesn't apply to school. Learning doesn't take place in the hallways, during passing periods, where couples do all of their "stuff."

Hopefully, by the time you've walked passed the "human vacuums" and gotten to your classroom, you've been able to block those disturbing images from your mind and won't let them interfere with learning.

Learning takes place in the classroom, and I know couples at least have the decency to not make out during class. Anyway, it's rather difficult to make out when the desks are arranged in rows, not that I would know, or anything.

If the school is really concerned about students feeling comfortable while learning, they should respect those who do make out in the hallway.

Obviously, those students (who

rate is available.

The beds are unclean, too. It's unreasonable to make such suggestions.

But, interestingly, the day after Dr. Love made his anti-PDA proclamation, the Youngbloods, a musical group, was played over the intercom during a passing period. I think we should all heed their advice when they sing:

*C'mon people now, smile on your brother
Ev'rybody get together try to love one another right now
Right now, right now.*

What message is the school trying to get across to us? One

How about others' rights? Tone down the tongue!

Random Notions



Ashley Foster

Spring has blossomed all around us.

During this season, it is not uncommon to hear birds chirping, smell the fragrance of flowers, or through the halls of Antioch Community High School.

The aforementioned aspects of spring are pleasant to hear and smell.

However, when walking through the halls of ACHS, it is quite unpleasant to see these displays

can turn my head and walk away, because they're everywhere.

And, even if I do choose to do that, which I do, should I have to?

I mean, seriously, who pays for our school to run on a day to day basis?

The taxpayers do. Therefore they should assume that on school grounds school rules will be followed.

Trust me, I'm not trying to be some sort of nazi here, I simply want to be able to walk through the halls of my high school pleasantly, without the incredulous distraction of groping teenagers.

Is that too much to ask for?

I am a firm believer that rules are established for a reason.

Therefore, the administration has credible justification for telling students to simply knock it off.

Don't worry, this isn't some play for a "no-sex campaign". The rules simply imply that "Grope Fest 2002" will not be held at ACHS this year.

Boy am I thankful for that. Come on now, there is a time and a place for everything.

Would you even think about heading down to the local car dealership to say, "Try-out the backseat"?

Heck no, aside from being arrested it is common knowledge that this act is widely regarded inappropriate.

And anyway, is a crowded hallway really the most

pleasant place to show affection? If so, you guys need to get out more.

All I'm looking for is a little consideration here.

Just grow up and have a little respect for yourself and please show your affection elsewhere... no one really wants to see it.

PERSPECTIVES

make out) need physical attention in order to feel comfortable in their learning environment. And why is the school refusing to defend their needs?

They need to learn, too. Don't they have any rights?

People should follow my lead when it comes to confronting couples in the hallway.

When I walk through the hallways, like anyone else, I see people making out. Trust me, it is in no way pleasing to me. So I look the other way.

Can't we all do the same thing? Can't we all just turn our heads?

No, instead we complain and moan and roll our eyes. And then we even have the nerve to make rude comments like "get a room!"

Now, is that in compliance with our "First Class School" policy? We're supposed to be considerate of our fellow students.

Anyway, getting a hotel room is rather expensive, even if an hourly

day we're told, in essence, not to love one another.

The next, we're told not only to love one another, but to love one another *right now*... while we're in the hallway.

All in all, PDAs aren't so bad. Sure, they're unpleasant to be around, but so are smelly underclassmen... both are just a part of school and something we have to deal with.

Finally, I'd like to offer a PDA, myself. I'd like to acknowledge Dr. Love and all that he's done to make this school a more "loving" and nurturing environment.

I appreciate the dedication that he's put forth towards the school district and we should all be thankful for the time he's spent here.

I wish him well with his future endeavors now that he has decided to leave Antioch Community High School effective this summer.

Thank you, *Dr. Love*.
(See, some PDAs can be tasteful.)

of affection.

Recently, Principal Dr. James Love made an announcement, requesting that students remember that all school rules still apply throughout the forthcoming season and

most importantly the PDA needs to be toned down.

Some people make light of the matter.

No big deal, right? But it is.

I'm all for personal rights, however one person's rights stop at the point where they infringe upon another's rights.

Should I be forced to see this groping that many people will argue are innocent acts of love? No, simply put, I should not.

To add to it, it's not even as if I

"...I simply want to be able to walk through the halls of my high school pleasantly, without the incredulous distraction of groping teenagers."

... to the Editor

ACHS junior praises principal for interaction with students

It has come to my attention that our principal, Dr. James Love has resigned as our principal, effective June 30.

I think I speak for everybody when I say that things will not be the same around here next year without him. What I know for a fact is that Dr. Love has not given a specific reason to his decision.

That is okay with me. He doesn't have to tell anybody why he has made this choice. I just want to say that Dr.

Love is the best principal I have ever had. I have yet to see any other administrator in his position walk through the commons, or cafeteria, and sweep up garbage everyday.

I give him a lot of credit for that. Dr. Love does his job very well as any other principal, however there are little things like strutting down the hallways and saying hi to a lot of students and addressing them by name.

All in all, I just want to say it's a shame I can't share my senior ear with Dr. Love as my principal. Also, Dr. Love, many people respect you as a person and a principal in all that you have done for us.

Dr. Love, keep it positive,

and thank you, we will all miss you.

-Aaron Patin
ACHS Junior

Coordinator cites helpers for assistance with fashion show

In the March 22, 2002 issue of the Tom Tom, Jessica Halston wrote a very nice article regarding Sigma Alpha Delta's Prom Fashion Show.

Unfortunately, when Ms. Halston interviewed me regarding the fashion show, I failed to mention two

individuals for their efforts concerning the show.

I would like to take this opportunity to correct my error.

Freshmen Katie Lukaszewski and Johanna Tangney should be credited with laying the foundation for the fashion show.

Without their efforts, the entire event may never have taken place.

I would also like to thank Katie's mother, Mrs. Lukaszewski, for developing the evening's program.

-Tim Noonan
Student Assistance Program
Coordinator

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