



# Scheduling Flaw Stymies Grinnellians for Rubio



Above: Senator Rubio crumples up a Self-Gov sign as staffers work on damage control

**H Y V E E A N D BROWNELLS**— Facing crowds as large as twenty people, Senator and presidential candidate Marco Rubio visited Grinnell last Tuesday as part of a trip through Iowa. He stopped at Hy-Vee and Brownells during his visit.

While many at the college had planned on going to the event, due to a scheduling miscommunication no students attended.

According to student Shiri Walker '19, "On Facebook it said Rubio was visiting on the 25th. I was excited to go and I invited all of my friends to the event. I really got into it, I posted something on my Timeline and everything, the whole nine yards. I was shocked and disappointed when I heard that he had actually visited on the 24th.

And it was in the campus calendar and the memo wrong too."

A few students realized the mistake by reading official publicity about the event. Jerry Chua '18 gathered a group of students to attend, but was unable to find either Hy-Vee or Brownells.

Said Chua, "We drove around for at least half an hour but my phone had died and no one else had a smartphone, so we had absolutely no way of using a map. None of us ever even realized that Grinnell had other grocery stores besides McNally's or Walmart, or even that the town extended past Walmart at all."

The Rubio campaign was originally planning on visiting the College to avoid a similar mishap and be able to tap into the strong base of support

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## Grinnell Kicks Holiday Season

JRC-In years past, the town of Grinnell has kicked off the season with several holiday-themed events, such as caroling and Jingle Bell Holiday. This year, however, the town has decided to take a different approach to the holidays. Rather than kicking off the season, the town has instead decided to kick the season.

"We have decided to change things up a little," stated a Grinnell City resident, as their friend set a Christmas tree on fire.

Several of the events underwent a name change in preparation for this historic celebration. For example, "Jingle Bell Holiday" has been changed to "Jingle Burn Holiday." City residents and College students alike are invited to torch holiday memorabilia.

Amazing Chase: Holiday Edition, while keeping the original name, has become a completely different activity. Rather than the traditional

scavenger hunt around town, the organizers have hired people to dress up as bloody Santa Clauses and dreidels, and then to chase participants around the town with candy canes sharpened into knives.

Additionally, many community members celebrated the season by decorating store windows.

"Nothing says 'the holidays' like gruesome bloodbaths."

-Richard McOwen

One shop in particular set up multiple snowmen outside, each with some form of head wound or bodily injury. "Nothing says 'the holidays' like gruesome bloodbaths," stated storeowner Richard McOwen. Grinnell students could not be reached for comment on this topic after seeing the decorations, because most would immediately faint or throw

up. The few who managed to remain upright were so overcome with "shock" and "horror" that they couldn't make any intelligible comments. Despite these negative reactions from the student body, the town is continuing to celebrate the holiday season in the most gruesome of ways, and Grinnell College is considering participating in these new festivities.

"In the Grill, we are planning to slow several carols to half speed, and then play them all on top of each other at once," stated Mikhail Romanov '18. "That way, we can celebrate the holidays while still retaining an element of horror." The College, meanwhile, hung up pictures of reindeer that had been hit by cars all over the JRC.

Overall, a general feeling of excitement and joy are palpable as the holiday season is definitely approaching, despite the fact that it might look like Halloween all over again.

## Winter Waltz Fruit Funds Frozen

We are proud once again to publish the work of our friends at Pun Club! For more information, contact [proseports].

**MAIN QUAD** – Flaky sources have stated that Waltz committee members are Snow-Concerned by their chilling realization last year that people only come to Waltz for the fresh fruit.

Last year, after weeks of work to make Waltz a real winter (mostly by setting up really ice decorations and by making sure that the dance instructor was a step above), the Waltz Committee froze in their tracks after seeing that the conga line to the fruit had more people than the slick dance floor. Committee member Nemo Frost complained, "Waltz was supposed to be about sledding across the floor to music with some real solstice and wearing glovelly clothes, not getting berried in a line of people waiting for some

low-hanging fruit." Frost went on to talk about how much money the committee spent on cool attractions, which were now being completely overshadowed by the grape selection of fruits: "We were really banking on the snow machine and thought a live band would

"The only reason to mango was the fruit."  
-Steve Muber-Griller '18

be instrumental to making the dance classy, but it appears that neither is as appealing as the peachy hors d'oeuvres."

