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Expression in the digital age: are vines modern Renaissance art? / p. 9



# HONI SOIT



# Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. The University of Sydney – where we write, publish and distribute *Honi Soit* – is on the sovereign land of these people. As students and journalists, we recognise our complicity in the ongoing colonisation of Indigenous land. In recognition of our privilege, we vow to not only include, but to prioritise and centre the experiences of Indigenous people, and to be reflective when we fail to. We recognise our duty to be a counterpoint to the racism that plagues the mainstream media, and to adequately represent the perspectives of Indigenous students at our University. We also wholeheartedly thank our Indigenous reporters for the continuing contribution of their labour to our learning.

## Editorial

**CONTENT WARNING: SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Last Tuesday, the Australian Human Rights Commission released the results from its nation-wide survey into sexual assault and harassment — although, if you're the kind of person reading this editorial, you probably already knew that. The survey is the result of years of activism in response to alarming reports of sexual assault and harassment on campuses — some examples from USyd can be found on pages 14–15.

The survey revealed some disturbing statistics (which you can read more about on pages 10–17): 2.5 per cent of University of Sydney students were sexually assaulted at university in 2015–2016. Given the number of USyd respondents, this equates to about 23 cases. Extrapolated to the entire student population, this could mean 1250 students were assaulted in 2015 and 2016. Further, over 73 per cent of USyd students knew nothing or very little about where to make a complaint with the University about sexual assault, compared to the national average of 61.4 per cent.

But on top of the statistics, the submissions paint a vital 'human' picture of campus culture around the country. One student describes not reporting their assault because they “felt too ashamed. I was sure I would be blamed for drinking, for smoking, and so I didn't tell anyone.” Other stories from college describe a culture of binge drinking and residents assaulting highly intoxicated female students.

In the last few lines I have left of this editorial, I'd like to thank all of the activists and survivors who have bravely shared their experiences, their time and immense amounts of emotional labour to fight for our safety. There's a long way to go, but this is a very important — and hard-won — step on the way to change. **SR**

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FEAST OF WORDS

A CELEBRATION OF IDEAS, CONVERSATION, CREATIVITY, AND EXPRESSION: 6 – 9PM

WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST / \$5 / LENTIL AS ANYTHING / DINE WITH A STRANGER

## Fan mail✉

### Chancellor's rats

Chancellor's Garden on first viewing appears a lush, shady refuge, perhaps an ideal spot to do a reading in between lectures. Or so I once erroneously thought. If you sit long enough you'll soon realise that it's garden beds are the home of a rat colony. You might get lung cancer too as it's a hot-spot for chain smokers who can't last 20 minutes in Fisher.

Theo Delaney  
BA (Languages)

### Anon v Atkinson

Alan Atkinson's letter argues that St Paul's has been unfairly criticised by Honi in the wake of recent revelations that highlight entrenched misogyny at the College. Strangely, Mr Atkinson - the former Senior Tutor of the College - chooses not mention these revelations, but suggests that Nick Bonyhady's article has unfairly tarred

St Paul's students with the same disparaging and unfairly negative brush.

The article to which Mr Atkinson refers examined in depth the institutional structure of St Paul's College. Bonyhady carefully studied the historical and contemporary evolution of the college to highlight how its recruitment and management structures – codified and protected in the college's long-standing legal foundations – do not lend themselves to progressive reform. I won't repeat the core themes of the article as I would not do it justice. But suffice it to say that, what Mr Atkinson deems to be a piece that aggressively plays down the contributions and achievements of individual Paulines, focusses much more on the history, development and technicality of College governance.

Mr Atkinson is right to be proud of the cultural, sporting and academic achievements of many of the Paulines whom he tutored. I should know, because my partner was a Paul's boy, and

I have many fond memories of attending college plays, sporting events, and meeting wonderful, ambitious and genuine people in the process.

Mr Atkinson believes that this reality has been deliberately obscured in order to paint a pessimistic view of the college – he asks, why not take a 'glass half full' approach instead? But what is a glass half full approach to misogyny and sexual assault? Would writing about the achievements of a number of Paulines create a more 'balanced' view of longstanding misogyny and persistent instances of sexual assault that the College has struggled to eliminate, or would it, as I suggest, work to trivialise the issue in an astonishing display of ignorance and lack of concern?

The dangerous and archaic attitudes towards women that have been exposed at Paul's also exist outside of college. Indeed, the College should not be considered an entirely exceptional case, nor labelled wholly responsible for what are much more

subtle and deep seated attitudes in Australian society. But the worrying fact is that Paul's, as an institution with the power to tackle those attitudes and the tools to encourage cultural change in a small academic community, is structurally inclined to reject progressive change.

I am not a college student, but I have always admired the endeavour to demystify University and to create a small community tied together by academia, residence, sport and culture. As a man who worked, lived and educated at Paul's, I would hope that Mr Atkinson recognises how these aspirations have been distorted – at least in part – by a structure that harbours conservative attitudes towards women.

Yours,  
Anon

## Got mail?

Send it to [editors@honisoit.com](mailto:editors@honisoit.com)

## What's on this week

According to your drunk friend who you can barely hear at a house party



### SASS Back to Uni Party — Turtlenecks and Tank Tops

When: Thursday August 10, 7pm  
Where: Side Bar, Surry Hills  
How much: Access \$5 | Non-Access \$7

HEY! ..... OH MY GOD! ..... NO WAY! ..... YEAH THIS THING IS GOING OFF HEY! ..... I JUST GOT HERE! ..... (inaudible) SO AMAZING! I LOVE IT! ..... WE SHOULD HANG OUT! ..... YEAH ON THURSDAY COME TO THIS THING ..... PARTY FOR ARTS STUDENTS ..... A SOCIETY FOR ARTS STUDENTS ..... DUNNO YEAH THEY DO PARTIES AND A LITERARY JOURNAL ..... (inaudible) SHOULD COME THOUGH! ..... (inaudible)

### SURG Semester 2 Welcome Drinks

When: Thursday August 10, 5pm-8pm  
Where: Courtyard Restaurant and Bar  
How much: Access \$0 | Non-Access \$6

YEAH THIS SEM I'M DOING A RADIO SHOW! ..... YOU SHOULD LISTEN! ..... NO IT'S NOT AT A LIKE, ACTUAL STATION, (inaudible) JUST AT UNI ..... APPARENTLY IT'S ON SOME APP OR SOMETHING ..... YEAH I HAD ONE LAST SEM AS WELL I JUST DIDN'T SHOW UP FOR ANY OF THE WEEKS ..... YOU SHOULD DO A SHOW TOO! ..... (inaudible) WELCOME DRINKS ON THURSDAY!

### SUDS MAJOR 2017: In Two Circles

When: Wednesday August 9-13,  
Sessions at 6pm, 7pm, 8pm, & 9pm  
Where: Annandale Hotel  
How much: SUDS Member \$18 | Access \$20 | Concession \$25 | Adult \$30

SO KEEN ..... (inaudible) DRAMA SOCIETY MAJOR PRODUCTION (inaudible) ..... INTERACTIVE THEATRE EXPERIENCE ..... MYSTERY THING, LIKE YOU WALK AROUND THE SPACE AND READ STUFF AND INTERACT WITH THE ACTORS ..... (inaudible) HEARD LIKE, AMAZING THINGS ..... HEY DO YOU WANT ANOTHER DRINK? ..... YEAH I'M ALL OUT TOO BUT WE CAN JUST STEAL SOMEONE ELSE'S

### HONI PRESENTS: Feast of Words

When: Wednesday August 16, 6pm-9pm  
Where: Lentil As Anything, Newtown  
How much: \$5

ON FACEBOOK IT SAYS YOU'RE GOING TO THIS FEAST THING? ..... (inaudible) IT'S BY THAT NEWSPAPER? THAT ONE NO-ONE READS? ..... (inaudible) ..... THE RESTAURANT THAT HAS DELICIOUS FOOD AND YOU PAY WHAT YOU WANT? ..... (inaudible) SO GOOD! WHAT IS IT THOUGH? ..... (inaudible) WAIT SO IT'S LIKE A BLIND DATE EXCEPT YOU TALK ABOUT ESOTERIC SHIT? WEIRD ..... LET'S GO THOUGH!

### Sydney Uni Young Vinnies Annual Sleepout

When: Thursday August 17, 7pm until morning  
Where: USyd quad  
How much: Access \$10 | Non-Access \$15 (inaudible) DOING YOUNG VINNIES STUFF! ..... (inaudible) REALLY COOL VOLUNTEERING ORGANISATION AROUND UNI (inaudible) ..... (inaudible) AND MEET EVERYONE IN THE ORGANISATION AND WHAT THEY DO! REALLY INSPIRING. I WISH I (inaudible) ..... BASICALLY YOU STAY OVERNIGHT OUTDOORS BECAUSE (inaudible) AND LEARN ABOUT HOMELESSNESS AND HOW TO HELP!



# USyd to lose \$51.7 million in funding by 2021

JACK FOSTER

The University of Sydney is set to lose \$51.7 million in federal funding over the next four years if the Turnbull government's proposed education reforms pass the senate this week.

Universities Australia has compiled new data showing \$1.2 billion in higher education funding is set to be cut by the federal government, according to a *Sydney Morning Herald* exclusive.

The figures show that NSW universities could lose up to \$341 million in funding between 2018 and 2021.

University of Sydney Students' Representative Council (SRC) President Isabella Brook told *Honi*, "the Liberal government's proposed \$1.2 billion funding cut to the higher education sector shows a government that is not interested in investing in young people and their future."

"Under these proposed changes, USyd will see a \$51.7 million cut meaning that students will be paying more for a lower quality education."

"We can expect things like increased class sizes and less face to face teaching time as the university finds ways to cut corners."

The government's higher education package announced in May would see student fees increased by 7.5% and the HECS repayment threshold lowered.

Universities Australia Chair Professor Margaret Gardner said in a statement, "the centrepiece of the package is a \$1 billion cut."

"Public funding for universities is already low in Australia compared to other countries. This package moves in the wrong direction."

Federal Education Minister Simon Birmingham argued university funding would still grow despite the cuts.

"Our reforms still see university teaching revenue grow by a further 23 per cent over the next four years and will ensure the ongoing viability of generous higher education funding and access," he told Fairfax Media.

Shadow Education Minister Tanya Plibersek said, "While Malcolm Turnbull and the Liberals are giving tax breaks to big businesses and millionaires, they want to cut Uni funding, jack up student fees, and have lower income earners pay back HELP debts sooner."

"Their priorities are all wrong."

Labor and the Greens are due to vote against the proposed changes, forcing Birmingham to negotiate with Senate crossbenchers.

# Students protest sexual assault report

NATASSIA CHRYSANTHOS



Image: Nick Bonyhady

Hundreds of students protested last Wednesday in the wake of results from the AHRC survey into sexual harassment and assault in universities, which found that one in five students had been sexually harassed in a university setting.

The protest, organised by the National Union of Students (NUS) and women's collectives across the state, began at the University of Sydney and called on university management to meet the demands of students and activists who have been campaigning on the issue for years.

A key criticism from student rep-

resentatives last week was that student activists knew of the severity of the problem for years, and that Universities Australia and university management took too long to act.

"We cannot let university managements use the report to pretend they're at the forefront of institutional reform when, in reality, it's the result of the hard work of survivors and feminist activists," the students said.

"We must ensure that upon the report release, real change is made by universities to support survivors of sexual assault, punish the perpetrators, and prevent instances of gen-

dered violence."

"Out of all of these complaints, only six expulsions were made, and we wonder why we have a problem with underreporting" said NUS Women's Officer Abby Stapleton. "We underreport because this is a culture of silence... because we don't know how to access help, and because most of the time this help does not exist in a meaningful way."

USyd SRC Co-Wom\*n's Officer Imogen Grant added, "we're demanding change and we won't stop until we get it".

The protest then progressed to the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) where Jasmine Noud, Maquarie University's Women's Collective President, told the crowd, "we've been telling our universities to take our safety seriously and have been met with dismissal, or empty promises."

State Greens MP Mehreen Faruqi said "what kind of places have universities become, where students are not supported to even report when they are attacked — when their bodies are attacked?"

The protest ended with students writing the course of action they wanted their university to take in chalk on the pavement at UTS.

# University and tertiary education union fail to reach agreement

JESSICA SYED

The National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) and the University of Sydney are yet to reach a satisfactory agreement regarding the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA).

As *Honi* reported last week, some of the NTEU's claims have been granted, such as allowing student employees of Sydney Talent protections afforded by the EBA. However, there are still a number of union demands that the University has so far denied.

Importantly, management has continued to reject several claims relating to employment security, a hot topic in light of increased casualisation surrounding the the University restructure.

In the 2013 agreement, management accepted NTEU demands for 120 academic positions which were exclusively available to either casual or fixed-term staff, doing work which ordinarily would have been done by other casuals. The University now wishes to openly advertise these roles, without requiring that the work is available to any existing casual or fixed-term employees.

Management also rejected proposed NTEU provisions guaranteeing University staff a right to reemployment if their original positions were to become redundant.

Furthermore, the University has continued to stand its ground regarding the immediate external advertisement of newly available positions. This is in contrast to the request of the NTEU to maintain the current practice which requires that new positions are first advertised internally to already existing staff for a minimum of five days.

NTEU members worry that without these concessions, the career progression of University employees will be hindered.

Additionally, the University has not responded to the NTEU's wage claim, while the union has deferred management's own wage offer several times. In mid-July, the University deferred, then ultimately rejected the NTEU's bid for sick and maternity leave for casual staff. It is possible that the union's wage claim may be similarly rejected. Management will likely present its final wage offer on August 14th.

Kurt Iveson, the Sydney University branch president of the NTEU, told *Honi* that the union "would not accept a simple 'no' on key claims such as these."

The NTEU has further proposed various improvements to increase staff participation in employer decision making, including democratically

elected workload committees, and local joint consultative committees in major service areas in order to curb instances of managerialism.

The University has so far declined such proposals for increased consultation. Iveson maintains that any increased concentration of power at the hands of the university is against the interests of both staff and the university alike. This is because the proposed improvements provide a more cohesive model of communication.

Iveson is still unsure as to whether there will be industrial action. However, the NTEU are willing to strike if it is necessary to secure their demands, and are currently conducting a ballot this week, which if successful, would provide the legal foundations for protected industrial action. Iveson acknowledges the impact of industrial action on students, but anticipates strong student support as was seen in 2013.

"We want the power to shape the university as a space for learning and research that is not driven by profit, but by the public good."

NTEU members will meet to discuss industrial action this week.

# USyd's Women's rugby players on the world stage

MILLIE ROBERTS

Ashleigh Hewson and Grace Hamilton are taking a break from the familiarity of St John's Oval this month. Instead, their attention is focused on a wider field: the 2017 Women's Rugby World Cup held in Ireland. Hewson and Hamilton are joining 26 other players to represent Australia in the women's national rugby team, the Wallaroos. When not competing at an international level, these semi-professionals are seasoned members of Sydney University Women's Rugby Club (SUWRC).

Hewson, a correctional officer by day, has played for USyd for seven seasons. She has served as captain for the past two years, and was the highest point scorer this season in the Jack Scott Cup, a premiership competition for Sydney teams.

"My experiences with [SUWRC] really epitomise why I love this game so much", Hewson said.

