

# BROADSIDE

## HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL

# Commentary on the Flaws of Council's Condom Motion

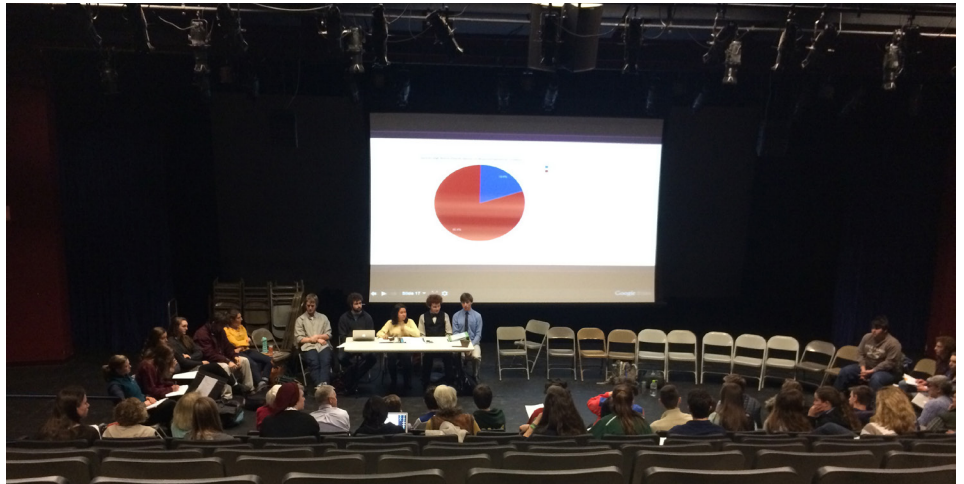
*Vincent Moore - Staff Reporter*

Council met last Wednesday during break in the auditorium to discuss and possibly vote on the condom motion. In attendance were two experts on the issue, the entire Broadside staff, the school nurse, and several interested students. Everyone in Council seemed confident that this motion would be a cakewalk, and frankly so did I. How could we have been so wrong?

Before I get into that, I'll follow up on an issue that I brought up in my previous article. My main concern was the cost to the taxpayer that this motion might have brought, but that was subsided when Council claimed that Planned Parenthood would cover the costs. If I were to list all of the shady dealings that Planned Parenthood engages in, including some of the accusations of racism against it, this article will end up being 10 pages long, so I won't for the reader's sake. If Planned Parenthood wants to waste George Soro's money on buying condoms for us, who am I to complain?

I really appreciated the fact that Council brought in actual experts, who brought very good insight on the subject. Some in Council commented on the fact that since they could not find an expert who disagreed with the motion, the motion is flawless. That makes sense, right? Not really. Let's take a closer look. One guest had tremendous experience with schools providing condoms. She claimed that schools giving out free condoms generally have lower teen pregnancy rates, which is true to a certain extent, but mainly in areas where it is a major issue. That's when any measure taken is to have at least some effect on the issue. But the last time I checked, we're not having constant teen pregnancies here at HHS, so I doubt handing out free condoms will do anything to lower our pregnancy rate even further. The truth is, teen pregnancy just isn't as big of an issue that Council wants us to think it is.

Council really tripped over its own feet when a suggestion was brought up to have the nurse interact with the student who takes the condom, which defeats the entire purpose of the motion about avoiding the embarrassment of buying them from a store. At least when I buy a condom from a store I don't have the clerk show me how to put one on using a banana where all my friends can see. Based on the survey, a large percentage of parents agreed that there should be some in interaction involved, so Council's going to have to clear that up somehow.



*Representatives from council presenting the Motion*

Council then mumbled about how anyone who disagreed with the motion shouldn't even bother complaining and that by doing so they're trying to ruin things for everyone else. Wow. It's in the video archives if you want to hear it for yourself. That statement was later recanted by Council, so I won't press the issue any further at the moment.

Council later went on to explain how people who have the resolve to not have sex in high school are the most vulnerable to having unsafe sex, because according to Council's logic none of us can control our animalistic instincts long enough to plan ahead of time to have safe sex, which is why we apparently need to have easy access to condoms at school. That kind of thinking completely dehumanizes to consensual sex and you: the students of HHS. And unless I've been living on the Planet of the Apes for the past three years without noticing, I'm 100% confident that you, my fellow students, are responsible enough to not behave like a wild sex crazed animal while at school or anywhere in public.

Debate was beginning to wind down when Mr. Murphy got up and delivered a speech. I highly suggest that you watch it in the archives yourself, as I cannot possibly give his speech justice by trying to write it down. What I will tell you is that he brought to light everything that was wrong with the motion: its preference of male protection over female protection, its moral flaws, and the fact that most students can afford condoms easily. Council then adjourned, leaving everyone with either a look of shock over his dissenting opinion that he "dared" bring up in regards to the motion, or with a look of admiration for his bravery to speak his mind. Whether or not you agree with the motion or not, we should all follow Mr. Murphy's example and always be

willing to exercise our first amendment rights, no matter the stakes.

Council meets again this Wednesday to discuss the condom motion some more. I again urge you all to tell Council to NOT pass the motion, for the sake of the school's image of being a home to responsible and thoughtful students.