By the time that Waltz had gotten into full swing, students dripping in kiwi-juice could be seen fox-trotting over to the dance floor as they realized that the fruit line had become too long. Steve Muber-Griller commented, "I was worried that without

a date, snowbody would want to dance with me, but some upperclassmen told me not to sweater it, since the only reason to mango was the fruit." As the dance went on, late-comers could be seen asking students with fruit left to be cherrytable and share, while other students enjoyed a little dancing in the limelight. Not long after, students used their egg-noggins and quickly peeled off to other parties to find more noteworthy music and drinks.

A couple days afterwards, the Waltz Chair disclosed that, "It was ice crystal clear that the fruit was the apple of most student's eyes, which shocked me to my core. I just hope we don't get too many formal resignations from committee members, though that would freeze up space for people to change waltz to a less food-oriented event, which could be fruitful. If it happens again this year, I'll be flurrious."

**This Week's Horoscope**  
The Oracle is new to the Fortune Cookie Game



Be patient:

in time, even an egg will walk... in bed!



**Sextra Credit**  
A writhing, sweaty heap of advice.



Hit the gym to work on your G.I.  
(Gorgeous Perky Ass)

## Also In The News

*Increased Drone Strikes In The Middle East Generate More Anger, More Recruits For ISIS, And Gives ISIS The Excuse And Moral Argument To Carry Out Violent Terrorist Attacks.*

*Umpteenth Mass Shooting In US: Congress Decides Best Course Of Action Is To Do Nothing About It.*

*Umpteenth Police Killing In US: Congress Decides Best Course Of Action Is To Do Nothing About It.*

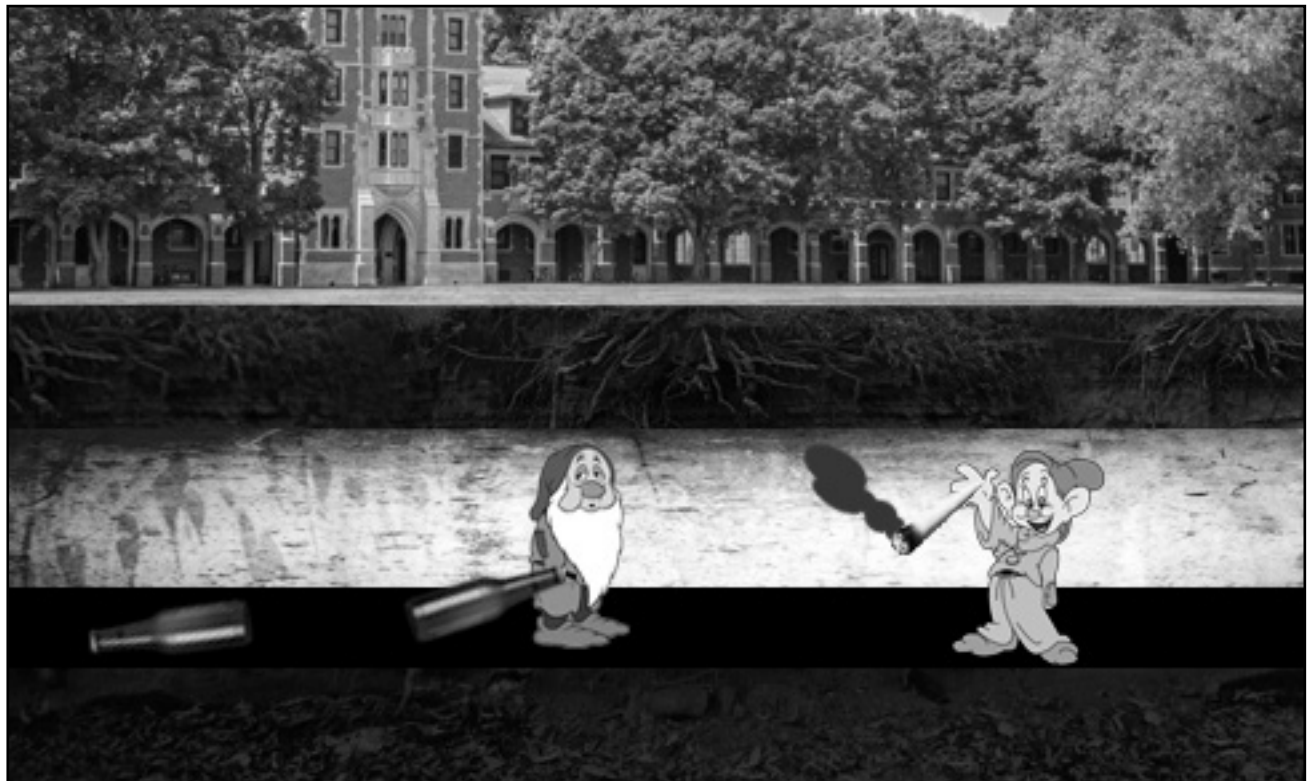
*One Terrorist Attack In Foreign Country: Congress Decides Best Course Of Action Is To Deny Countless Refugees Safe Refuge From These Same Terrorists.*