Hamilton is also heavily involved in the club's culture after joining in 2015. She stepped in as captain in both the semi and final club games last week after Hewson suffered a small injury.

"Sydney University Rugby Club is the reason why I'm here today I've been sur-

rounded by so many great players and friends and they have helped me improve over the last three years," Hamilton said.

"I couldn't think of a better club to be a part of. This year we have a lot more to do with the men's club and it's been really good for us as a women's club being recognised with them."

Hamilton began playing rugby union after her preferred sport of netball wasn't offered on an exchange to the United States. She loved the sport so much that she permanently swapped bibs for mouthguards.

She balances her day job at a school with full-time tertiary studies, on top of the rigorous rugby training and practice required at this level of competition.

Being her fifteenth stint with the Wallaroos, Hewson will play either fullback or fly half. After participating in three World Cups, which take place every four years, this will be her last.

"It's always an honour to play for your country. I cherish getting to sing the national anthem side by side with some of my best mates", she told *Honi*.

Hamilton, on the other hand, will play as flanker or number eight. She de-

buted on the team for Australia last year, and this will be her first World Cup.

"It's been great being in Ireland, everyone has been so welcoming. We even got a police escort from the airport stopping all traffic for our bus to go through", she said.

As Hewson and Hamilton play, the Sydney Uni Women's Rugby Club will no doubt be watching every game.

"As a small club at Sydney Uni, it is always fabulous to have players playing at the highest level of the game. We are so proud to have both Ash and

Gracie representing us and Australia", said secretary of the SUWRC, Emily Chancellor.

"We are very proud of our girls and wish them every success in the World Cup."

The international competition kicks off on 9 August and will see the Wallaroos play host country Ireland at 7PM Dublin time. They will face France four days later, before competing against Japan on 17 August. Live streaming of the matches is available on the Women's Rugby World Cup website.



Hewson, Hamilton and Michelle Bailey. Photo: ARU Media

# Almost all students affected by symptoms of mental health problems, NUS study finds

JAMIE WEISS

Over 98 per cent of students have reported that symptoms of poor mental health impacted their study between 2015–2016, according to the National Union of Students' (NUS) 2016 National Student Wellbeing Survey.

The survey, conducted in the latter half of 2016 by NUS with the support of headspace, focuses on the mental health of Australia's tertiary students as well as stressors such as finances, accommodation, and work.

Key findings included that roughly 70 per cent of students surveyed rated their mental health as "fair" or "poor" — the two lowest values on the scale — yet just 27 per cent of respondents accessed on-campus counselling ser-

vices. Of those, 24 per cent of those rated their experience as negative.

For students who had failed a subject, two thirds reported difficulty balancing study and other commitments, nearly half cited health problems and just under one third said financial issues were impacting their study.

The survey was conducted online between August and November last year and gathered 3303 responses, including 2637 from 16–25 year olds.

It demonstrated that on top of academic and financial stress, students are increasingly struggling with their mental health.

"Australian universities, to varying degrees, are trying to address these

damning statistics on mental health," Noa Zulman, SRC disabilities officer, told *Honi*.

"However, in many cases — and particularly at USyd — mental health services such as CAPS (Counselling and Psychological Services) are woefully inadequate."

"The amount of staff and the remit of CAPS is arguably too narrow, with only three sessions available per student, and focuses heavily on study skills, rather than underlying mental health issues."

Zulman also said, "Other initiatives, such as puppy therapy, have been really effective in raising awareness around mental health at universities,

but do little to offer long-term or ongoing support to students who struggle beyond STUVAC."

To support its students' mental health, Zulman believes the University should invest more in CAPS and reform the "needlessly bureaucratic" special considerations system as it "engenders much anxiety for students."

The survey noted such issues, concluding, "on-campus health and counselling services have a high level of need to meet" but that "support for mental health and wellbeing is an essential component to enable tertiary students to deal with the stressors of university life and maintain their academic progress."

Students' Representative Council,  
University of Sydney

## Notice of 2017 Students' Representative Council Annual Election

Nominations for the Students' Representative Council Annual Elections for the year 2017 close at 4:30pm on Wednesday the 16th of August 2017.

Polling will be held on the 20th and 21st of September 2017. Pre-polling will take place outside the Jane Foss Russell building on Tuesday the 19th of September 2017 from 10am–3pm.

All undergraduate students who are duly enrolled for attendance at lectures are eligible to vote. Members of the student body who have paid their nomination fee to Council are eligible to nominate and be nominated, except National Union of Students national office bearers. Full-time officebearers of the SRC may also nominate as NUS delegates.

**Nominations are called for the following elections/positions and open on the 26th July 2017 at 4:30pm:**

- The election of the Representatives to the 90th SRC (33 positions)
- The election of the President of the 90th SRC
- The election of the Editor(s) of *Honi Soit* for the 90th SRC
- The election of National Union of Students delegates for the 90th SRC (7 positions)

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the SRC website: [www.src.usyd.edu.au](http://www.src.usyd.edu.au), or picked up from SRC front office (Level 1, Wentworth Building) from 4:30pm July 26th 2017.

Nominations **must also** be lodged online along with your policy statement and Curriculum Vitae (optional), by close of nominations at: [www.srcusyd.net.au](http://www.srcusyd.net.au). For more information call 9660 5222.

Original signed nomination forms and a printed copy of your online nomination **must** be received no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday 16th August, either at the SRC front office (Level 1, Wentworth Building), **OR** at the following postal address: PO Box 794, Broadway NSW 2007.

Nominations which have not been delivered (printed, signed, hardcopy) either to the Electoral Officer at the SRC front office or to the post office box shown above **and** submitted online by the close of nominations **will not be accepted** regardless of when they were posted or received.

The regulations of the SRC relating to elections are available online at [www.srcusyd.net.au](http://www.srcusyd.net.au) or from the SRC front office, (Level 1, Wentworth Building).

Authorised by P. Graham, 2017 Electoral Officer,  
Students' Representative Council, University of Sydney  
Phone: 02 9660 5222 | [www.srcusyd.net.au](http://www.srcusyd.net.au)





# The dark side of the Working Holiday Visa

**NELL O'GRADY** / Making meaning of her daughter's death while backpacking around Australia, Rosie Ayliffe campaigns for reform

August 23 will mark one year since the murder of Mia Ayliffe-Chung and Tom Jackson in the Queensland rural town of Home Hill. A fellow backpacker staying in the same hostel stabbed Tom and Mia — all three were on Working Holiday Visas. Mia's Mum, Rosie Ayliffe recently travelled to Australia to campaign to make the '88 day work scheme' safer for international backpackers in Australia. It was Mia's death that captured the media's attention across Australia and Britain but it is Rosie who has channelled the fallout from her daughter's death into a force for change.

Ayliffe is curating first hand stories from various young travellers who have experienced some of the "darker sides" of the 88-day work scheme. She says she responds to growing media interest by "passing on stories about migrant workers who are being exploited and abused".

"Since being on *Australian Story* this interest has mainly been from Australia, but I have also worked with UK press outlets such as the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Times* and the BBC," she says.

The 417 Working Holiday Visa allows travelers aged between 18 and 31 from eligible nations to work and holiday in Australia. The National Farmers' Federation states that a quarter of the Australian agricultural workforce is made up of backpackers. Rosie also notes that many farmers prefer 417 visa holders for harvest work, finding they're more motivated in the field than the average Australian. If the government managed the program correctly, the process should be economically beneficial for Australia and safe for young travelers. It is not. Farms aren't certified, leaving opportunity for exploitation, harassment and abuse that is rarely investigated. Young people are not registered in hostels or in

farms so there is no government record of where they are staying and working. There are cases of hostel owners inviting travelers to rural towns with the promise of illusory work. Transport and accommodation are often dirty, overpriced and cramped. These conditions, and the lack of guaranteed farm work are part of the reason why young travelers may find themselves at risk. "Nobody is regulating this area of industry," Ayliffe says.

Rosie suggests there are similarities in the treatment of international students at universities, and backpackers in rural areas of areas.

"I think it's important for young Australians to find out what is going on across your campuses," she says. "You have your own issues with abuse, and exploitative practices of foreign nationals. I believe young people come to Australian universities expecting to be enrolled on courses and end up working below minimum wage (much like international backpackers do). They can be dishwashing for up to a year when they're enrolled on a management course and assumed they would be working in a relevant role to their course."

Under the banner of the 417 Second Year Working Holiday Visa, farmers and hostel managers often correctly assume that travelers are too concerned to speak up against exploitation, harassment, or conditions for fear their employers will not sign off on their 88 days of work. An inquiry by the Fair Work Commission found that 59 per cent of workers applying for the visa agreed this was the case. The report also found 35 per cent of workers reported they did not know their workplace rights well.

The statistics are reminiscent of recent reports of exploited Australian university students and apprentices in hospitality work in areas such as Wollongong

and the Illawarra. In a *Sydney Morning Herald* report, it was revealed that a 'rotten business culture' meant students were being paid far below minimum wage, with employers protecting themselves under the facade of 'traineeships' and lengthy 'work trials.'

Through the Tom and Mia's Legacy program, Ayliffe has received thorough accounts of sexual assault and harassment, including the story of UK 417 visa holder Cassie, who escaped sexual assault from a farmer who tried to rape her in the back of his ute. According to a report in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, sexual assaults are "viewed as fringe benefits of the 88 day work scheme by some employers of 417 visa holders...in Victoria and Queensland." Ayliffe says farmers and hostel owners exhibit "a wide variety of attitudes, some are paternal in their attitude and want the best for the people in their care, but a growing minority see the situation in terms of the huge financial rewards they can reap through non-compliance and exploitation."

More recently, the Australian Human Rights Commission released national data on the prevalence of sexual assault in university campuses highlighting what many already knew. "You also need to focus on the problem of sex offences in your universities. I would think a campaign in which you unite and say no to rape might help to solve the problem," Ayliffe says. She believes that in the Australian government "there is a will to change. In rural Australia, Victoria and Queensland State Governments are both looking at licensing labour contractors, but this is only a small part of the problem." As students continue to fight for change in their campuses, Rosie Ayliffe continues to lobby for reform against the dangerous and unregulated 'dark sides' of the 88-day workers scheme.

# University audit shows sector's greatest challenges

**CAMERON GOOLEY** / 2016 was the first year revenue from overseas students surpassed that of domestic students

Hidden under a heavy layer of buzzwords and business jargon, the NSW Auditor General's recently released 2016 Universities Audit revealed some interesting data concerning our state's universities. Some of the data is easy to guess (for example, we have far too many students studying the humanities for the number of jobs available,, and too few studying STEM fields such as engineering). Other data is more concerning.

Our universities appear to be struggling with handling sensitive data, presenting a serious and continued risk to students and universities. Nearly half of the information security issues plaguing our universities had been flagged in previous audits but are yet to be addressed. Interestingly, when discussing a lack of information security, the audit didn't mention concerns over students' personal data, but rather over university research and intellectual property. Many of the security issues relate to handling information — in other words, university staff often have weak passwords and allow inappropriate access to secure data.

Research funding for NSW universities reached \$1.1 billion in 2015, with almost two thirds of the money going to the University of Sydney and the University of New South Wales at 36.1 per cent and 30.4 per cent respectively. The government provides some research funding to each university based on its research income in the previous year — universities that receive more non-government research grants are rewarded with more government funding. This system, which encourages universities to form deeper research partnerships with the private sector, means small universities struggle to attain the funding necessary to become an attractive partner in the first place, in turn barring them from the additional government funding they need.

The audit revealed many universities appear to be diverting teaching funding towards research. Data gathered in the 2014-2016 period showed that most universities spend more on research than they earn from research revenue, indicating that funding from other sources has been channelled towards research. The audit report admitted that it would be difficult to assess much of this spending, as "indirect expenditure" is harder to track. However, diverting funds from teaching to research has direct impacts on the quality of education being delivered to students.

Overall, NSW Universities' rankings have improved, but only two are in the global top 100 according to the Times Higher Education (THE) university rankings. USyd has moved up four spots to 56th, while UNSW has dropped four spots to 82nd. Prominent global ranking systems such as THE rankings place an overwhelming amount of importance on research related factors when determining rankings, which helps to explain universities' investment in that area.

These rankings may be important in attracting overseas students, who according to the audit, "have significant financial benefits to a university". Most NSW universities are becoming increasingly reliant on income provided by international students — at USyd, overseas students make up 35 per cent of the 47,706 students currently enrolled. Across all ten NSW universities we have seen a 25 per cent increase in revenue gathered from overseas students in 2016. Last year, for the first time ever, revenue from overseas students surpassed income from domestic students. As the report notes, a continued increase in international student numbers has "significant financial benefits to a university". However, the audit also stated that a continued increase in international students could pose a real risk to the

overall quality of education that our universities are able to deliver.

Overall, the audit revealed some interesting information regarding our universities, but barely glanced over some important issues.

The lack of information security protocols at NSW universities ought to be easily addressed — the audit explicitly states that many problems arise from problems as simple as poor password security. It should be concerning to students that our universities have repeatedly failed to address these issues, many of which were pointed out in previous years' audits.

The audit suggests that universities are diverting funding from teaching to research but barely uses a paragraph to inform us of this, despite acknowledging the real impact that this can have on the learning experience of students. Its only recommendation in dealing with this is for universities to "design an appropriate process to capture and track all direct and indirect costs associated with research activities", which is hardly inspired.

Furthermore, our universities' increasing reliance on international students for income is risky — it is presumptuous to assume that a continued increase in international students is financially sustainable. Most universities address this by "focusing on increasing the geographical diversity in overseas students" in case of events such as localised economic downturns, international incidents, or a fall in reputation.

More positively, every university in the state is currently sitting on a surplus, however five universities still have expenditure growth surpassing revenue growth — a worrying fact given the federal government's proposed \$2.8 billion budget cuts to the higher education sector.

# Aisle be damned

**ALISHA BROWN** / A portrait of young marriage in Australia

Marriage terrifies me. I struggle to stick with a job for more than six months, let alone one person for the rest of my life. I am unstable, indecisive, constantly on the lookout for better options. And I love it. Nothing makes me more uncomfortable than the idea of leaving another person vulnerable to my restlessness.

Fewer and fewer young people are choosing to get married, and for those who do, the stats aren't great. Census data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that one in three marriages end in divorce, and according to the Australian Institute of Family Studies, one of the lead causes is getting married under the age of 25.

Elisabeth Shaw, Clinical Director of Relationships Australia, tells me that millennials are shying away from early marriage to allow space for their careers and developmental growth.

"In the past, marrying early meant that your expectations of your life were much more settled," she says. "Now that we've got the global economy, you really need to have a relationship that can stand the test of time."

Society is now much more open to premarital sex, non-traditional relationships, civil partnerships and gaining relationship experience. Why, then, are some young people still drawn to marriage?



"Come in, come in!"

I hug Hannah, wave at Silas, dump my bags and pop open the shiraz. Fried rice crackles in the microwave. Books, kettles, cups, and an enormous cold-drip coffee machine surround the newlyweds. This Camperdown apartment is their first home away from family.

"Why didn't you move in together before marriage?"

"I don't want to be hypocritical by picking and choosing what to believe from the Bible, and it teaches pretty strongly not to have sex before marriage." She pulls at the threads of the blanket in her lap. "If we hadn't committed to each other, I wouldn't want to make myself this vulnerable."

