

Memorandum

To: President John X. Jamrich
From: The Human Rights Commission
Date: December 16, 1969

The Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Commission has spent the entire day today investigating the matter concerning the charge, trial, and verdict in the Charles Griffis case handed down by the All-University Student Judiciary, and the Commission concurs in the following recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee.

There is insufficient evidence to establish the accused's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. He also failed to receive due process of law. The whole matter was handled inconsistently with due process. We feel the student was judged mainly on how much punishment he should receive, not if he was guilty. We would like to initiate a recommendation that this matter be declared a nullity for the following reasons:

- 1) The investigation in the first instance by the Resident Assistant was based upon an alleged anonymous phone call. Based on that report the Resident Assistant went into the room and did not have a warrant to search the room. While initially he may have gone in and simply looked, there was a second entry into the room when it was searched (it is well-established and has been confirmed by Mr. Sheldon Siegel, an attorney in the School of Business, that if anything is moved, such action constitutes a search).
- 2) The Ad Hoc Committee can find no proof of the positive identification of the alleged unauthorized occupant.
- 3) There is apparent hostility toward the accused individual on the part of those who sat in judgment at the trial. It was also indicated that it is not a question of whether or not there was a woman in the room but of the attitude of the accused. This is substantiated in the tape. This casts doubt on whether the judgment was based on the finding of guilt or dislike of an attitude.
- 4) There is evidence that in similar cases in the past the student was simply given social probation and permitted to remain in school. The verdict in this case is that Griffis be suspended for the remainder of this semester and next semester as well. This is an extreme penalty in view of the fact that if allowed to remain in school he would graduate

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in June. This was the student's first offense and would require aggravated guilt to justify such action.

We are prepared to submit a complete statement together with a copy of the tape of the trial documenting this entire recommendation very shortly.

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cc: All-University Student Judiciary
Student-Faculty Judiciary
Dr. Allan Niemi
Dr. Lowell Kafer
Dr. Norman Hefke

James J. Dunn
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* ad hoc committee