## It's a Bird! It's a Plane! It's a Gundam!

*Daniel Rorke - Staff Reporter*



The Gundam series is to Japan what Star Trek is to America, a sci-fi adventure in space, with cool technology and battles. However, Gundam has giant robots, or Mecha, instead of aliens and spaceships. Since the 90s, Gundam has been making Alternate Universes for its shows, allowing for many new settings and ideas to be used without worrying about continuity.

Gundam Wing aired on Cartoon Network in the 90's. It was hugely popular, part of this success is from the fantastic trailer Cartoon Network made for the show.

*Continued on Back*

# Open Letter to Mr. Murphy

Caleb Winberry - Staff Reporter

Dear Mr. Murphy

Although I didn't agree with much that you said in council on Wednesday, I would like to thank you for having the courage to stand before a very liberal body and speak your dissenting opinion in an environment that emphasizes unanimous agreement on everything.

Please consider that an apology, since my letter breaks down what I remember of your speech point by point. I really do admire that you spoke when everyone wanted you to remain silent.

1. Premarital sex is wrong.

Premarital sex is not wrong. Bad sex - whether it be abusive or unprotected or any other way sex could be bad - is. Some logic to accompany this:

Studies show that people who have sex are happier. About as much happier as making another \$50,000 a year. And it's good for your health.

More data shows that relationships with feminist values, ones of equality in the relationship and life at large, are the most successful. Feminism advocates sexual liberty, and that includes premarital sex.

Marriage doesn't make something wrong right. Especially with couples who waited until marriage to have sex, sex is viewed as something bad. The change is that they feel it doesn't apply within their marriage.

There's something disgusting with the notion of sexual purity. Purity means freedom from contamination. By using purity to describe someone's lack of sexual contact, people unconsciously equate abstinence with morality, which in itself isn't a bad thing. The issue is that purity is

almost exclusively a concept aimed at women. This leads to thinking that their morals are based on how well they keep their shame-cave shut. There's really no equivalent for men, so that's why the idea of "saving yourself for marriage" is bad. It's really misogynistic.

Perhaps most importantly, people have different sexual desires and needs. With 50 Shades of Gray a national blockbuster, BDSM comes quickly to mind. Some men and women like it rough, and if they don't have sex before marriage they don't get an opportunity to experiment and find a sexual partner that satisfies them.

I don't want to suggest sexual incompatibility is only for kinky stuff. Even the most vanilla sexual tastes aren't necessarily compatible if one partner wants more intercourse than another. I've read stories of couples where it was found out that one partner was having an extramarital relationship because they weren't able to have as much sex as they wanted with the one they loved. In these stories, it ended in divorce because the faithful party felt too lied to to continue the marriage.

2. Extramarital sex is wrong.

I actually agree with this. Both parties entered into a legally binding contract that stated that they would be exclusive sexual partners together, and breaking that contract isn't okay. Much worse though is betraying the trust of someone who loves you enough to enter that contract with you. However, if one has asked and their partner has consented to having an extramarital relationship, then it's fine.

3. The school distributing condoms amounts to an endorsement, or at least acceptance of, premarital sex.

While distributing condoms amounts to accepting premarital sex, and I'm sure many school and community members feel the same way you do, it's important to remember that premarital sex isn't bad. Really, distributing condoms is a health concern. The kids are going to be having sex anyway, and if we as a community can remove as many barriers as possible between those sexually active students and appropriate sexual protection, it is our duty to do so.

4. The age of consent in New Hampshire is 16 and having sex with someone less than 16 is a felonious sexual assault.

The age of consent in New Hampshire is 16. A 16 year old can legally have sex with anyone older than them. Having sex with someone under the age of consent is indeed a sexual assault, with one glaring exception. Colloquially, it's a Romeo and Juliet law. Legally, it's RSA 632-A:3 II. If a person has sex with someone between the ages of 13 and 16, it is not assault unless they are more than four years older than the other person.

5. In the past, HHS decided to put a smoking room in the school because they recognized that the students were going to smoke anyway. Students heavily used the room before the community decided that they should have to smoke on the back steps, which were then heavily trafficked by smokers. The school also looked the other way when they knew students were having keg parties for graduation. Now, there's no smoking anywhere on school grounds and the school hosts its own substance-free graduation party. Providing condoms at school would be analogous to the smoking room.

*Continued at Broadside.dresden.us*

*Cont. It's a Bird! It's a Plane! It's a Gundam!*

The reaction to the show in Japan is similar to what happened when Star Trek fans saw the J.J. Abrams reboot. Existing fans were torn between hating it for being different, or liking its new approach to the old formula. New fans proclaimed it as the Greatest Thing Ever, which didn't help its reputation.

**Plot:**

In the future, humanity has united into the Earth Alliance. The Earth

Alliance has led an effort to construct massive space stations called space colonies, that people could live in. The space colonies seek to be independent, but the Earth Alliance does not agree with that. They begin using giant robot armors called Mobile Suits to occupy the colonies. In an act of rebellion, the colonies send 5 prototype Mobile Suits to Earth, disguised as shooting stars. This is the opening scene of the series, Operation Meteor.

The prototype Mobile Suits, known

as Gundams, began a guerilla battle to defeat the Earth Alliance. Between these two sides is the mysterious OZ, a weapon-making organization that makes Mobile Suits for the Earth Alliance, and seems to have their own agenda. Over the first two episodes, the pilot of the Wing Gundam, Heero Yuy, begins to integrate into Earth society, while attempting to retrieve his Wing Gundam after it was intercepted by the Alliance.

*Continued at Broadside.dresden.us*

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