Hannah and Silas are a rarity — only 1.6 per cent of respondents to the Great Australian Sex Census waited until marriage to have sex, while 35 per cent had lost their virginity by the age of 16. The microwave beeps and I hesitate in grabbing my fork — should I say grace? — but they dig straight in.

"Moving in together wouldn't have meant you needed to have sex, though...right?" I ask.

"It was more of a self-control thing," says Silas.

"Maybe we would have lasted one night," Hannah laughs. "But probably not."

I spill some wine and Silas jumps up to grab paper towel. He first met Hannah at Village Church in Annandale, where they exchanged polite small-talk after a service.

"I thought he was mysterious," says Hannah, flicking her hand over her face in imitation of the front-fringe her husband used to sport.

Silas sits back down. I ask them about their decision to break up in first-year uni.

"That's when I knew he was someone I could marry," says Hannah. "I've never had someone so clearly choose what's best for me."

Concerned that physical desire would threaten their chastity, Silas postponed the relationship until they

were both ready to commit. They were engaged a year later.

"When you're 27 and you're getting married, everyone is like, *yay, finally!*" says Hannah. "Whereas when you're 20 they're like...*really?* I was terrified."

She pauses.

"Married couples form some level of stability in society, but personally, if I wasn't Christian, I wouldn't get married right now."

"Oh, I completely agree," replies Silas. "I don't think I'd be able to make the vows that I made and mean them."

Nikita\* is relaxing after work with her husband, Jay\*, on the other end of the line. They married last year when he was 26 and she was 22.

"It was actually a friend of mine who noticed him first," says Nikita. "I looked at him from across the classroom and said: ehhhh, he's *alright*."

Jay laughs — a deep, bell-like chuckle. He admits that he was always drawn to Nikita, despite an initial crush on her friend. Their romance bloomed after a



group assignment when they began spending time together after class, as soon as Jay finished work, and on his days off.

After a fairytale six months of dating, Jay's student visa was about to expire. He would have to go back to India, without Nikita.

"I just couldn't take it," says Nikita, words rolling off her tongue in rapid-fire. "I had never met someone who I knew I wanted to spend the rest of my life with. It just felt wrong to be separated this way."

Jay was prepared to try long-distance, but one night, Nikita suggested a different solution: "So...how...what about...do you think we could probably get married? Are you alright with that?"

Jay laughs. "It took me a few seconds to wrap my head around it —"

"You liar!" shouts Nikita. "You bloody cried!"

After a two-month engagement, Nikita and Jay got married at a courthouse in Adelaide.

"When we first told our friends, they were like, what are you doing? What's wrong with you?!" says Nikita.

"You're six months into a relationship and you're getting married, blah blah blah, how long have you known this girl?" continues Jay. "But now they understand."

Nikita and Jay haven't told their families yet. Marriage is taken very seriously in Indian culture, and their parents are unlikely to approve of such spontaneity.

"We're going to go about it the proper way, like we should have done," says Jay. "I'm just going to wait for a bit, get a stable job, and get a bit more emotionally stable as well. Then I'll ask her dad for permission."

After two years of hiding their wedding rings from their parents, Nikita and Jay plan to get married, for a second time, in India. I ask if either of them had ever imagined being married so young.

"Noooo," says Nikita. "My plan was thirty," says Jay. "I was giving myself more time to grow, but I can be myself around her, which is something I've never had."

Skype boops and blobs its alien dial tone. Annika and Brenton sit close, shoulders touching. They have been married for four days.

"We met on Tinder," laughs Annika. "It was meant

to be a hook-up, but we fell in love."

After a month of dating, Annika gave Brenton an ultimatum: either they became an official couple, or stop having sex. He conceded, and they enjoyed a month of honeymoon bliss before Annika started feeling sick. She took a pregnancy test, and despite being on the pill, it came back positive. She was 17.

Annika had always planned to get an abortion if she ever fell pregnant, but now that the situation was upon her, she had doubts. What if a baby was exciting rather than scary? What if it didn't ruin her life?

One day, she started bleeding — badly. Her mum rushed her to the doctor. Howling, Annika was distraught, fearing a miscarriage.

"Luckily, the ultrasound showed that everything was fine," she says. "But the fear of losing the baby really cemented that I *did* want it."

Brenton shifts backwards and forwards when I ask why he stuck around. "I didn't want the baby, but I didn't want to be the person to leave," he finally says.

When Sage was six months old, Annika took Brenton engagement ring shopping. Their engagement was met with excitement by everyone except Brenton's parents.

"They're the kind of people who are just like, ooooh, are you sure? Make sure you're sure!" says Brenton.



Art:  
Kimberley  
Yoo

"But we'd been living together and we were very much a unit. If you asked for one of us —"

"— you got both of us."

Annika and Brenton had never pictured married life for themselves; in fact, they used to be aggressively opposed to marriage.

"It just seemed so toxic and possessive," says Annika.

They overcame this disillusionment by replacing traditional ideas of marriage with a more flexible approach.

"I don't see marriage as tied-down monogamy, like you're stuck with each other for the rest of your lives even if you hate each other," says Annika. "We're both queer, so maybe one day we'll want to get another boyfriend or girlfriend. It can be a little three-way love connection."

Brenton gets up to check on the baby, and I lean closer to the camera.

"Do you regret anything?"

For the first time, Annika is quiet. She looks at her hands. "I wish I could have got pregnant later. I didn't get to be young, and we're *still* not ready. We *still* don't feel like parents."

Brenton sits back down.

"There's nothing that I would change about our marriage, though."

x x x

I'm looking at the young couple holding hands walking into Nando's. I'm looking at the two men with Sydney Uni jumpers trading glances at a bus stop. I'm looking at the girl with maroon boots kissing her partner goodbye outside RPA.

We might be moving away from marriage, but it's clear that young Australians aren't strangers to commitment. Ring or no ring, love is still valid, and who are we to judge what brings two people closer together?

**\*NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED**



# The limits of drug positivity

ANDY MASON / Why we should be honest and careful about our drug use

Experimenting with drugs is a normal part of student life, as we find our independence and seek new experiences. Drugs can facilitate personal growth in many ways — helping us to understand different points of view, connect with others, and let go of anxieties. As with everything, there is another side to the story. Drugs can also really fuck people up, whether that be through individual negative experiences or the long-term effects of dependency.

The dominant narratives about drugs in progressive circles tend to be simplistically positive, stressing their social benefits and arguing that their harms are vastly overstated. While this is an understandable response to the conservative scaremongering about drugs which is used to justify their illegal status, the simple drug-positive story is unhelpful because it doesn't prepare us for when things go wrong.

Since coming to uni I've had a lot of great experiences with drugs, but I have also seen the other side. I have permanent post-traumatic stress disorder because of an LSD trip that went wrong. I've also had to kick a serious alcohol addiction, supported numerous friends through dependency on drugs or alcohol, dealt with the aftermath of drug and alcohol-related violence and sexual assault, and taken people to hospital because of drug-induced psychosis.

My view of drugs is informed by those experiences, alongside a harm-minimisation perspective which acknowledges that simply trying to scare people isn't a productive strategy for reducing the negative consequences of drug use.

I think a serious harm-minimisation approach involves discouraging people from taking drugs in certain situations, and intervening with friends who have developed serious drug or alcohol dependencies. For example, there is a well-established link



Art: Aiden Magro

between drug use and psychosis for people who have pre-existing psychiatric conditions like PTSD, bipolar disorder or schizophrenia. A friend once described the experience of living with bipolar as like living on a volcanic island — it might be years between eruptions, but sooner or later a serious episode will happen. A person with bipolar taking psychedelic drugs is like building your house right next to the crater — probably better to hang out on another island.

Similarly, there's nothing progressive or compassionate about enabling people who have serious drug addictions. The supportive thing to do is understand the personal context and the structural aspects of their addiction, and try to help them to overcome it. If your friend is socially marginalised because of their gender identity, race, sexuality, disability or socio-economic status, they may be self-medicating to deal with their particular stressors. While you may not understand all aspects of their experience, I think as their friend

you still have a responsibility to keep them away from self-destructive behaviour and direct them towards support services.

Neither mainstream drug education (like we get at schools) or the drug-positive narratives have much to say about what to do in these kinds of situations. We don't equip people with practical skills and knowledge about how to act when drug experiences go bad — for example, how to calm somebody down when they are having a psychotic episode, or how to tell a friend that their alcohol abuse is worrying you and you'd like them to seek some support.

That being said, I still believe that drugs would be much safer if they were decriminalised or fully legalised. Many people are anxious about criminal proceedings, so they don't call an ambulance when their friend really needs it. Furthermore, the illegal status of drugs prevents honest public discussion about their effects, with the result that people aren't educated about what to do when things go wrong. If drugs were legalised, people could access support services without the fear of potential criminal charges.

I'd also like to urge people: if you don't know how to deal with a serious situation, call an ambulance. They're trained professionals and overwhelmingly very lovely people — their whole job is to help in these situations, and they're not obligated to share information with the police. While it might feel wrong to take a person to hospital and see them end up in a psych ward, if you don't have the capacity to provide them with the care they need, this might be the best — or only — option. Similarly, if you have to call their parents or other family, do it — the embarrassment your friend might feel is a lesser evil than risking their health or their life.

# Stop defending the bad white working class

JACK STEYN / Meanjin's justification of casual racism in working class communities relies on gross generalisation



Is the left losing working-class sympathies? In America, it's now common knowledge that Hillary Clinton lost the 2016 election on the back of 'rust belt' states like Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania turning red. Australia might be starting down a similar path, with Pauline Hanson's One Nation roaring back into parliament with a record four seats in the Senate last year.

The United States has suffered a rash of thinkpieces on this very issue, and there's no reason why Australia would be spared. Indeed, the July issue of Melbourne literary journal Meanjin features an article by writer Shannon Burns titled 'In Defence of the Bad, White Working Class'. Drawing on his own upbringing, Burns contends that the lower classes are taking revenge on bourgeois liberals for their pro-immigration stance, and their promotion of the language of political correctness.

One of Burns' key arguments revolves around the concept of words versus actions. He refers to his parents, whom he protests were 'racists in private speech but not in action' when they used amongst themselves slurs like 'slopes' and 'nips' to refer to Asian Australians. He argues that racist language and thought is the 'relatively benign alternative' to racist actions and violence, and that middle-class liber-

als fail to put the former into perspective because they have no experience of the latter. He worries therefore, that by policing the speech of the working class, liberals risk losing the political sympathies of people like his parents.

How awkward, then, that Burns' parents didn't just slur their neighbours in private but, in an attempt to be moved across town, told the public housing trust they were selling drugs and had set up 'Asian gangs' — despite the fact that their suburb 'appeared no more dangerous... than it had ever been'. How awkward that, having claimed that language is viewed as trifling by the lower classes, Burns appears to take great umbrage at the idea of being told that he enjoyed 'privilege' as a heterosexual white man, saying he would have taken 'special pleasure' in voting for the 'nightmare' of anyone who dared to do so. Indeed, how awkward that Burns thinks middle-class liberals are inoculated against aggression and violence; one suspects that might have something to do with the very privilege he seems so eager to disclaim. And how awkward for Burns that there exist thousands of lower class Australians who, if confronted with a choice between racist speech and racist violence, would never pick either.

At the end of a section in which he argues, essentially, that the working

class develop racial hostilities because they are in direct competition with migrants for jobs, Burns whips out a non sequitur that exemplifies his muddled thinking. He writes that the lower classes are almost always the victims of the 'trickier and scarier' consequences of the 'enlightened policies' that the middle class enact. One supposes that he must be talking about immigration, but then Burns spends the rest of the essay complaining about how liberals abhor offensive language. How are the two connected at all? Is he implying working-class people should be allowed to slur the migrants they compete against? Why not propose some constructive solutions, like economic investment in communities affected by migration?

Burns' piece is pretty bad. Even worse has been the wider reaction to it. Meanjin's Twitter account has been retweeting the typical response: adoring, uncritical takes, often from journalists and politicians. They all smack of middle-class Australia falling over itself in a rush to perform its middle-class guilt, and abandoning people of colour, queers, and the progressive poor in the process. Burns' article is plainly an apologia for discrimination and hate, but to call it one is almost to miss the point. With readers like these, who needs apologies?



Art: Jemima Wilson

# Renaissance art on the internet

ELIJAH ABRAHAM / Viral videos may be our generation's form of high art — and that shouldn't worry you

I've spent the past few months thinking about a video. It was made on 'musical.ly', a video sharing app where users lip-sync along to popular songs, creating mini music videos. It's 15 seconds long and features a 15-year-old Instagram celebrity lip-syncing to DJ Snake and Justin Bieber's 'Let Me Love You' while his grandfather is dying in a hospital bed in the background.

While the song used is unquestionably a banger, the video (rightfully) drew ridicule from across the internet, even prompting the influencer in question, Jonas Bridges, to delete his Twitter account.

Several months later, I cannot stop thinking about this video. I don't think I ever will. I'm also not the only one.

By this point, we're all too familiar with the modus operandi of viral content — a shared cultural commodity which, for a moment in time, briefly grabs the collective attention of netizens. Certain videos manage to go beyond that though. They slip past the noise and capture the imagination.

In 2017, content moves at a pace never seen before. Memes are born and die within the space of a couple of hours. In the midst of the flurry, transience is a given but where previous generations created

art which endured centuries, we leave no trace of any valuable contribution to culture.

Yet, here I am on a Friday evening wracking my brain over why this musical.ly video haunts my dreams. Is it the blatant irreverence of the entire thing? Is it being a voyeur to the intimate and emotional scene playing out in the background? Or could it be Bridges' admittedly impeccable form?

It's all of these things as they coalesce to create a statement of genuine artistic value which stimulates the mind. As the truism goes, "good art makes you think".

Other cultural analysts would contend memes, on the forefront of the social conscious or the hordes of innovative and meticulously crafted videos out there, are the "good art" of the Vine generation. While I won't deny the merit of these, I intend to champion a certain type of content.

Consider the Vine 'Come Get Y'all Juice'. The Viner sets up an elaborate spillage in the kitchen, designed to make the subject slip. The subject is called and slips as planned, except they continue slipping straight into the oven, shattering the glass. What elevates the Vine to art is the element of surprise. The breaking of the oven catches the perpetra-

tor, the subject, and the viewer off-guard.

Technological advances since the 20th century have enabled this. We are positioned at a unique time in history where these beautiful accidents and unforeseen events can be immortalised into bits of data — power they probably hadn't envisioned when creating the camera phone.

The similarity between viral content on the internet and Renaissance art should not be understated. Looking back at the musical.ly video, one cannot dismiss the likeness to Caravaggio's 17th century masterpiece 'The Entombment of Christ'. The grandfather represents the Christ, weak and fallen. The grandmother plays the role of the Virgin Mary, arms outstretched in support of the Christ. Bridges offers a contemporary reinterpretation of Mary of Cleophas, gesticulating loudly towards the heavens. The tableau he creates is, at once, alarming and riveting.

Some may call it a reach to compare high art with viral video. I ask them to refer to famed novelist William Faulkner who says "the aim of art is to arrest motion". These videos achieve that and more. To the people who, through no knowledge of their own, create this content, I say "don't you give up, nah, nah, nah ... let me love you".

