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Please avoid obscene, vulgar, lewd, racist or sexually-oriented language.

2

Don't Threaten or Abuse.
Threats of harming another person will not be tolerated.
AND PLEASE TURN OFF CAPS LOCK.

3

Be Truthful.
Don't knowingly lie about anyone or anything.

4

Be Nice.
No racism, sexism or any sort of -ism that is degrading to another person.

5

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6

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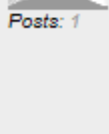


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18 comments:

Danielledossantos

posted at 8:16 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 1

Not only is the perspective of this article ignorant, but there was one statement that especially disturbed me.

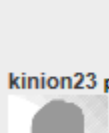
"As a non-Jewish person, does the Jewish nature make you feel welcome? Do you expect this building to benefit everyone?"

Actually, yes, and yes. I am a "non-Jewish" person and yet I enter Hillel for meetings and events at least once a week with my Jewish friends. Every person there, including both students and staff, make me feel welcomed beyond belief.

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Amy S

posted at 5:25 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 1

Not to mention the blatant singling out of Hillel over any other religious campus organization that raises private funds, with which they can do whatever they wish, your speculating over the use of these donated funds is just that, speculation. Hillel is naming the new Hillel building after Eva and Arie Halpern because they personally contributed their money to the cause of a new building for Jewish student life. This new building will have a kosher cafeteria offering Kosher meals to the large Jewish population at Rutgers, which the previous and current buildings were too small to do so. Hillel with its "Jewish nature" offers free Shabbat meals to ANY Rutgers student regardless of religion, hosts the LGBT group JAQS, has interfaith dialogues, and has alternative spring breaks to help the less fortunate around the country. So I think Hillel does plenty to welcome non-Jewish students and is a staple in the Rutgers community.

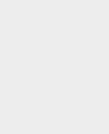
BY THE WAY, referring to your point that Rutgers is a historically reformed Dutch college that began its roots in theology, it was also historically an all-male, white college. By that logic of sticking to its roots, you as a woman would not be allowed as a student at Rutgers or publish this ridiculous article in the Targum. That's just something to think about.

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kinion23

posted at 4:50 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



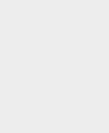
Posts: 1

Colleen, if You knew anything about Israel, you would know it is the only democracy in the Middle East, and the only country that ensures equal rights for women and gays. Not just "good at getting money" (direct quote) as you say.

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Elion

posted at 4:49 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 78

I do not think the blatantly hateful points in this article are worth responding to, as such. But I am curious as to why the editorial department of the campus newspaper saw fit to publish a hateful screed against one of the most culturally rich and involved minorities on Rutgers Campus and in the US.

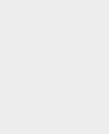
Perhaps Opinions Editor, Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, would care to explain why she thought this "Commentary" represented a legitimate campus view. Was it the token reference to buying Palestine. Or does she also endorse the first and penultimate paragraphs, with their insinuations that Jews bought their way onto Christian territory, using not quite legal blood money.

Elion Weintraub
Formerly Proud Rutgers Alumnus

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Johartz

posted at 4:44 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 1

I'll admit, I was a bit surprised this article made it all the way to Arizona, but I hope it serves as a remind that the internet has infinite power to spread unintelligent soft-bigotry.

First, Ms. Jolly if this is article demonstrates your ability to write in English after four-years at Rutgers, you should demand a refund. This editorial is littered with poor grammar, syntax, and word choice. Not to mention plagued by a puzzling incoherency.

Second, your tag-line suggests you are a Planning & Public Policy Senior, yet you seem confused by the difference between public and private funds. Further, you seem incapable of distinguishing between Hillel (private organization), Rutgers (a public university), the City of New Brunswick (local municipality) and the State of New Jersey. Each of these entities have their own budgets, and drastically different responsibilities. If your street light is out, I suggest you call your local councilperson, or if you are on campus call Rutgers Maintenance.

Third, a simple Google of "demographics" and "Rutgers" or "New Brunswick" debunks your entire demographics argument. There are 7,000 Jewish students attending Rutgers (total population 45,000) which is roughly 17.5% of the student body. Further, 10% of the population of New Brunswick (based on Middlesex County Data) is Jewish, which is approximately 5,600 people (2012 data). This means during the school year roughly 12% of New Brunswick's total population (Students + Locals) is Jewish. Are you really trying to claim that two buildings are more than enough to accommodate the entire Jewish population?

