Dorm Students

I feel it is a necessity and the right of every dorm student to be informed of all the activities, and of all progress being made with the 'Opinion Poll' taken in December, 1969.

At this time these findings and a report submitted to the Board of Regents will appear, explaining in detail how this poll originated, the actual figures for each individual question, and a suggested program for co-educational living.

A Report and Analysis of the Poll

The findings are as follows:

#2) "Do you feel that having three students in a dorm room is an acceptable arrangement, as far as living space, studying arrangements, etc. are concerned?"

-- male total- 93% voted NO!
--female total- 95% voted NO!

#3) "(Girls only) Do you feel that desk duty is a necessary function?"

-- female total- 97% voted NO!

#4) "What time do you feel WEEKDAY curfews should be for female dorm residents?"

-- male total- 86% voted to ABOLISH curfews. Female total - 64% voted to ABOLISH curfews. The complete total then would be- 72% to ABOLISH curfews.

#5) "What time do you feel WEEKEND curfews should be for female dorm residents?"-- male total- 92% to ABOLISH curfews. Female total- 92% voted to ABOLISH curfews.

#6) "How late should WEEKDAY parietal hours extend in the GIRL'S dorms?" (only female total will be given: REFER to report given to Regents) -- female total- 42% voted for unlimited parietals.

#7) How late should WEEKEND parietal hours extend in the Girls' dorm?" -- male total- 80% voted unlimited parietals. Female total- 72% voted to unlimited parietals. Combined total- 75% for unlimited parietals.

#8) "How late should WEEKDAY parietal hours extend in the BOYS' dorm?" -- male total- 76% voted unlimited parietals. Female total- 75% voted unlimited parietals- combined totals 75% for unlimited parietals.

#9) "How late should WEEKEND parietal hours extend in the BOYS' dorm?" -- male total-85% voted unlimited parietals. Female total- 88% voted unlimited parietals. Combined total- 87% for unlimited parietals.

#10) "Various plans for establishing coed dorms have been suggested. Which ONE of the following plans comes closest to your point of view?"

a) "Male and female dorm students should reside on alternate floors." -- received totally 26%. Females gave this type 34% while the males gave this type only 12%.

b) "One suite on each floor should be male dorm students, the other female dorm students."

-- received totally 28%. Females gave this type 29% and the males gave it 27%.

c) "Within each suite, some rooms should be girls, and others, boys." Totally this type received 22%. Males favoring this type with 47%, the females giving this type only 6%.

d) "Coed dorms of any kind are unacceptable."

-- this received totally 22%. Males voted 12% and females voted 28%.

NOTE: One must keep in mind when looking at these figures that a total of 76% of the entire dormitory population voted for some type of coed living. Because of this -- these opinions cannot be ignored.

These findings were distributed to the Resident Judicial Board on February 2, 1970, for their approval. At this time the R.J.B. is still discussing these findings.

The changing of rules in the dorms is up to our 'representatives' on the R.J.B. We plead with them . . . for speedy action on the matter at hand. Anyone can pick up a copy of this poll at the S.A. office.

To the R.J.B. -- we must work together to achieve this common goal -- The students' will.

NOTE: To whom it may concern:
The TRUTH hurts no matter how tactfully one puts it.
"The Truth Shall Make Us Free."
Sincerely,
Mark A. Bauman
Senator from School of Education.

A Report And Analysis Of The Poll

by
The Resident Advisory Committee
Of the Student Association

BACKGROUND: This poll originated with the sincere concern of several dormitory students, who questioned the state and effects of the outdated dormitory regulations that are now in existence and the attitudes and overall outlook of other student living on campus.

The Student Association then formed the Resident Advisory Committee as an 'action' group. This Committee proceeded to advise the Resident Judicial Board of the importance of an opinion poll as a means of desperately needed communication.

After concluding debate, the distribution of the poll was agreed upon by the R.J.B. with one stipulation: that question No. 1, which read "Do you as a dorm student feel you have enough say in the making of dormitory regulations?" would be crossed off and not be answered by anyone.

The Poll was then administered and tabulated under the joint supervision of the Student Association and the Resident Judicial Board. 762 dorm residents out of a possible 1,100 students took part, the percentage of response being 70%.

EXPLANATION: All of the total results can be easily interpreted and opinions can be seen in the attached tables, except for questions No. 6 and No. 10.

No. 6—"How late should weekday parietal hours extend in the girls' dorms?" To keep from limiting freedom of choice, one must agree with the fact that this question concerns only females directly. Because of this, ONLY the percentiles of female students should be examined for the purpose of filing recommendations. Therefore, the Committee recommends that each female dormitory should decide for itself what weekday parietals they want. We feel that 12:00 P.M. will be their minimum choice because of its receiving 29% of the total, and that unlimited parietal hours may be their maximum choice.

No. 10—This question was concerned with the idea of the possibility of instituting some type of co-educational living. A total of 76% of the students living on campus voted YES for such living arrangements as were listed on the poll.

We therefore propose the following trial program for co-ed living within the present facilities:

I. One dormitory unit should be designated for this trial arrangement for the 1970-71 year. This unit should be one of the ones equipped with an intercom system.

II. Each house should be divided as follows: a.) The fourth floor should be divided between suites-one suite male, the other female. b.) The third floor should be male and the second floor should be female. This arrangement received 34% of the total. c.) the first floor suite should be divided into sides, two rooms should be female and the other two rooms male. This set up would maintain privacy for the bathrooms. This type of living received 28% of the total.

III. Dorm supervision—The dorm should preferably be counseled by a young married couple, so as to allow association and limiting the generation gap.

IV. Selection—No student under twenty-one years of age should be allowed to live in this environment without parental permission in writing. All upperclassmen should have a chance to live there on a first come first served basis. No freshmen at all should be allowed to live there during the first semester; we feel that making the adjustment to college life is enough of a problem for incoming students and we honestly feel they could not handle this type of freedom at the same time.

The organization of this dorm should be done during this year (1970) so that all parties involved would know before hand who, what living conditions, and what rules would be in effect.

V. Evaluation of the trial period—A committee should be set up composed of members of the Board of Regents, the Resident Judicial Board, and the Student Association. This committee would then either interview each participating student or write another poll and have it distributed. This committee would then analyze all of the information acquired and make recommendations to all concerned groups next winter (1970) pertaining to keeping co-ed dorms as a permanent part of resident living on campus, or for allocating more time to make sure about all of the possibilities of co-ed living, or finally, for discontinuing co-ed living as not aiding the University.

CONCLUSION: In our eyes there does not seem to exist any barriers that cannot be overcome in satisfying the expressed wishes of the students as soon as possible. We recommend that all of the policies indicated in the tables be instituted early in the Spring Semester 1970.

At this time we would also like to say that from the poll it seems quite obvious that there is definitely something wrong with the rate of policy changes and the direction in which the Resident Judicial Board and the University is headed. It can be seen from this poll that the opinions and attitudes of the students are moving in one direction and their so-called representatives on the R.J.B. are moving in another. This poll continues to show the absolute discontent on a now voiceful majority.

Before this poll was conceived, the outlook of the student living on campus was one of pessimism. The truth of this can be seen in the apathy which reigns supreme in the students of the University of Hartford. Now there is some hope.

This University must realize the importance of moving along with the times. We can say with true conviction that, if the University steps backwards instead of forewards on the modernization of attitudes and policies, then the death of this University can be seen just around the corner. We realize that the Board of Regents will look at these changes from a business viewpoint, but there is more to what this University should be than running at a profit.

Mark Baumann
Charles Levin
for the ~~Committee~~
1-15-1970.