# Amédée (or How to Get Rid of It) offers a bleak view of love

KARISHMA LUTHRIA / Mushrooms, corpses, and debris litter a decaying marriage in this absurdist piece

WHAT: SUDS' *Amédée (or How to Get Rid of it)*

WHEN: August 2-12

WHERE: Holme Building Common Room

Seldom have I walked into a theatre to find the actors already on stage with melancholic emotions on their faces — emotions that often reoccur in SUDS' adaptation of *Amédée (or How to Get Rid of It)*.

Originally penned by French Absurdist playwright Eugene Ionesco, *Amédée* is suffocatingly immersive. But such immersion isn't only content-wise. It's extended to the very staging of the play in a set that's cramped into the Holme Common Room, a last-minute space that (after the collapse of the Cellar Theatre) works serendipitously to create this play's claustrophobia.

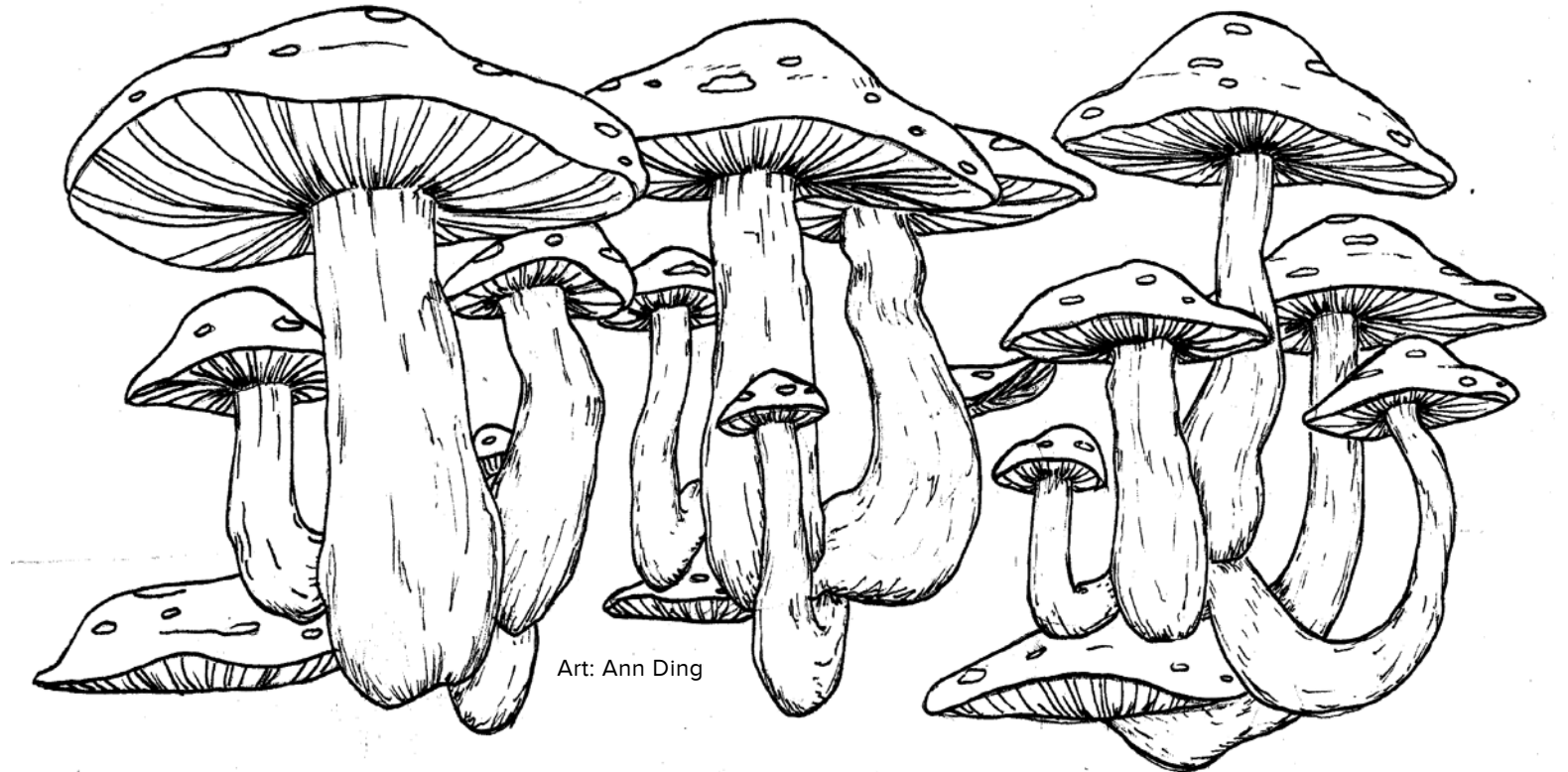
The premise is peculiar: the titular *Amédée* and his wife Madeleine Buccinioni are 45 years

old, and have not left their rotting apartment for 15 years (and their rotting relationship for even longer). The former, played by Fred Pryce, is a conflicted character, ruled by inaction yet fuelled by optimism. He strikes confusion into an audience regarding his true intentions in true absurdist fashion — a stark contrast against Jasmine Cavanaugh's Madeleine, who leaves us feeling every bit of anxiety, stress and despair she experiences.

The differences in their characters are reinforced by a depiction of their argumentative younger selves — it's this non-linearity, and the cyclical nature of the play which make for some of the most intriguing aspects of absurdist writing. Also particularly interesting is director Helena Parker's use of symbolism, with the corpse on stage increasing in size as an embodiment of the couple's marital problems similarly growing bigger and bigger.

Continuing the symbolism, the set is strewn with bright red mushrooms designed by the talented Jess Zlotnick as if to reinforce the couple's rotting and poisonous relationship. I was overwhelmed by just how small the apartment was, in wild disarray but commendably capturing the last strands of their relationship. Michael Goodyear's lighting is also successful in highlighting the dark heart of *Amédée*.

Yet, despite its stellar production, the absurdity of the play, its layered meanings, and its implications of the benign nature of life left me rather confused. And perhaps that is the beauty of this genre. It leaves you questioning concepts and norms of life you've come to accept as normal. It completely changes your perspective on things and *Amédée* did exactly that. It changed my romanticized, Hollywood-propagated image of love, instead putting forward a bleak, fatalistic view of romance in a play that must be seen to be believed.



Art: Ann Ding



# Last week, the Australian Human Rights Commission released the results of their survey into sexual assault and harassment in universities. Here's what we learnt.

CONTENT WARNING: SEXUAL ASSAULT

SCORECARDS FOR KEY UNIVERSITIES

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

**32% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED**

The national average is 24.9%

**67% HAD LITTLE OR NO KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT**

The national average is 60%

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

**3.8% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

The national average is 2.2%

**25% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED**

The national average is 20.8%

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

**3.7% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED BY A STAFF MEMBER**

The national average is 2.1%

**2.2% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

The national average is 1.6%

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

**0.5% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED BY A STAFF MEMBER**

**24% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED**

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**3.5% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

**5.2% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

**45% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED**

Second highest proportion of students both sexually assaulted and harassed.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

**4% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

**5.5% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

Highest proportion of students subject to sexual assault at university.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

**2% OF MALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

The national average is 2.2%

Highest proportion of male students subject to sexual assault at university.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

**0.8% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

**62% HAD LITTLE OR NO KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT**

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**4% SEXUALLY HARASSED BY A STAFF MEMBER**

**35% OF FEMALE STUDENTS SEXUALLY HARASSED**

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

**71% HAD LITTLE OR NO KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT**

**1.5% OF STUDENTS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

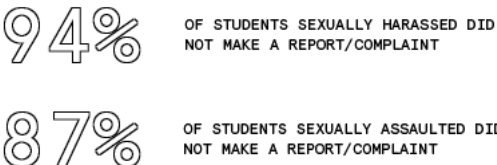




# Drastic levels of underreporting

REPORTING

One of the most significant findings of the AHRC report was the extent to which sexual harassment and assault were underreported to universities.



According to the report, the levels of underreporting suggest that “universities may not have a clear pathways and policies for reporting ... and do not foster an environment where reporting of these behaviours encouraged.”

GREATEST BARRIERS

Students largely didn’t report sexual harassment or assault out of fear, emotional distress, or feeling that their experience was not serious enough. Many students were afraid that their complaint wouldn’t be taken seriously due to a lack of evidence.

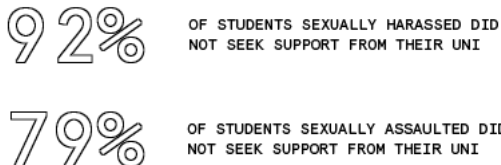
“It would have been impossible to prove that I didn’t consent. I just wanted to forget about it,” one student submitted to the report.

Other students were scared reporting the matter would have consequences for their studies or career. For one student, the fact that “the lecturer had a big name in the industry I was trying to break into” prevented them from taking action.

Though other students didn’t report their experience because they didn’t know whether their experience constituted sexual harassment or assault. “Too many people associated sexual assault with violent

SEEKING SUPPORT

In addition to underreporting, students were also found to have underutilised university support services.



The primary reasons for not seeking support from the university for both sexual harassment and assault were “I did not think it was serious enough” and “I did not think I needed help”.

attacks by strangers, making it harder to identify and report sexual assault which is perpetrated by someone known to the victim,” one submission read.

The bureaucratic hoops students were required to jump through when making a complaint were enough to deter many students. As one student wrote, “the complaints procedure seemed much more arduous and emotionally laborious for me as a complainant. It is a process that would affect me much more than it would affect him.”

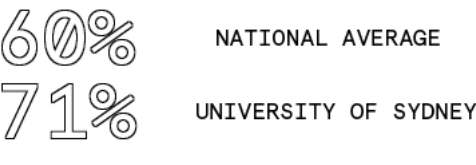
Many students noted inadequate support services, with one student saying, “reporting my rape to the university was worse than being raped”.

According to the report, “a large number of submissions received by the commission described negative experiences of reporting or support seeking at university, or negative impacts following an experi-

UNCLEAR MECHANISMS AT UNI

One student told the commission that: “I had no clue that I could let institutions know that I was sexually assaulted without having to go to court.”

STUDENTS WHO KNEW LITTLE/NOTHING ABOUT WHERE TO GO TO MAKE A COMPLAINT ABOUT SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Another said: “I didn’t really know where to go on campus to complain. [They] don’t advertise those kinds of private services or complaint handling departments, so I didn’t know where to turn to when my assault occurred.”

ence with the university.”

“A negative response to someone reporting sexual assault or sexual harassment, or seeking support after an event can reinforce an individual’s feelings of self-blame or uncertainty... and can deter a person from taking any further action.”

The report’s critics have stated that its findings are merely emblematic of a problem that exists everywhere, and that you are in no more danger at university than anywhere else. While this may be true, it is simultaneously true that universities do bear responsibility for ensuring student safety and providing services in their environment. The report shows that universities are not providing adequate and accessible support services and methods of recourse for people affected by sexual harassment or assault, and indicate a failing they must address.

# The deal with colleges

“Stella lived in a residential college. Within a few weeks of living at the college, a postgraduate student who was also a resident of the college began to harass and stalk Stella. He would follow her around campus, grab her and hold her against her will and would tell her how much he wanted to be with her, despite Stella telling him that she wasn’t interested in him... One night, Stella woke up to the resident raping and physically assaulting her. The resident told her that if she told anyone else what had happened, he would kill her”.

Stella’s story is just one submission revealing sexual assault and harassment at residential colleges received by the Australian Human Rights Commission, and published in the Change the Course report.

It is no surprise that the report found students who lived in university owned or affiliated residential accommodation were more likely to have been sexually assaulted or harassed. Of those who were sexually assaulted in a university setting, 34 per cent were living in university accommodation at the time of the most recent incident. College women were also three times more likely than their male counterparts to have been sexually assaulted.

The underlying attitudes that acclimatise and normalise sexual assault and harassment appear to be concentrated in residential colleges. The report notes that attitudes towards gender roles, relationships, and negative perceptions of women contribute to the per-

petuation of sexual discrimination and assault at universities, broadly.

We have all heard stories of college initiation rituals and ‘hazing’ practices in the media – former St Paul’s students have reported being beaten as freshers during O-Week; St Andrew’s students are auctioned off based on popularity, blindfolded, dumped in the middle of nowhere by older students and forced to hitch-hike their way home; several students were expelled from St John’s when a girl almost died after being forced to drink a cocktail of shampoo, sour milk, dog food, and alcohol.

Many initiation rituals are not only highly sexualised, but condone sexually derogatory behaviours, students told the AHRC via anonymous submission. At one college, fresher women were reportedly required to drink from wine sacks male residents had hanging out of their fly. Freshers at other colleges were made to sing songs describing sexual assault. Several statements described college parties where women were force-fed alcohol or told to remove clothing.

Students are socially ostracised for not participating; those who play along are rewarded with friendship. Sexual encounters between students are treated as public knowledge: they are talked about at the dinner table, broadcast over PA systems, or announced at student meetings; they represent “conquests” for men, and opportunities to be slut-shamed for women.

“In colleges especially, there’s a real pack mentality and a bubble is created in which it feels like the rules of regular society don’t apply. So people often believe that they can get away with things in this bubble that they couldn’t normally get away with...” one student submitted to the report.

“The problem arises when this culture of objectification is allowed to manifest itself on college campuses. When first year boys see/take part in this behaviour in O-Week, they are taught that objectifying women in this manner is acceptable from the outset of their university careers,” another student wrote.

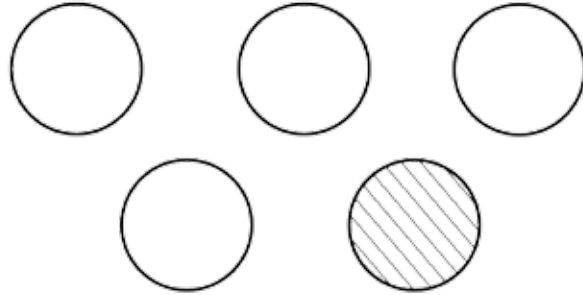
What is clear in the report is not only the way students are groomed to normalise sexually discriminatory behaviours, but their unique living environments give them the ability to take sexual advantage of fellow residents more easily. Many submissions from women living in university residences describing sexual assault say the assault took place in private bedrooms within their college. Women reported being filmed in unisex showers or bathrooms within their college.

“It seems normalised within the college system for the girls to get ‘preyed’ on... It was colloquial to talk about the ‘predators’ in college, and the older men to prey on the younger ‘freshers’. In hindsight it is creepy and gross, but when entirely engrossed in the system, it is much more normalised.”