*National "Hypocrite And Pointing Fingers Without Offering Solutions" Convention Underway In Paris.*

*Winter Waltz Generates Uncomfortable Prom Flashbacks.*

*Student Reminds Professor Of Final Project: Promptly Stoned To Death By Other Classmates.*

## Grinnell Revises Miner Policy



Above: Grinnell miners learn self-gov

November 10th - Grinnell recently announced a new policy change that will make it easier to regulate and protect miners on campus, as described in the Campus Memo. According to the memo, the goal of the program is to "protect the safety of the miners."

Surprisingly, this policy change centers around only seven Grinnellians.

"We were having some issues." Doc, head of the miners, explained. "Some of the professors wouldn't let us bring our pickaxes to class. And when we started singing about washing our hands, students just stared at us."

Patricia Singer, a CLS staff member, explained. "Since the recent influx of miners has shaken Grinnell, we must fix this program. As a result, special focus has been put on miner-student interactions. We

need to learn how to work with the miners so that everyone knows exactly what's expected of them in the classroom, in the dining hall, and, most importantly, in the mines."

This new policy caught many students off guard.

"To be fair, I didn't even know that we had miners on campus. I just thought that they were middle school prodigies from town who really liked singing and didn't like the sun," Olivia Schwa '19 said as she passed a group of miners on their way to work. "I mean, I've seen a few in the dining hall, making a huge mess digging around in the salad bar for decent vegetables."

Initiatives to involve the miners on campus include creating a new "Peace Studies and Mining" concentration, a buddy system between miners and

students, and allowing the miners to attend Harris and other weekend events. Some professors even allow the observation of miner culture in their classes.

"Apparently at 3:00 every day, miners leave whatever they're doing-class, mining, or sleeping-to sing 'Heigh Ho'" Professor Kalders, History said, shaking his head. "It's become so popular that non-miner students are doing it too."

Some students also gave positive reviews. "I love hanging out with my miner, Sleepy," S'now Whytt '16, stated as she and Sleepy shared lunch. "We have the same hobbies and we both majored in Philosophy and we both love singing to the birds. It's a match made in heaven!"

When asked about the policies implemented, the miners on campus had nothing but positive reviews.

"I love taking classes," Happy, one of the miners explained. "Environmental Science is fascinating. Besides, my lunch partner likes smoking pipes just as much as I do."

Not only are the miners accepted by the students, but other miners visiting Grinnell are allowed the same privileges as students.

"We want the students to feel comfortable with the miners, and know what to do when the miners need any help." Singer stated. "This includes prospective miners as well. Recently we had a delegation of prospective students from Gimli, Iowa, who had a great time."

Not all reactions to the miners have been positive.

