



## University of Baltimore Law Forum

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# THE FORUM

VOLUME VI

NUMBER 3

MARCH, 1976

State's  
Attorney  
Sandra  
O'Connor:  
An Interview



See p. 4

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MARCH, 1976

VOLUME VI, NUMBER 3

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Letters to the Editor

Editor  
The Forum Law Journal  
The School of Law  
University of Baltimore  
1420 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Editor:

In the last issue of the FORUM at p. 10, in "The Malpractice Wrangle," Mr. Marvin Ellin was quoted as saying that the "average physician" grosses \$200,000 a year. This is not correct. What Mr. Ellin did say was that the average neurosurgeon and/or orthopedist in established practice (over five years) grosses over \$200,000 a year. There is a big difference between the income of the two surgical specialties as opposed to that of the general practitioner or internist.

Arthur M. Frank

Dear Editor:

The official law school bulletin board (formerly located on the 3rd floor) has been moved to the 2nd floor outside of the Law School Office, room 206. On this bulletin board will be posted class assignments, class cancellations, notices, and other pertinent information which students should check for on a daily basis. It is the student's responsibility to keep abreast of information posted there, such as information on registration, class notices, and the like.

Dear Editor:

Since I was last year's Vice-President

of the Student Bar Association, I feel somewhat competent to comment on this year's SBA Administration.

I have had occasion several times this year to discuss SBA matters not only with the officers, but also with the class representatives. I must admit that many things I personally considered to be virtually impossible to accomplish this current year are indeed being accomplished. The possibility of a separate graduation for the law students, although not yet a reality, is for the first time a subject of serious discussion. The open-exam policy is, because of the SBA, being endorsed for at least another semester. The students, again through the efforts of the SBA, have obtained increased representation on significant faculty committees.

Concurrently, there has also been substantial productivity in respect to the Honor Court. The implementation of a new Honor Code, coupled with a change in the majority of Justices on the Court, could have led to disastrous results. However, the desire to make the Court work on a regular and functional basis has produced the best of results. We have imposed great pressure on the Court, and they have performed most admirably.

Conceding that it is inevitable for all student organizations to have inherent weaknesses, I firmly believe that both the SBA and the Honor Court have fulfilled, to the maximum, most of the difficult

tasks they have undertaken. I wish to extend my personal congratulations and thanks, and wish them similar success for the remainder of the school year.

Charles W. McGuire

Editor:

Considerable student discussion exists regarding the varying, but generally downward, trend of law school grades. Without going into the merits of such a trend, it is felt by a great many students that publication of the grade spread for each course by the pertinent professor would have the advantage of allowing the student to ascertain his relative standing within the particular group. A few professors presently follow this practice on an irregular basis.

Such a practice should be urged on the Law School administration. Implementation could be easily effected within the individual classrooms or, in a better fashion, by requiring such a breakdown to be submitted to the administration along with the grades for subsequent posting on the bulletin board.

Gilbert Wilkes

Editor:

Circumstances have made it clear to me recently that the almost-disbanded group F.E.M.L.A.V.S. must be revitalized; this rash revitalization is necessary because of the "clear and present danger" to the sanctity of our third floor women's room.

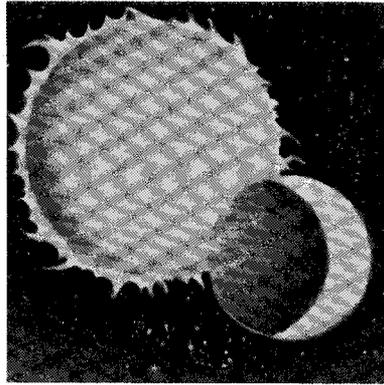
When we at F.E.M.L.A.V.S. applied the Supreme Court's "two prongs" test, we discovered — to our amazement — that the emergency situation existing now at our women's room meets all the established criteria for this test. Additionally, our case, both on the merits and jurisdictionally, is analogous to the recent Supreme Court case *Suburban New Jersey v. Ten Sex-Starved Matrons*, 999 S. Ct. 2628, reported elsewhere in this issue of *The Forum*.

To get to the facts in F.E.M.L.A.V.S.' case: (1), there is so little light available in the women's room that we are unable to exercise our constitutionally-protected right to wear make-up. Furthermore, the dimness of the lighting makes it dangerously difficult to distinguish between our six urinals and our four toilets. This, we believe is risky business; and (2), there is no resting place for our books and pocketbooks, with the exception of balancing them on the urinals — again, a risky business!

If it please the school, might F.E.M.L.A.V.S. have one 1000-watt bulb for the third floor bathroom as well as a board long enough to cover the urinals, thus creating a resting place for our books, bags and bodies. The Baltimore City ordinance pertaining to light fixtures in restrooms, (Sec. 313-15), guarantees to women's rooms containing six urinals "...said urinals shall be made inoperative, and said urinals shall, to the exclusion of any other section of this subtitle, be transformed in their use into fixtures appropriate to the 'little ladies' (sic.) of our community."

We beg the school's indulgence in this matter.

S. Timmerman Tepel  
Chairperson, F.E.M.L.A.V.S.



## The Night Side

by Dave King, President, ESBA

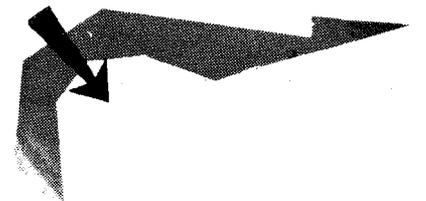
Recently, the Evening Student Bar Association completed compiling the results of the teacher evaluation. The purpose of this evaluation was to get the students' view regarding the quality of instruction at the University of Baltimore.

This semester, we used a more simplified evaluation form than has been used in the past in the hope that it would be more to the point and more easily compiled. Any comments regarding the questions on the form or suggestions for future evaluations should be forwarded to me in the ESBA office.

The main objection to student evaluation of teachers is that it is totally ignored by the faculty and administration. This is simply not so. The problem has been that, in the past, students have been quite lenient when it comes to grading their professors. Teachers who can only be called poor have been getting average grades. Consequently, students wondering why the teachers are still around would find that it is due to a lack of objectivity and frankness on their part.

One of the things that the administration looks for is a trend in the evaluation of a particular teacher. For instance, if a

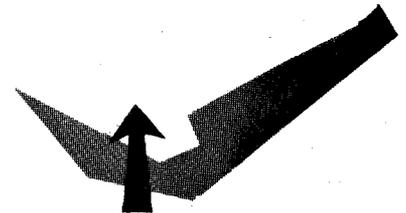
professor gets poor grades one semester, it is hoped that he will look over the comments given to him and that he will seek to improve his style of teaching. Only when a teacher receives continually poor grades and similar comments will administrative action take place. Necessarily, this process takes time. However, the administration and the ESBA are aware of evaluation results and will be watching for trends.



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**JUSTICE**, noun. A commodity which in a more or less adulterated condition the State sells to the citizen as a reward for his allegiance, taxes and personal service.

**AMBROSE BIERCE**  
*The Devil's Dictionary*