# The stats

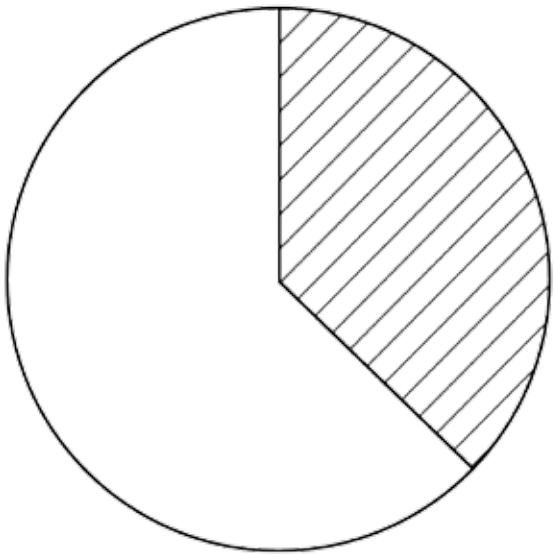
1 IN 5

SEXUALLY HARASSED IN A UNIVERSITY SETTING



45%

OF TRANS/GENDER DIVERSE STUDENTS WERE SEXUALLY HARASSED IN A UNIVERSITY SETTING



OF THOSE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED IN A UNIVERSITY SETTING,

34%

WERE LIVING IN UNI ACCOMODATION

3.8%

3.8%

OF BISEXUAL STUDENTS VERSUS

1.5%

OF HETEROSEXUAL STUDENTS WERE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED IN A UNIVERSITY SETTING

LGBT students are also more likely to be sexually harassed at university, with 44% of bisexual students and 38% of gay or lesbian students having been sexually harassed, compared to 23% of heterosexual students. USyd’s response to the report failed to mention this.

27%

27%

OF DOMESTIC STUDENTS VERSUS

22%

OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WERE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED IN A UNIVERSITY SETTING

USyd SRC Women’s Officer Imogen Grant attributes “underreporting of sexual assault and harassment among international students” to the fact that the survey was only available in English. “The statistics...are unlikely to be accurate,” she says.



# 1997

An 18-year-old woman was found raped and murdered on St Paul's oval. A few weeks later, Anne Summers and David Marr revealed that students at St Paul's gave an annual "Animal Act of the Year Award" to a student who allegedly gang-raped a Women's College student.

# 2009

A group of USyd students, mostly from St Paul's College, formed a Facebook group called "Define Statutory" which described itself as "pro-rape, anti-consent".

# 2014

USyd student Alexander Wright took a naked photo of a woman while they were having sex without her consent or knowledge. After a lengthy complaint process — which concluded without the University punishing Wright — the woman took her story to *Honi* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*. The Wom\*n's Collective held a rally outside Fisher Library after the story was exposed.

# 2015

The National Union of Students' 'Talk About It' survey into the experiences of female university students in Australia discovered 72.75 per cent of female students had experienced sexual harassment or unwelcome sexual behaviour and 27 per cent had experienced some form of sexual assault while enrolled at university (but not necessarily on campus).

The University announced a survey open to all students about sexual assault and harassment at USyd, covering students' experiences, how they perceive the University dealing with these issues and reforms they would like to see.

# 2016

## February

USyd's survey into sexual assault and harassment revealed only 4 per cent of students who witnessed an incident reported it to the University. 41 per cent of students who reported incidents found the University's procedures did not help them at all and another 27 per cent found the University's procedures helpful but felt more could be done. The Senior Executive Group of the University endorsed the recommendations in the report, which included reforming the existing complaints handling mechanisms.

## April

The University held a screening of *The Hunting Ground*, a documentary about sexual assault on US college campuses. Only three people attended because management did not promote it or even attend themselves.

## July

An *Honi* freedom of information investigation found the University had received 17 reports of sexual assault, indecent assault, and acts of indecency on campus between May 2011 and May 2016.

## August

The Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) launched a national survey into sexual harassment and assault on university campuses covering 39 Australian universities.



# Timeline

## May

28 The University held another screening of *The Hunting Ground* — this time with (far) more than three attendees.

20 The University invited former Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick to review the culture of its residential colleges — which are independent from the University.

16 USyd Students' Representative Council wom\*n's officer Anna Hush led a silent protest at Wesley College, demanding it release the names of the editors of the Rackweb and that colleges introduce mandatory sexual harassment education for students.

10 *Pulp* revealed a publication by Wesley College students from 2014, which included a section called the 'Rackweb' slut-shaming female students by mapping inter-college 'hook-ups' and 'awarding' them titles such as "Best Ass", "Best Cleavage" and "Biggest Pornstar".

## May

*news.com.au* revealed a post from a St Paul's College students' Facebook group comparing having sex with large women to "harpooning a whale" and offering to help "get rid of some chick" after a "rooting". In the weeks after it was exposed, the College joined the Broderick review, and its warden warned students against publishing sexist posts because they could hurt their CVs then later announced his retirement for the end of the year.



## August 27

Around 20 students occupied Eastern Avenue during the University's Open Day carrying mattresses reading "Red tape won't cover up rape" among other messages while members of management turned off the lights and asked parents of prospective students in the audience to leave. The protest paid homage to a 2014–2015 performance art piece by Emma Sulkowicz at Columbia University.

## September

The University promised to reform the sexual assault reporting system by semester one, 2017. The reformed system, which is more transparent about the key steps and timing of the process, has since been delivered. The University also established a Safer Communities Advisory body including staff, students and college representatives to consult on policy, programs and campaigns related to student safety and welfare.

## October

A Channel 7 freedom of information investigation of 39 Australian universities revealed 575 formal complaints were made about sexual misconduct over the previous five years, with only six resulting in expulsion. Of those, 52 were reported at USyd, with one expulsion, one suspension and four reprimands noted in response.

# 2017

## March

The University began a trial of an online consent module for students after telling *Honi* two weeks prior that they had rejected the idea.

Documents obtained by Channel 7 News revealed USyd withheld CCTV footage of an alleged attempted assault in a campus carpark from the public that police wanted to release to help identify the alleged attacker.

# AHRC

## August 1

The AHRC survey results were released, revealing 1.6 per cent of university students were assaulted in a university setting in 2015 and 2016 and 21 per cent were sexually harassed in a university setting in 2016.

## August 2

Students protested after the release of the AHRC results to call on universities to meet their demands and take action against sexual assault on campus.



If you have experienced sexual assault or sexual harassment and feel you would like to speak to someone for support or information, NSW Rape Crisis Centre (Phone: 1800 424 017) can provide counselling 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

A new national University Support Line is available: 1800 572 224

The support line will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It will operate until 30 November 2017.



# Recommendations

1. “Vice-Chancellors should take direct responsibility for the implementation of these recommendations” with the help of an advisory body.
2. “Universities [should] develop a plan for addressing the drivers of sexual assault and sexual harassment” by educating students and staff about sexual assault and harassment, consent, and bystander intervention.
3. “Universities should ... widely disseminate information about university reporting avenues” on the university’s website and at orientations.
4. “[W]ithin a year of the release of this report universities should commission an independent, expert-led review of existing university policies and response pathways”.
5. Universities should provide training to staff and students who are most likely to receive disclosures of sexual assault and sexual harassment.
6. Universities should take detailed reports of disclosures, including feedback on the process from complainants, and store this confidentially.
7. “[A]s soon as possible, universities should conduct an audit of university counselling services” about wait times and counsellors’ training on working with survivors.
8. The survey should be repeated every three years to track national progress.
9. Residential colleges should commission an independent review (sound familiar?) to look at factors which contribute to sexual assault and harassment at colleges.

Given decades of institutional incompetence and foot-dragging by successive university administrations, the Australian Human Rights Commission’s (AHRC’s) recommendations appear ambitious. If universities continue to fail their students in the future, they do so knowing that their failure will attract heightened attention from the Commission and national media. At best, the recommendations provide a clear blueprint for institutions that can no longer afford to wish the problem away.

However, the broadness of many of the recommendations could allow USyd to return to its comfort-zone of opaque bureaucracy and illusory, self-congratulatory buzzwords. In light of the University’s track record when dealing with sexual assault and harassment on campus, it is possible that ‘education programs’, for example, might look more like a couple of insipid, sorry-looking posters than the targeted dismantling of toxic power structures within the colleges.

Some of the AHRC’s other recommendations have already been introduced by USyd after years of campaigning by wom\*n’s officers, like the review of complaints handling mechanisms and the independent review of the colleges.

At times, it appears that the report sets a very low bar for universities. Providing detailed and accessible information about reporting options is the bare minimum that should be expected of any institution. In contrast to the recommendations, women’s collectives nationally are rallying for a federal complaints mechanism and sexual ethics and managing vicarious trauma training for all university and college staff and students — while the recommendations suggest training only for those staff likely to receive disclosures — among other demands more closely met by the recommendations.

Yet the Commission’s more demanding recommendations could well be stifled by the same forces that constantly conspire to kill off any attempt at positive cultural change. After spending years doing everything in their power to deny the existence of a problem, how likely is it that those who sit on the boards of our University’s most esteemed residential colleges will agree to another external audit of their hallowed, inscrutable traditions? Only time will tell.

‘One of the statistics’

A survivor and survey respondent details how it felt to read the report

Empty. This is the word I have used to describe my reaction to the Australian Human Rights Commission’s (AHRC’s) report on sexual assault and harassment in universities released last Tuesday. Empty because the last shred of hope I had that my experiences were rare died.

As soon as 10am on August 1 came around, I was flicking frantically through the results, eyes darting across the tiny black figures that looked — through my panicked eyes — like disembodied ant-legs crawling across the screen. I absorbed the numbers all at once, and it was only after that I realised they consumed a bit of me in return. I felt an alarming detachment and vacancy.

I did what many adapted survivors do in these situations: absolutely nothing. I continued with my day as best as I could.

But I continued to see the results, published by all major news outlets with big bold titles and buzzwords, shared here, there, and everywhere with words denoting shock and surprise; on the evening news, relayed by the girl in class, in 140 characters. I scrolled down my newsfeed feeling naked and exposed, as if everyone could see my experiences in those numbers and, yet, partially hoping that they did.

Like my fellow activists, I had anticipated the findings and the changes they might bring at universities around Australia. I thought I’d feel relieved that I could finally link those damned internet trolls something substantial, mathematical, irrefutable. I didn’t expect to feel utterly empty and then eventually (as I write this) pissed off at the fact that anyone ever needed the statistics; that the voices and stories of decades of women weren’t enough to instigate change, that the horrific shadow of pain hanging over our university wasn’t enough. I didn’t realise that I’d feel so goddamn reduced by the numbers.

The University knew what it needed to do prior to the AHRC report. Yet it waited, like it always does, until something public and unable to be ignored came up to compel action. Nevermind the individuals who were brutally assaulted or harassed in the interim; reputation alone is the University of Sydney’s prime concern. Perhaps if the University had taught students to value respect above reputation, the statistics wouldn’t have been so high in the first place.

Our demands have been repeated again and again. University management knows that what we want — a federal reporting system, survivor-centric procedures, sexual ethics training and more — is what we need. They’ve committed to adopting the advised measures of the AHRC report, but make no mistake, it’s only because they have virtually no choice. This corporate institution will always be more concerned about its own image than the welfare of its students.

I don’t know if the university saw me in those numbers. I don’t know if anyone who isn’t a survivor is capable of perceiving the mournful faces behind them. Some days, the tears of decades of survivors are the only thing keeping me buoyant, and their resilience keeps my heart pounding and my voice loud.

WORDS / CAITLIN MCMENAMIN



# Why were international student rates so low?

While the report confirmed a lot of things that students, advocates, and survivors had known for years; namely that sexual assault and harassment is a widespread issue within our universities, one groups’ statistics went against past anecdotal experience.

According to the nation wide report, international students and students from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds were less likely to be sexually harassed than domestic students and those who primarily spoke English at home.

Similarly, international students were less likely to be sexually assaulted than domestic students, while there was no discernible difference in sexual assault rates between CALD and English-speaking students. The USyd specific data did not make specific reference to international or domestic incident rates.

University of Sydney Student Representative Council Wom\*n’s Officer, Imogen Grant, cites the fact that the survey was only available in English as one cause of the lower international and CALD statistics.

“It is likely to have led to underreporting of sexual assault and harassment among international students,” she said. “So the statistics in the report are unlikely to be an accurate representation.”

The language barrier extends to reporting mechanisms

at university, with many students unable to access support systems, following an incident, in their first language. This is reflected in the report, which found that international students were less aware than domestic students of the “procedures that exist for formally reporting sexual assault or sexual harassment at their university.”

According to Grant, despite calls for change, there is currently no translation service available for students looking to report harassment or assault in a language other than English.

“It is essential that support services are culturally relevant and serve the needs of diverse groups without exposing them to the risk of social isolation or danger,” she said.

The report further identified that international students at times “did not know whether the behaviours the experience are sexual harassment or just part of Australian culture.” One submission outlined how an international PhD student was kissed by her supervisor, and she was unsure whether it was a standard part of Australian culture. Another submission expressed “concern around the impact of reporting on international students’ studies and visa status” showing the importance of multi-language accessibility in these areas.

# LGBT+

The report reveals that students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans or gender diverse are more likely to be sexually harassed or assaulted, both overall and on campus. Trans and gender diverse students were the most likely to be sexually harassed both on- and off-campus. Bisexual students were also 2.5 times more likely to be assaulted on campus.

LGBT+ students expressed unique concerns about reporting incidents; some feared that whoever they reported to might have prejudices against them for their identity, while others had not yet come out and did not feel comfortable reporting what had happened. The report recommends, among other things, that reporting processes are made flexible and accessible to a diverse range of students; this is an area where universities could improve substantially for LGBT+ students.

While students were able to identify as gender diverse, it is unclear whether the survey gave trans students the option of identifying themselves as male or female, meaning that it may not have been possible to look at a more detailed breakdown of the statistics for that group. However, given that trans and gender diverse students made up only 202 out of 30,930 responses, or 0.65 per cent of respondents, there might not have been enough data to analyse regardless.

When we remember that over 30,000 students across 39 universities responded to the survey, or about 2 per cent of the cumulative student body, one wonders what other insights could have been gleaned had there been a wider response.

Notably, the University’s reaction to the report did not mention the statistics around LGBT+ students, despite the high incident rates.

# Methodology

The report’s methodology was not unusual for surveys of this type. It was distributed to a stratified selection of 319,252 students or roughly 25 per cent of students across all 39 Australian university campuses. The survey being ‘stratified’ means that a representative number of students were specifically selected to be sent the survey based upon known characteristics such as gender, year of study, and level of study.

For example, given that there are roughly 30,000 undergraduate and 20,000 postgraduate students at USyd, the survey would have been sent to three undergraduates for every two postgraduates. This method of sampling usually reduces error compared to simply randomly selecting students.

The Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) has been criticised for only sending its questionnaire to a sample of students, inevitably barring many from contributing their experiences. Given that the AHRC provided no particular reason for this, the likely explanation is that this smaller sample reduced costs and time while still providing results with approximately a 95 per cent confidence level.

The AHRC received 30,930 responses which was slightly fewer (9.7 per cent of contacted students) than expected (10-15 per cent). Nonetheless, the number of respondents was nearly twice the size of

the comparable 2012 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Personal Safety Survey.

The AHRC survey saw moderately lower rates of sexual assault and harassment than in similar surveys such as that of the ABS, however the AHRC survey only asked respondents to include experiences from the past two years while most surveys refer to the last five years or any experiences since the age of 15.

One concern was that the results could have been influenced by the voluntary nature of the survey’s questionnaires. That is, response rates could have been different between people who had experienced or witnessed sexual assault and harassment and those who had not, thereby skewing the results.