"I asked them for \$8 for lunch, and they gave me two diamonds," Sarah Hernandez, a Cheery Checker, explained "What's up with that?"

## SECURITY BLOTTER

**11:04: Officer sent to investigate strange noises coming from Read Pit.**

**11:07: Officer enters Read Pit, hears crying from room 5017.**

**11:07: Officer sees grown man crying over computer, asks what's wrong.**

**11:08: Man explains he is having a hard time coming up with an appropriate story for a fake Police Blotter he needs to write by midnight.**

**11:08: Man talks about past stories that sound eerily similar to Officer's past experience.**

**11:09: Man talks about how it is a waste of time, how he is so unattached to the character that he has not even given the Officer a name.**

**11:10: Man says enough is enough and ends Officer once and for all.**

**11:11: Man Remembers writing about the Officer is part of his job description. Revives Officer.**

**11:13: Officer wakes up in own bed, slightly confused given that her room usually has 4 walls but now one of them is broken.**

## What Do You Think?

Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens, premieres in two weeks.

*What do you think?*



**Mickey Mouse**

*Also goes by The Character Formerly Known as Steamboat Willie*  
"Golly gee! What if this taints my brand?"



**Ewok**

*Looks like a worn teddy bear*  
"It should be Star Wars Episode VII: Revenge of the Ewoks! You think you can use us as pawns in your rebellion? There will be no mercy!"



**Hard Core Trekkie**

*Has worn a Starfleet pin every day for the past ten years.*  
"[Disdainful Glare]"



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among students. Said Grinnellians for Rubio leader Jacob Brown '17, "We were planning on bringing Senator Rubio to the College to have a 'Waffles and Rubio' study break. Unfortunately, due to the prevalence of other study breaks, the only available location was the second floor Noyce elbow."

Continued Brown, "Still, we were planning on driving people out to see him. Unfortunately, when the campaign contacted us on the 24th, I

had come down with a sudden case of mono and wasn't able to respond to emails. They also tried to contact the Grinnell Pubs [Grinnell Republic Student Organization], but their president's roommate turned off their alarm by accident and so they ended up sleeping through most of the day."

Grinnell Pubs president Riya Jan '16 said, "I know that I feel incredibly ashamed and saddened about this

whole incident. I know that I have disappointed the dozens of students who attend our meetings and the many students who are part of Grinnellians for Rubio."

"Hopefully, the strong Republican presence on campus will convince other candidates to come to Grinnell, despite this incident", said Jan.

One consequence of the unintended slight is a rejection of the Self-Gov platform by the Rubio campaign.

Said campaign or-

ganizer Eric Wek, "The Senator was really looking forward to having Grinnell students at event and we were all incredibly disappointed when none arrived. Previously, Senator Rubio had expressed interest in Self-Gov as a bipartisan concept that could really elevate the campaign to the next level. But if this kind of miscommunication and scheduling shenanigan is the result of Self-Gov, then unfortunately Senator Rubio cannot bring it anywhere."

## Crows Descend on Black Friday Sales

MCNALLY'S- The staff of Grinnell's most luxurious grocery store were not particularly surprised on Black Friday to attract a great number of crows with their excellent discounts.

The sales attracted patrons from all across Poweshiek County. "Sure, I can get food for cheap at Wal-Mart or Hy-Vee," squawked George Harold Consiglio-Johnson as he browsed the produce. "But I like to know that what I'm regurgitating into the mouths of my kids is organic and sustainably grown. It just tastes better when you know that it's good for the planet."

However, individuals from much farther away also felt inclined to visit. "I'm not gonna lie, the Greater Des Moines Metropolitan Area has some of the best carrion in the state," admitted Betsy Miranda Benson-Underwood, who resides in a dead oak tree beside I-80. "But the cuts of free-range meat I can get

here are so good I've been raving about them to everybody I see!"

The employees of McNally's were overall unperturbed by the visitors. "A doorbuster is a doorbuster, and these clever fellows know a deal when they see one," explained manager Tina Linden. "And they don't know it, but they're actually providing us with free guano, which we can sell as fertilizer!"