Fourth, and this is where this editorial actually gets into "soft-bigotry" territory. Hillel's mission is, "Enriching the lives of Jewish students so that they may enrich the Jewish people and the world. Further, the Jewish Federation of Middlesex County's mission is, "The Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County brings together people, partners and resources to fulfill the most important needs and aspirations of our community."

These organizations do so much more for the community than "getting money into funds, i.e. the purchases of Jewish National Fund and modern-day Palestine." This statement alone shows a total ignorance as to what Hillel/Jewish Federations do (not to mention lack of understanding of the history of modern Israel), and wrecks of subtle antisemitism that suggests Jews are inherently disloyal.

Finally, have you ever been to the Hillel or attended one of their programs? If you had, you would see that they are very welcoming and provide a great cultural experience for any attendee Jewish or not. Cultural diversity is touted as an important component of modern higher education, yet you seem to be calling for less diversity and are seeking to limit cultural exchange...

Sadly, the fact this editorial is poorly written is understandable from a college newspaper. What is troubling is that an editorial that is factually incorrect and full of soft-bigotry could be published.

P.S. I sent this article to a friend who happens to be a Rutgers Alumnus from the Graduate Public Policy Program his response was simply, "Just to be clear, there is a major difference between the Planning & Public Policy undergrad and grad programs."

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Ericc

posted at 4:32 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



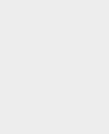
Posts: 1

Where was the editor on this piece? Spewing misinformation and passing it along as acceptable, well thought out journalism.

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jthieme

posted at 4:28 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 1

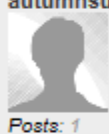
I can't stay it any better than Billy Madison...

"What you've just said is one of the most insanely idiotic things I have ever heard. At no point in your rambling, incoherent response were you even close to anything that could be considered a rational thought. Everyone in this room is now dumber for having listened to it. I award you no points, and may God have mercy on your soul."

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rmk_hp

posted at 4:01 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



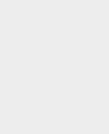
Posts: 2

If this is coming from a senior, Rutgers really needs to evaluate their programs, particularly writing courses.

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rmk_hp

posted at 3:47 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 2

There are so many things wrong with this article, I don't know if the content or the writing is worse.

Why is relevant that Rutgers was a Dutch Reformed school hundreds of years ago? If the author fears "the demographics do not fit this proposal" why didn't she give any attention to demographics? What does "the lights on the streets are at 50 percent productivity" mean?!?!? As a planning and public policy major, does she understand that private organizations such as the Hillel organization has absolutely no responsibility to fund streetlight maintenance or building apartments for alumni? Does she not understand the money is being donated by individuals for a specific purpose totally unrelated to what she's talking about? What does Israel have anything to do with this, and what does it mean when she says they "purchased...modern day Palestine?" As a non-Jew, why does she think she's supposed to benefit from the Hillel building? "I ask that we, the students of Rutgers, re-evaluate the resourcefulness of these presented charitable offerings" - Colleen, you have absolutely no stake in this.

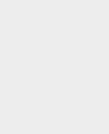
Lastly, did the Targum editors even read this before publishing it? These are just some things to think about.

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sscafcz

posted at 3:40 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



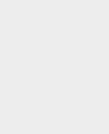
Posts: 1

It's sad that a senior majoring in public policy and planning doesn't know the difference between private charitable funding and municipal expenditures. The municipality is supposed to fund streetlights, potential public housing upgrades, infrastructure etc. Private charities, the University, and the municipality are all separate entities. The author, and her professors, should be embarrassed.

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jewegg

posted at 3:36 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



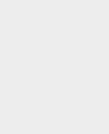
Posts: 2

This article violates rule 4 of your own commenting rules of conduct

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jewegg

posted at 3:33 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



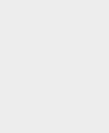
Posts: 2

TLDR; Jews have money and bought palestine, so don't give the jews money because JEWS HAVING A BUILDING IS BAD because jews.

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jab740

posted at 3:05 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 1

This is quite possibly the stupidest editorial in the Targum, and that takes a lot. People are entitled to donate to whomever and wherever they would like. Also, why complain about Hillel. How much money is spent on football or basketball and not streetlights in NB? Why Hillel??

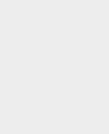
Additionally, is it the author's point that no money should be given to private charities until public ones are well-funded?

All and all the stupidity is laughable, and the Targum needs to raise their standards.

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autumnsunburst86

posted at 2:35 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.