To test for this, the AHRC looked at the correlation between response rates and reported rates of sexual assault and harassment at different universities. If there was a response bias, universities with higher response rates would also see higher proportions of sexual assault and harassment. The AHRC determined that there was a response bias resulting in a possible overestimation of rates of sexual assault and violence experienced by male students. However, there was no such response bias for female students, allowing the results to be more accurately projected to the entire female student population.

Students’ Representative Council, University of Sydney

2017 SRC Elections

Postal Voting

Application Form

POSTAL VOTING

If you wish to vote in the 2017 SRC elections but are unable to vote EITHER on polling days Wednesday 20th or Thursday 21st September at any of the advertised locations, OR on pre-polling day (on main campus) Tuesday 19th September, then you may apply for a postal vote.

Fill in this form and send it to:  
Electoral Officer  
Students’ Representative Council, University of Sydney  
PO Box 794, Broadway NSW 2007.

PLEASE NOTE: postal vote applications **MUST BE RECEIVED AND IN OUR PO BOX by Thursday 24th of August** at 4.30pm or they will not be considered. **No exceptions.**

You may use a photocopy of this form.

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Student card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty/year: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for a postal vote for the 2017 SRC elections. I declare that I am unable to attend a polling booth on any of the polling days, OR on the pre-polling day, for the following reason:  
*(please be specific. Vague or facetious reasons will not be accepted. The Electoral Officer must under section 20(a) of the Election Regulation consider that the stated reason justifies the issuing of a postal vote.)*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_


Please send voting papers to the following address:  
\_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_      Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

I require a copy of the election edition of *Honi Soit*:    YES   /   NO

For more information:  
Contact Paulene Graham,  
Electoral Officer  
02 9660 5222

Authorised by P. Graham, 2017 Electoral Officer,  
Students’ Representative Council, University of Sydney  
02 9660 5222 | www.srcusyd.net.au

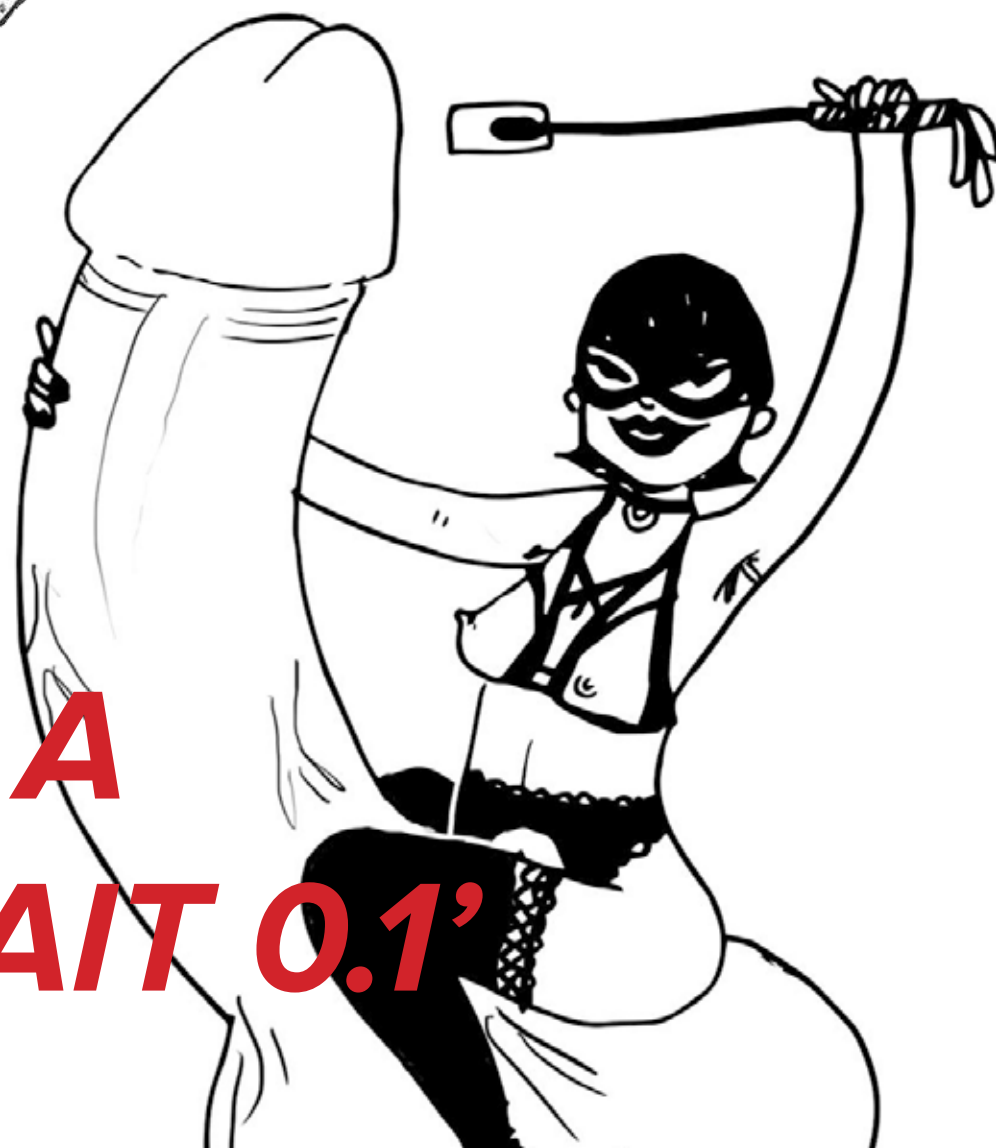
 **SRC**  
activism  
advocacy  
representation



EJ Son is a visual artist working with multi disciplinary practice, including photo media, print media, sculpture and painting. Born in South Korean and based in Sydney, her recent sculptures and paintings are focused on lifting the guilt and shame associated with female sexuality in a social and religious context. Her works are influenced by Shunga, where sex is embraced as it is; a beautiful, fluid and raw human interaction. Her work embodies humiliation through an element of humour, provoking a sense of disgust, discomfort and enlightenment.

BY **EJ SON**

# **‘THIS IS NOT A SELF PORTRAIT 0.1’**



# **‘SURVIVORS’**



BY **LOU YOUNG**

Informed by intersectional feminist theory, Lou Young works across a range of media, primarily with digital illustration. Victims of sexual assault and harassment are often depicted as without autonomy, lacking in agency and as weakened from their former selves. This work aims to depict a group of survivors, strong and bold. The magnolia flower, representative of perseverance and strength, frames their faces as they stare down the viewer.



# President's Report

ISABELLA BROOK

Last Tuesday the Australian Human Rights Commission released their landmark report on sexual assault and harassment at Australian universities. At The University of Sydney 31% of students surveyed reported experiencing sexual harassment at university and 2.5% were sexually assaulted in a university setting. If you are sitting in a lecture with 100 students, its likely that 7 of your peers sitting in that

room will have been sexual assaulted in the past year and 50 of them will have been sexually harassed.

The prevalence of sexual assault at The University of Sydney is nothing new. For too long our university has protected perpetrators of sexual assault in order to protect their own branding and silenced survivors in the process. At the University of Sydney between 2011–2016 there were 52 formal reports of

sexual misconduct and 6 formal reports of sexual assault resulting in only one expulsion.

What is clear is that our university has failed us. They have failed to provide us with a safe campus free of sexual assault. They have failed to support survivors. They have chosen silence over action.

The fight against sexual assault on our campus does not end with the release of this report.

On Wednesday your SRC marched with hundreds of students across the state today to demand an end to sexual violence on our campuses. We will not be silenced. Your SRC will continue to fight for change and won't stop fighting until Sydney University takes action.

If you are needing support at this time you can make a free call to 1800 572 224 and speak to a 24/7 trauma specialist counsellor.

# Sexual Harassment Officers' Report

NINA DILLON BRITTON and JESSICA SYED

We write to you at a pivotal time regarding tangible progress relating to sexual assault and harassment on campus. The results of the Australian Human Rights Commission's (AHRC) national survey into sexual violence in Australian universities was released last week. Though its results were shocking, with more than half of students experiencing such violence in 2016, they were not surprising. In particular, they were not surprising for survivors who have been adamant about their experiences for years – experiences which Universities did not take seriously and in, in spite of this report, experiences that universities

will still not take seriously.

It's important to remember USyd's track record when an event like this puts its reputation in the limelight. Hastily condemning St Paul's College after a sexist Facebook post goes viral, absolutely committing to the recommendations put forward in the AHRC report, et cetera.

Then, behind our backs, deploying campus security to remove posters advertising the August 2nd anti-sexual violence rally, refusing to take on board the advice given by student representatives and survivors during consultative committees, not instating a sexual-assault specific counsellor within CAPS,

not publicising its own helpline for complaints. It's not good enough.

What we're saying to you is: don't let your guard down, and don't let USyd ride this PR wave. If you identify as a woman or non-binary person, join the USyd Wom\*n's Collective on Facebook and help continue to build the campaign. Call out rape culture if you spot it in your tutes or amongst your friends. Keep an eye out for rallies and events; take a stand.

Some good news: the National University Support Line is now active 24/7 until November 30; if you need to speak to a trauma-specialist counsellor, the number is 1800 572 224.

# International Students Officers' Report

HELENA NG WAI TING, YIFAN KONG, WENXIN FANG and ZHIXIAN WANG

During the last semester, our collective has organized a revue watching after the election, helping international students to get more familiar with Aussie humor culture, and wanting to make international fellas from uni before semester 1 ended. Collective officers saw a great interest from our collective members in watching the revue, and successfully get 11 fellas signed up, from both Facebook page and WeChat personal messages. At the same time, our new event officer got in touch with JEWS and they kindly offered us a discount price. We gave out free tickets, also were planning to arrange a social

dinner after the show. However, due to the miscommunication with both parties, the event had been cancelled one night before the show. Our officers and event officers showed our sincere apologies to all the students signed up for the inconvenience, and promised that we would organise better event in the second semester.

Our plans for semester 2:

1. The FairFare Campaign

New South Wales is the only state that does not offer travel concession to both under- and postgraduate international students. But we want you to have cheaper bus/train tick-

ets. We will do this by organizing campaigns in cooperation with other student organizations.

2. International Student Council Meeting

The International Student Council (ISC) is the consultative body to University of Sydney Union. International students basically tell USU what they want through this platform. Last year USU launched a new WeChat Official Account (Hooray!) to better communicating with Chinese international students on campus out of demands of the Council.

3. International Students Honi Soit

# Ethnocultural Officers' Report

RADHA WAHYUWIDAYAT, MADELINE WARD and SOPHIA CHUNG did not submit a report

# Queer Officers' Report

WILLIAM EDWARDS and CONNOR PARISSIS did not submit a report

# Disabilities Officers' Report

HANNAH MAKRAGELIDIS, NOA ZULMAN and MOLLIE GALVIN did not submit a report

**Note:** This page is given over to the office bearers of the Students' Representative Council. The reports below are not edited by the editors of *Honi Soit*.

## SHOW CAUSE WORKSHOPS

## Need to know what to put in your Show Cause letter?

The SRC holds Show Cause letter writing workshops **every Tuesday and Thursday in August at 1pm**

**SRC Services are FREE, independent and confidential.**  
We are located at: Level 1, Wentworth Building (G01),  
University of Sydney (02) 9660 5222 | [src.usyd.edu.au](mailto:src.usyd.edu.au)



## Ask Abe

SRC caseworker *HELP Q&A*

The Ask Abe column allows you to ask whatever question you might have that affects you as a student, gaining the best advice that a very worldly mutt\* can give.



### SRC Tax-Help Program

Dear Abe,

I'm really struggling with my taxes this year. I've gotten advice from friends, but have no idea if I'm filling out any forms correctly. Even though I don't make a lot of money, I want to claim tax back and don't want to get in trouble, or owe lots of money in return.

Sincerely,  
*Over-taxed*

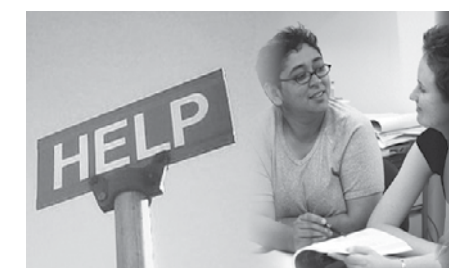
Dear Over-taxed,

The SRC hosts TaxHelp, a program that has Australian Taxation Office trained volunteers who will help you with your tax return if you are a USyd student

and earn around \$50,000 or less. That means we have ATO trained volunteers to help you complete your tax return. They can help you to get all of your deductions in order, and to complete your tax return. By submitting a correct tax return you will receive your tax refund as quickly as possible. This is usually 2 weeks.

Appointments are available during August to October each year. Bookings will be available in early July for appointments starting Week 1 of Semester 2. **To make a booking call 9660 5222 and ask for a TaxHelp appointment.**

Sincerely,  
*Abe*



### Need Help? See an SRC Caseworker

FREE support & advocacy

- Academic appeals & issues
- Centrelink advice • Tenancy
- Discrimination
- International student rights

(02) 9660 5222 | [www.srcusyd.net.au](http://www.srcusyd.net.au)

# Share Housing: Your Rights & Responsibilities as a Sub-Tenant

Reprinted from Tenant's Union NSW:

<https://www.tenants.org.au/factsheet-15-share-housing>



People in share housing usually have their own bedroom and share the rest of the premises. Your rights and obligations will depend on your legal status. Sub-tenants have rights and obligations under the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010*. Boarders and lodgers do not.

### Sub-tenant

You are considered a 'sub-tenant' if you are sharing with a tenant (their name is on the tenancy agreement for the premises) who has sub-let part of the premises to you under a separate written agreement. That person is a head-tenant. You have the rights and obligations of a tenant in relation to the head-tenant – that person is your landlord. Be aware 'sub-tenant' is different than being a 'co-tenant'. You are considered a 'co-tenant' where your name is on the tenancy agreement along with your housemates and you share the rights and obligations with the other co-tenant(s).

### Changing occupants – transfer or sub-letting

A tenant may transfer their tenancy under the tenancy agreement, or sub-let part of the premises, to another person with the landlord's written consent. If at least one original tenant on the tenancy agreement remains, the landlord must not unreasonably withhold consent.

If the landlord withholds consent, you can apply to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) for an order that allows the transfer or sub-letting. The Tribunal will decide if the landlord's withholding consent is unreasonable.

The landlord may withhold consent however, on some specific grounds (e.g. to comply with planning laws). You can download a sample sub-letting agreement at [tenants.org.au/share-housing-agreement](http://tenants.org.au/share-housing-agreement).

### Rent receipts

Whatever your tenancy status, you should get a receipt when you pay rent – unless you pay into a bank account.

### Bond money

Change of co-tenants If the tenants on the bond lodgement form change, fill in a 'Change of Shared Tenancy

Arrangement' form (from NSW Fair Trading – NSWFT). Have it signed by the person/s moving out, the person/s moving in and the landlord/agent. Return the form to Fair Trading. Even if you do not fill in a form, get a receipt from whomever you paid the bond to.

If you can, get a statutory declaration from the person who has moved out, stating that they got their bond back. This may help you claim back your bond if the tenancy agreement ends while you live at the premises.

The head-tenant must deposit your bond money with Fair Trading. They must also give you a receipt – unless details of the payment are recorded in your tenancy agreement.

### Leaving

If the other occupants want you to leave, the head-tenant must give you a 90-day termination notice during a periodic agreement, or a 30-day termination notice at any time before the end of a fixed-term agreement. If you want to leave, you must give the head-tenant a 21-day termination notice under a periodic agreement, or a 14-day termination notice before the end of a fixed-term agreement.

### Paying bills

If you have a contract with a phone, power, TV or internet service or supplier, you must ensure the bills are paid. If someone does not pay their share of the bills – except for electricity bills – you can take action in a Local Court to get the money back. See the chamber registrar at a Local Court, or contact a Community Legal Centre for advice.

### Resolving disputes

Speak with your head tenant about your rights as a subtenant. Keep a written record of any conversation you have or agreement that you make. If your head tenant refuses, get advice from your local tenant advocate about making a complaint or going to the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal. You can apply to the Tribunal to resolve certain kinds of disputes with your head-tenant. Contact your local TAAS for advice.

*Updated January 2014*



# G'day from the Presidents!

MARIAM MOHAMMED & KIRITI MORTHA  
- SUPRA PRESIDENTS

Welcome to Semester 2, postgraduates!

We hope most of you know SUPRA by now. If you don't: we are your Association, dedicated to providing free services to all postgrads. Whether you're doing coursework, research, part-time, distance study, or even an exchange - we are here to help! You can access our free advocacy and legal services when you have any trouble (we do hope you do not, but sometimes it just happens) in your studies or life outside University.

In addition to free help, we also run lots of free events for postgraduates. There is a well-loved Wine & Cheese night in the first week of every month, informational seminars, bush walks, picnics, pizza parties, and more. So if you have not already; subscribe for free on our website and follow our Facebook page to receive updates on what we have coming up for you soon.

*We are your co-Presidents for the next eleven months and we're here to help you enrich your post-graduate experience and make it more memorable.*

I (Mariam) am doing a Master of Development Studies, with a focus on gender development work. As a migrant and a Pakistani woman, issues of racial and gender inclusivity are especially important to me. I (Kiriti) am studying a Master of Public Policy. As an international student from India, improving the international experience in Australia is particularly close to my heart. I am passionate about building networks for international students to mobilise them.w

We are your co-Presidents for the next eleven months and we're here to help you enrich your post-graduate experience and make it more memorable. So come find us at our next event and say hi!



Photo: Joseph Hockey/USU

# Philament- A Journal for Postgrads

ZUSHAN HASHMI - SUPRA DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

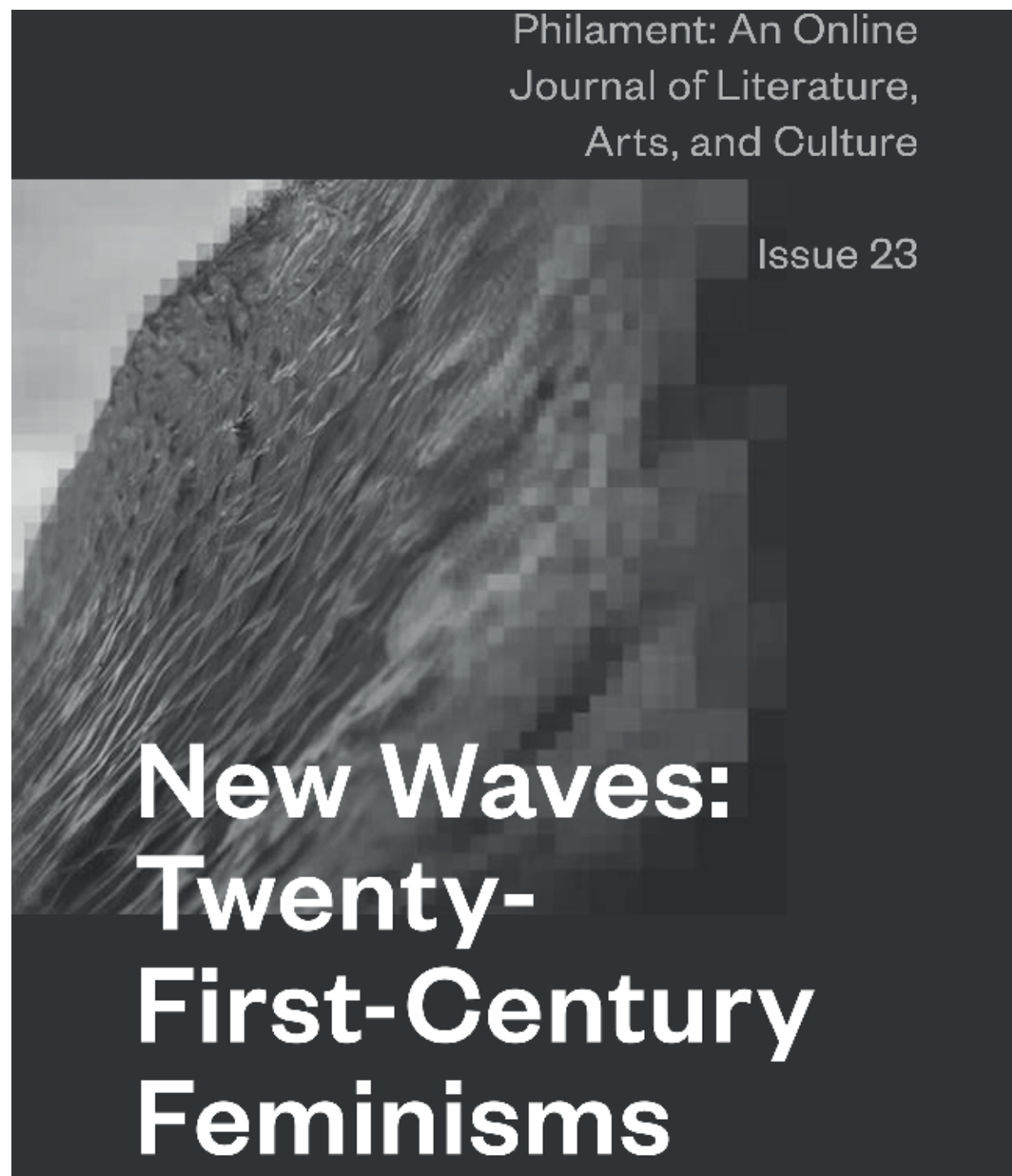


Photo: Philament Journal

Across the University, hundreds of HDR and post-graduate students aim to publish their research in an established, peer-reviewed academic journal. By doing so, they hope to advance their careers. After all, publishing is the lifeblood of the academic profession, and publishing unlocks doors. Finally getting that manuscript published might allow the author to enter a PhD program, to receive a scholarship, to undertake paid post-doctoral research, to receive a grant, or even to take up a lectureship.

For various reasons, however, it is becoming increasingly difficult for higher degree students to publish in academic journals. As numbers of post-graduates increase, there is growing competition among candidates; and likewise, stringent and often arcane selection criteria often dissuade bright students from submitting their manuscripts. In addition, a lack of publishing preparation and experience can put some students at a distinct disadvantage.

This is why it is encouraging to discover that there is a place for postgraduate and early-career academics to turn when they are establishing their publishing track record. Based at the University of Sydney, Philament: An Online Journal of Literature, Arts and Culture has been publishing high-quality research by postgraduate students and early-career academics since 2003, and will be publishing its twenty-third issue this month.

What is even more exciting is that the journal is edited, managed, and produced by postgraduate

students and early-career academics in the University of Sydney's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The journal accepts three types of submissions: fully referenced academic articles for peer review, 'Excursions' (creative works, such as poetry and dramatic works), and academic reviews of literary, artistic, dramatic, or cultural events or works.

Philament's primary aim is to support postgraduates and early-career academics throughout the process of developing, writing, and editing their submission, assisting them in mastering their academic writing skills, providing them with guidance and support in a spirit of open-minded generosity, and offering a strong, established, and respected platform on which to launch their research careers. Articles are peer reviewed; however, Philament does all it can to ensure that the article is at its best before it undergoes academic review. As a matter of course, contributors to Philament are invited to continue their work with the journal as editors, so that they may pass on their experience and lessons to others.

Soon, we will be getting in touch with the managing editor of Philament, Chris Rudge, and issue editor Blythe Worthy, to bring you an exclusive overview of the journal, to explain how you can publish your work in its pages, and to discuss its upcoming issue!

In the meantime, to learn more about Philament, please visit, <http://www.philamentjournal.com>.

# Universities must pay attention to diverse students in their response to sexual assault

MARIAM MOHAMMED - SUPRA CO-PRESIDENT | THIS ARTICLE WAS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE GUARDIAN ON 2 AUGUST

The Australian Human Rights Commission's report into sexual violence on Australian university campuses released on Tuesday puts a number on sexual assault and harassment. Now, universities can work to reduce those numbers and gloat about it afterwards. There is some merit in that.

The report makes nine recommendations for Australian universities to implement to make campuses safer for students. One of those recommendations is a review into the capacity and ability of university counselling services to assist survivors of sexual assault. It calls on universities to expand on the quality and quantity of on-campus counselling services available to students. I could not be happier that there is finally an official recommendation made to this end.

*A centre for rape victims is not the most accessible resource for international students and culturally and linguistically diverse (Cald) communities.*

University sexual assault report: 'degrading' college hazing described – as it happened

a relatable problem for the wider student and staff population.

For ongoing professional counselling, too, international students are more likely to access in-house support or support provided by their own community. Having RDVSA pick up the slack for universities is great. But it should not be a cop out of expanding and improving in-house counselling services. Campus counselling services should also be working with community organisations to refer international students and Cald students to their own community services, should that be more accessible for them.

Another neglected group so far has been post-graduate students experiencing unwanted behaviour from supervisors. The report puts some figures on it. University solutions need to be aimed specifically at the relationship between postgraduate students, their supervisors and university colleagues. These relationships are vastly different to the tutor/student relationship for undergraduate students.

A supervisor may be very influential in the work and career of their student, and therefore hold tremendous power over them. The relationship is also longer term and more one-on-one. 14% of postgraduates at the University of Sydney said that they did

ney University Postgraduate Representative Association, says:

*"If universities want survivors to report cases or the cases to drop, they need to make a strong statement about the consequences of such acts. If I am told at my inductions, the university website and my first lecture that I should consider this space as safe and the university will take immediate and serious action on cases reported, I am more likely to report. It also sends a strong message to potential perpetrators. As students, we need universities to completely support us and work closely in building these systems that incorporate our needs."*

We need all student groups to be a part of discussions aimed at tackling sexual assault, and we need solutions to be inclusive of all these groups too. Otherwise, universities will continue to fail a major cohort of their students.

# Invitation: Arts & Social Sciences Researchstudents

REBECCAJOHNSON-COUNCILLORATSUPRA

Please join us to share your concerns and suggestions about the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Higher Degree Research (HDR) STUDY SPACES. We will focus on the management and improvement of our study areas - Old Teacher's College, Fisher, Woolley, and Wallace. We will also discuss how to address the on-going shortage of desk spaces for FASS HDR students..

This is a STUDENT to STUDENT event

Following are the details regarding this event -  
Tuesday, 15th August  
Discussion time 4-5pm  
Socialising with your fellow FASS Research students 5-6pm.  
Cheese & drinks provided by SUPRA.

The Oriental Room in the Quadrangle Building  
Directions.

For further details and to pre-register discussion questions go to the Facebook group "FASS HDR Spaces".

For catering purposes, please RSVP to the Facebook page.



Photo: Eroc Australia

Australian universities respond to the long-awaited report from the Australian Human Rights Commission on campus sexual assault

At the University of Sydney, both staff and students have advocated for most support to be outsourced to Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia (RDVSA), also known as the Rape Crisis Centre. This has been seen as a massive win for students. There is merit in that, too.

But a centre for rape victims is not the most accessible resource for international students and culturally and linguistically diverse (Cald) communities. When we learn the English language, nobody really teaches us the word "rape", or what it means. It is a hard word to come to terms with. Diverse student representatives have raised this issue but it is a slightly harder agenda to push because it is not

not make a report because they are from a culture where discussing these things makes them feel uncomfortable. Once again, this is of concern because almost 48% of the University of Sydney's postgraduate population is international students.

To that extent, I am wary of how accurately the report represents the reality for international students and Cald communities. These are the communities that are less likely to opt into answering a survey on sexual assault. As a result of limited student representation, the particular needs of these students have occupied far less space in university discussions on tackling sexual assault. Among diverse student representatives, there is concern about the lack of response from universities targeted at Cald and religious communities.

Natasha Chaudhary, women's officer at the Syd-



Across

- 8. Pointless (6)
- 9. One who steers (8)
- 10. Plate (4)
- 11. Type of puppet (10)
- 12. Place of residence (4)
- 13. Satirical cartoon (10)
- 17. Rubber wheel (4)
- 18. South American beast (5)
- 19. TV award (4)
- 21. Cured ham (10)
- 23. Belonging to you (4)
- 24. While not present (2,8)
- 28. Direction (4)
- 29. Moisturiser ingredient (8)
- 30. Australian honey (6)

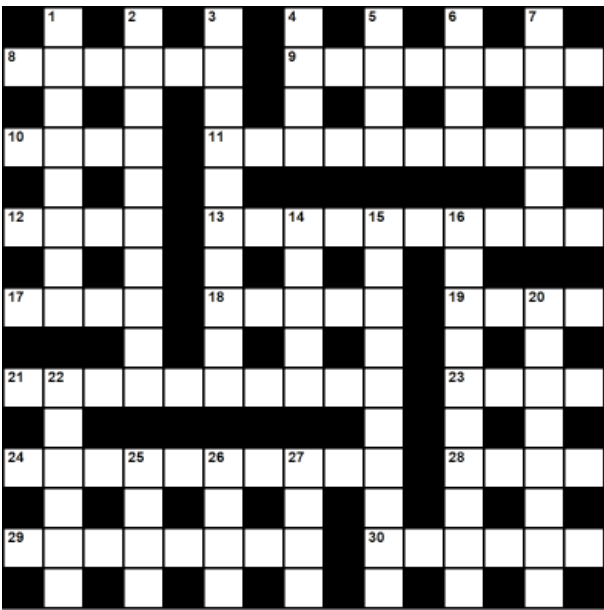
Down

- 1. Greed (8)
- 2. 1970s flight attendant (3,7)
- 3. Thin, clear noodles (10)
- 4. Low, continuous sound (4)
- 5. In addition (4)
- 6. Land surrounded by water (4)
- 7. Fail (6)
- 14. Respond with on-click on Facebook (5)
- 15. Formal national symbol (4,2,4)
- 16. Very small (5-5)
- 20. Eggplant-based dish (8)
- 22. Cause annoyance (6)
- 25. Composer (4)
- 26. Deserve (4)
- 27. Type of radio or TV show (4)

Quiz

- 1) 'Corgi' is a Welsh word. What does it mean?
- 2) What breed of dog has webbed feet?
- 3) How many muscles do dogs have in their ears?
- 4) What is the best breed of dog?