Posts: 1

I think, Colleen, you are confusing private funding and university or state funding. New Brunswick, while housing the university and its dorming students, does not actually collect taxes from them but their landlords who allow the areas students live in to continue to be squalor and deteriorate. Additionally, the community outside of the university is low income with professors choosing to reside in North/South/East Brunswick and/or Highland Park, again taking money and resources from the community.

Also, your decision to throw the word "Palestine" out there for inflammatory reasons, all scream TROLLING and not journalism. If you don't like Israel or its policies, that's one thing; its another to conflate the need for a center of Jewish student life - and to understand the difference between the Chabad and Hillel organizations and missions. Unless you aren't anti-Zionist, but truly anti-Semitic, or just anti-education... you should consider more in-depth research before ranting in the Targum.

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Rutgers33

posted at 1:35 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.

Posts: 1

Buried within this rant are some ridiculous ideas, but they are difficult to see given the inarticulate and confusing way the piece was written. I guess The Targum accepts everything.

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kimception

posted at 1:03 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.

Posts: 2

Rutgers has the second largest Jewish population on any campus in the entire country. Neither the former location at 93 College Ave nor the current location at 8 Bishop Place have the capacity for the size of the Jewish community on campus.

The money that has been raised for building has mostly come from private funders to Rutgers Hillel, so why begrudge them the money to create a welcoming space for all Jewish students? Don't other religious institutions on campus have similar spaces (yes)? And don't other universities have similar Hillel spaces for the Jewish communities on their campuses (yes)?

You're also bringing up a great deal of issues that have nothing to do with the Hillel building at all, nor does it have to do with Rutgers either. Rutgers is spending a LOT of money to re-envision what the College Ave campus looks like, and I think they're doing a great job at that. I think what you're talking about is New Brunswick in general, and Rutgers doesn't have the authority to put money into the infrastructure of the city. That is really something you would have to bring up with the municipality (also, if you call them and ask for things, sometimes it does work, trust me on this).

Reading this makes me just think that you have no idea what you're talking about.

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JakeBinstein

posted at 12:59 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.

Posts: 17

This is so utterly ridiculous I can't eve"second Jewish building on a historically reformed Dutch college" - Rutgers is the State University of New Jersey. It may be historically Dutch, but that doesn't bar anyone from funding a building. As for it being the "second" building, you're wrong, Hillel previously had a building and knocked it down as part of a larger deal to build their new one. Hillel also had a building on Douglass before that.

"I fear the demographics do not fit the proposal" - Did you do any research to back up this claim? What did your interviews with the majority of Jews who attend Hillel events yield?

"It's hard not to mention how badly the city of New Brunswick could use \$18 million" - So you want the money to be put to your own purposes? There are plenty of worthy causes, these particular donors have chosen theirs. You don't get a penny just because you think you deserve it. Raise your own money.

"i.e. the purchases of Jewish National Fund and modern-day Palestine" - You mean Israel. It was a nice try though.

"On Dec. 2, the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County, a federally and privately funded organization, raised \$400,000..." Yup, we raised a ton of money for a worthy cause. Thanks for the pat on the back, but I don't see the relevance.

"This building is to be named after Eva and Arie Halpern" - At this point you're just spitting out facts to fill space because your opinion has no concrete facts to back it up.

"As a non-Jewish person, does the Jewish nature make you feel welcome?" - Hillel is welcome to everyone. But even if it wasn't, that's OK. There's a Catholic Center at Rutgers, that doesn't make the Jews feel uncomfortable. Different groups have different headquarters. If Jews make you feel uncomfortable, you should most definitely come to some Jewish programming to learn what we're about.

"Do you expect this building to benefit everyone?" - We do a ton of charity, alternative spring breaks, dance marathon, bed races, etc. And yet, back to the main point - even if it didn't, it's a Jewish organization. If it didn't benefit you personally, that would be fine.

"We...should re-evaluate the resourcefulness of these presented charitable offerings" - it's not an offer. You cannot reject it. We purchased the land and are building our building.

Yet another awful opinion piece in the Targum. I would be disappointed if I had any faith whatsoever left in the Opinions Editor.n begin to undr

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Rutgers3

posted at 12:19 pm on Thu, Jan 23, 2014.

Posts: 1

Just because its an "Opinion" piece doesn't mean you you shouldn't familiarize yourself with FACTS. Regardless of my stance on this issue, this article and this contributor make me a little embarrassed and ashamed to attend this fine institution. It appears the Targum freely publishes anyone who will write for them.

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