Cryptic



Across

- 8. Romeo's strangely ill-tempered (6)
- 9. No muesli-mixed milk, for example (8)
- 10. Release clock backwards (4)
- 11. Fat little bird to rotate through activities (5,5)
- 12. Almost collapse into hovel (4)
- 13. Marketing presentation for selling tar (5,5)
- 17. Cold cut store lied, somehow (4)
- 18. Central spinneret? (5)
- 19. Heartlessly instruct technician (4)
- 21. Cleaning agents discouragement men (10)
- 23. Dashed tango rave (4)
- 24. Bottleneck in trade improvisation (7,3)
- 28. A container is a little bit open (4)
- 29. Aim to cease encryption (3-2-3)
- 30. Liking score (6)

Down

- 1. Preparations for equations (8)
- 2. Net earnings for bum chain (6,4)
- 3. German persuasion is distressing (10)
- 4. Boyfriend looks good in France (4)
- 5. USyd building for sounds (4)
- 6. Go slow inside Scandinavian city (4)
- 7. Signs of serial killer? (6)
- 14. Flaxen bedding (5)
- 15. Worry Zuckerberg with accent indicator (6,4)
- 16. Bury trust between religions (10)
- 20. Aging con gets loose by dancing in a line (8)
- 22. Make a mistake and trip (6)
- 25. Celebrate messed up feet (4)
- 26. Hid each inner thought (4)
- 27. German yes, german stone (4)

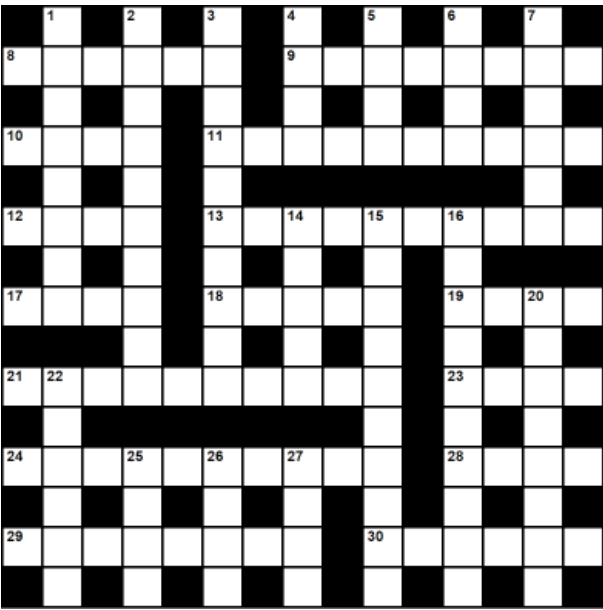
Target



Target Rules:  
Minimum four letters per word. 5 words: ace, 7 words: splendid, 12 words: amazing.

Quiz answers: 1) Dwarf dog 2) Newfoundlander 3) 18 4) Chow Chows, obviously.

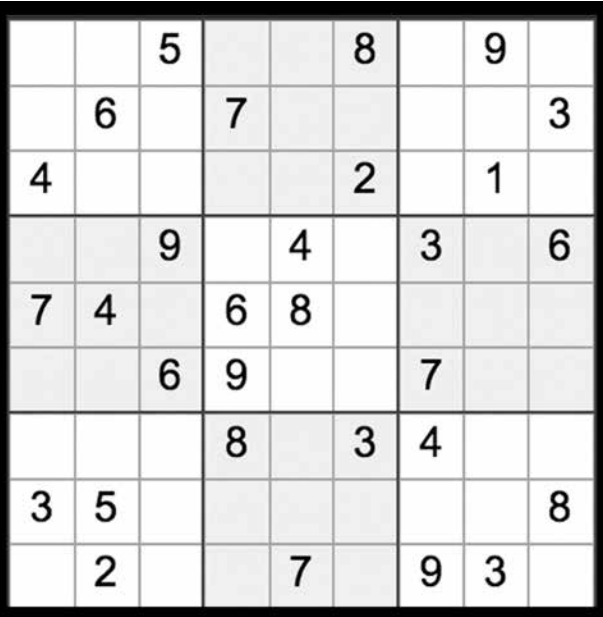
Quick



Crosswords by El Snake.

If you're interested in puzzles, check out CrossSoc, USyd's own crossword and puzzles society.

Sudoku



Honi Doctor

I'm interested in this person and I think it's reciprocated, however, I'm worried because I have a lot of trust issues when it comes to my body, and I don't know how to explain that it takes a long time before I'm ready to sleep with anyone. I feel like it will turn them off and I feel abnormal for wanting to wait! What's the best way of explaining my need for them to be patient without recalling past traumas and getting him to understand?

This is not as complex as you might think. You obviously like this person and don't want to lose their interest but have been told repeatedly by society that in order to maintain it, you need to have sex with them. Fortunately for you, this is complete bullshit! You're not abnormal. Despite what Cosmo or Hollywood movies would like us to believe, you can want to wait to have sex with someone without it being a case of 'making it special'. People do have the capacity to like you for you, rather than the possibility of having sex with you. You just need to trust that this person is one of those people.

Of course, there are people who aren't like this; they want a quick fuck and nothing more, which is not inherently a bad thing if you are clear about what you want. But if you think this person does like you, you should not have to detail why you want to wait. They should just accept it, because they care about you.

I know you know this, but if they aren't willing to wait, then they're a cunt and frankly don't deserve to with sleep you. Simple. **CT**

Honi Doctor is a newspaper column, not a real doctor, y'know.



The Camperdown Public Chatterbox



These people were mean to Law Revue. Image: FB.

Taking an unusual approach to marketing, Arts Revue has started a beef directly with Law Revue rather than doing it by proxy through Honi reviews. A post went up last week alleging that Law Revue had failed to include the University of Sydney Union logo on its marketing collateral. Including the USU's branding is a condition of receiving funding from the Union. Taking the approach of most powerful, well-funded institutions, the Law Revue has not responded. To be honest, it was a missed opportunity for some mutually helpful cross promotion. We'll keep you updated as this feud (hopefully) develops. When Arts Revue decided to try its hand at punching down however, it got a more immediate response. The Medicine Revue: Keeping up with the Kardiologists amended their event banner to feature the required USU image after being called out by Arts.

MEDIABOTCH

Conservative media constantly misreports stories about university campuses. Here, we've chosen the worst bits to break down for you.

University sexual assault report is a fraud of a study

Andrew Bolt, Herald Sun

Our favourite, Andrew Bolt :)

"WE should all be shocked," groaned Australian National University boss Brian Schmidt, who reporters said was "emotional" and "visibly upset".

Why are you calling VCs bosses? I get it but not quite the same. Please read about what a VC is.

Ask yourself: is it remotely likely that 51 per cent of all university students, male and female, were sexually harassed last year?

Is it likely that 6.9 per cent of our university students were sexually assaulted over the past two years — nearly 30 times the reported rate of violent South Africa? If Bolt thinks it isn't true... well... then it really must be a lie!

There's only one real scandal exposed by this article — that our universities must lack academics with the most basic research skills to spot how the taxpayer-funded HRC cooked the books. People still pay Andrew Bolt to write this.

having primed students for outrage, our 39 universities asked them to fill in an online survey to report how often they'd allegedly been harassed or assaulted.

I say "allegedly" because none of the claims was tested.

Ah yes, those anonymous survey takers and their results really should have been tested... somehow...

But here is the real problem with this survey: fewer than 10 per cent of students responded. As the HRC admits: "The survey data has been derived from a sample of the target population who were motivated to respond and made an autonomous decision to do so. It may not necessarily be representative of the entire student population."

This was addressed in the first few pages of the report. PLEASE do your homework.

But 90 per cent of students couldn't be bothered responding, perhaps because most didn't think there was a problem that needed fixing.

THIS IS NOT HOW DATA WORKS. That means the results could be exaggerated as much as tenfold.

Did you get these examples from 1980s MTV? Were you jealous of how cool/fun they were?

What exactly is "inappropriate staring" anyway? Does it include gawking at an angry female student with a purple mohawk and a "F--- Abbott" T-shirt? Or checking out a male with a peroxide do and bared abs?

Listen, Andrew... Tony's not coming back. Move on. It's okay. Accept it.

The survey's definition of sexual assaults is also broad and includes being "tricked into sexual acts against their will or without their consent, including when they have withdrawn their consent". THIS IS THE LITERAL DEFINITION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

So about 1 in 60 in two years — and that's not a problem? How bad does it have to get?

Only one in four of the alleged sexual assaults — 1.6 per cent of students over two years — actually occurred on campus or going to and from university. Doesn't that suggest that students are actually safer at university than anywhere else?

Scrap the Human Rights Commission. And buy some backbones for our university bosses. — Andrew, you can't buy bones! How many times have we gone through this?



# NSW Police convict record numbers after posting meme



The meme was titled: “Tag a mate who committed a felony. Heart react for murder, wow for assault.” **P4»**



## Lockouts set to vitalise Parramatta

**William Tandany**  
*Nightlife reporter*

Gladys Berejiklian’s administration has announced the introduction of comprehensive lockout laws, effective next month, in the city of Parramatta as part of the state government’s broad strategy to promote the district as a second CBD.

Sydney’s lockout regime introduced in 2014 affected many of the inner-city’s most vibrant entertainment precincts such as King’s Cross and Haymarket, and has been considered a resounding success by people that listen to 2GB.

The curfew policies in Parramatta will include new ‘innovative’ stipulations based on feedback from the Daily Telegraph’s opinion column.

As such, the lockout laws will extend to private residences where it will become illegal to enter a house after 1:30am or serve alcohol to yourself after 3:30am.

Similarly, businesses will not be permitted to trade past 11:00pm. These new regulations will also effect 24-hour services like



Artist’s impression of how crowded Parramatta will be at night.

# Use these 4 words to live longer: “Please, I have children”



How to bargain your way through any hostage situation and still avoid feeling survivor’s guilt. **P5»**

## PornHub to introduce premium 70mm category

**Oliver Moore**  
*Entertainment Reporter*



Simply marvelous quality.

Following the smash success of prestige films like Christopher Nolan’s Dunkirk, which use used traditional filmmaking methods in order to preserve the art of the genre, PornHub has announced that it will introduce a 70mm service available by subscription.

“We want to provide an outlet for big-name directors like Spielberg or Scorsese to produce porn that fit with their stylistic ideal,” said a PornHub spokesperson. “We envision this as a service for the real connoisseur, where those who are after a prestige porn viewing experience are able to have their tastes catered to.”

At this stage the service is only available by request. Although there is a backlog of historical 70mm pornography donated from Nolan’s personal collection, the service has yet to produce anything contemporary.

“We’ve got some big names in the tank,” assured the Pornhub spokesperson. “I’m not saying we’ve got Tarantino, but I’m not saying we’ve not got Tarantino either. After all, we’re one of the last places left with a market for analogue film and huge budgets. Plus, you can swear all you want and our audience certainly doesn’t mind bodily fluids going everywhere.”

# Forget marriage: Millennials now using expensive European holidays to solidify their relationships

**Cameron Gooley**  
*Political Reporter*

A new study from the University of Manchester has found that most millennial couples, rather than getting engaged, now consider successfully navigating Heathrow airport without murdering each other as a key indicator of a healthy relationship.

The study, which followed everyone you know from uni for six weeks over June and July, found only couples that sailed under Venice’s Bridge of Sighs without a passive aggressive dig about lost chapstick achieve long term happiness.

Clear indicators of unsuccessful relationships were arguments over the pronunciation of Barcelona, intermittent crying over lost luggage in Prague, and not being able to afford a Eurotrip with your partner of six months in the first place.

Eric Baxter, a second year Liberal Arts and Sciences student, told Honi that his recent trip overseas was quite the test for his relationship of 8 weeks.

“Like, your first overseas trip really makes or breaks your relationship in my opinion. It’s just a really adult situation that most people my age struggle to cope with,” said the unemployed 21-year-old who somehow paid for a \$13,000 trip while paying token “rent” to his parents.

“When Henry and I were in Paris I accidentally spilled some black coffee on his Supreme x Comme des Garçons shirt. Henry was furious with me — he’s a Media student, so his self worth is assessed by how much tacky street wear he owns.”

“We had a tough three days after that. I realised he didn’t have a personality, but then after sitting on it for a few days I decided that he was conventionally attractive and middle class enough for it not to matter. We’ve been appearing functional on Instagram ever since.”

Myself and many others oppose the idea of an Australian republic purely to spite Peter FitzSimons

Politics **P9»**  
Maani Truu

# Christian not really happy enough for someone who thinks they’ll be spending eternity in paradise

**Jayce Carrano**  
*Local Reporter*

Mark Thompson, a devout Christian, spent four hours yesterday evening angrily posting in a Facebook group called “Marrickville ranting/complaints” about dogs running around his local park without leashes.

Samantha Jones, who has been Mark’s neighbour for nearly two decades and Facebook friend for four months, said this was not unusual behaviour.

“Oh, he’s always complaining. Just last week he posted a five hundred word rant about a house on our street that was having a party,” Samantha said. “I don’t really get it. He’s around fifty, he only has to wait like what, thirty years to cark it? Then, he thinks he’ll be in literal nirvana for literally eternity. Don’t know why he lets little things like this bother him.”

Mark’s brother, James, does not share his



This man believes he will spend perpetuity in the Kingdom of Heaven but he still won’t smile.

## The tent city should be dismantled. Only one group should be able to use Sydney’s public spaces: irritating brands

**Aidan Molins**  
*CBD Correspondent*

Over the last several months there has been a group blatantly misusing Sydney’s famous plaza, Martin Place. They are supposedly ‘homeless’ (if they are without a home why don’t they just go back to their homes? Perhaps this is a bigger question for another article.)

Tangents aside, the cost to everyday individuals like myself is enormous: for example, I must walk slightly longer on my daily commute around this encampment (a distance I calculated to be twenty whole meters). But more importantly, the tent city displaces the existence of a group far more important to society: brands.

Regardless of one’s political beliefs, there is one thing upon which we can all agree: it is far more important to have brand building operations of giant, multinational corporations than to provide a temporary liveable space to society’s most vulnerable people.

sibling’s beliefs and instead assumes that when he dies his consciousness and memories will be obliterated instantaneously and any semblance of his personal experience will cease forever.

“When I’m done, I’m done,” Mark said. “So I think it makes sense for me to get mad when some road warrior cuts me off in traffic because my time’s always running out. But Mark’s the one yelling about cyclists hogging the road.”

Mark said that he often tells James that he could learn a lot from other religious believers.

“I think that Dalai Lama guy has a better grip. I mean, his people are being oppressed as we speak and he could come back to life as an insect rather than living as a divine spirit in heaven but the bloke’s still laughing all the time. Meanwhile Mark gets stroppy when Pip [Mark’s wife] doesn’t get full cream milk.”

“Don’t even get me started on why he cares so much about whether or not gay people get married.”

Take Uber, a humble ridesharing company based in San Francisco, California. Until recently this benevolent giant gracefully paid brand representatives to stand and hand out “ten dollars off your first ride” vouchers to finance workers on their lunch break. Now? These friendly folks are nowhere to be seen.

Where is Uber’s justice? Where is the justice for British backpackers who earn extra drinking money by working for marketing companies to sell passers by charity subscriptions? Where is the justice for brands like TAB, who uses Martin Place to sell gambling to members of the public on Melbourne Cup day? When will we take their needs into consideration?

Moreover, the tents themselves are an eyesore. Why can’t there be something more beautiful in our public spaces — like a stand that sells bluetooth connected crocs or a food truck that sells burrito bowls for \$45 dollars each?

One thing is clear: nothing could be worse for public interest than a group of people simply trying to survive and mind their own business.



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