Cashier Jack Thayer agreed that these customers were easy to deal with. "Since they can, like, fly, they aren't trampling each other like people do." He paused to brush a couple of jet-black feathers from his shoulder. "There were a couple of accidents, though. Especially at the front windows. We had them washed recently, which was clearly a mistake. Shit. No pun intended. That was distasteful. Damn. Sorry."

However, the re-

sponse from other members of the Grinnell community, both residents and students, was not as favorable. "It's freaking spooky," complained Taylor Hsieh '18. "I'll be walking back to my dorm from Noyce and then all of a sudden like thirty or forty of them will just erupt from a tree and start loudly yelling about the bargains they scored to each other."

He paused for breath, then continued, "They're all like, 'I GOT ORGANIC BANANAS FOR 25 CENTS A POUND or DID YOU SEE THAT THEY HAD TWO-DAY-OLD BUT NOT TOO-STALE CREAM PUFFS IN THE BACK ROOM?'" and I'm all like, 'Dude, it's after midnight, just go to bed already.' I mean, it's just shopping, right?"

Gerald Richards '16 expressed concerns regarding the long-term implications of the avian visitors for the City. "This is always how it starts. The new people, whoever they are, come in all in-

nocently, and then before you know it, they're taking over our jobs and our schools and our parking spaces, and there's nowhere left for any of us to go. What we need to do is put up a giant wall around Grinnell. Yeah. That'll stop them."

But the crows themselves are holding steadfast to their right to shop as they see fit. "We are bringing in revenue that we all know you desperately need," said Jakob Isaiah Cook-Hemingway, placing a carton of soy milk in his shopping cart. "And anyway, what's so scary about us? Do you think we're a omen of death or something?" He flicked bits of old meat off his talons.

Those with concerns about the presence of the crows needn't worry much longer, however. Most are planning to stay in the campus trees at the latest until Cyber Monday, to take advantage of GrinnellCollegeGuest WiFi, and then go on their merry way.

### JOB OPENING

## COMMUNITY ADVISOR

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- ALL-SEEING EYE
- IRON WILL
- GRIT AND PERSERVERANCE
- PROFICIENT AT BAKING
- UNBIASED JUDGE

### COMPENSATION:

- MONEY
- POWER
- PRESTIGE
- AND...A SINGLE ROOM

CONTACT CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR MORE INFORMATION



# New D-Hall Special:

# CAFFEINE DOGS!!!





## Special Topics Course Teaches Skill of Staying Awake

JCC-Grinnell College will offer a new Special Topic course in the Spring 2016 semester, *BLS-295: Professor Lives*, co-taught by Professors Dominique Smith and Ella Livestein. The course is designed to help students be able to critically engage with the world by introducing them to a scenario where a professor will endlessly drone on about their lives and their achievements while students have to feign interest and engagement with the material.

"This course was a long time coming," says Dominique Smith, chair of the newly-created Bullshit-LifeSkills department. "BLS-295 will teach students invaluable life skills. The average person's life involves hundreds, if not thousands, of situations where narcissistic people in positions of power hijack meetings about important issues to talk about themselves in an egotistical, selfish manner, completely disregarding the purpose of the meeting. Students will have to learn to comply with these scenarios, and BLS-295 will give students

a framework through which to navigate these scenarios."

"Students can rest assured that class time will be covered mostly by my endless rants, and that the syllabus will almost always be ignored in favor of whatever the professor feels like talking about." Professor Livestein continued "Moreover, we will guarantee that any attempt at actual discussion, creative thinking, and original ideas will be quickly stifled so as to allow us to voice our own opinion and viewpoint unopposed."

When asked of the grading rubric of the class, Smith reported: "Well, we're still trying to nail down the specifics, but we think that there are three main skills we are going to develop and look out for. Firstly, the ability to act interested and engaged by stories that are both boring and irrelevant to course material. Secondly, we will judge student's ability to keep awake for 2 hours of a monotonous drone. Finally, students will have to learn how to cope with the true meaning of frustration given that there is a final 20 page research paper, and yet there will be very little class time dedicated to the prompt or how to solve it. Instead the

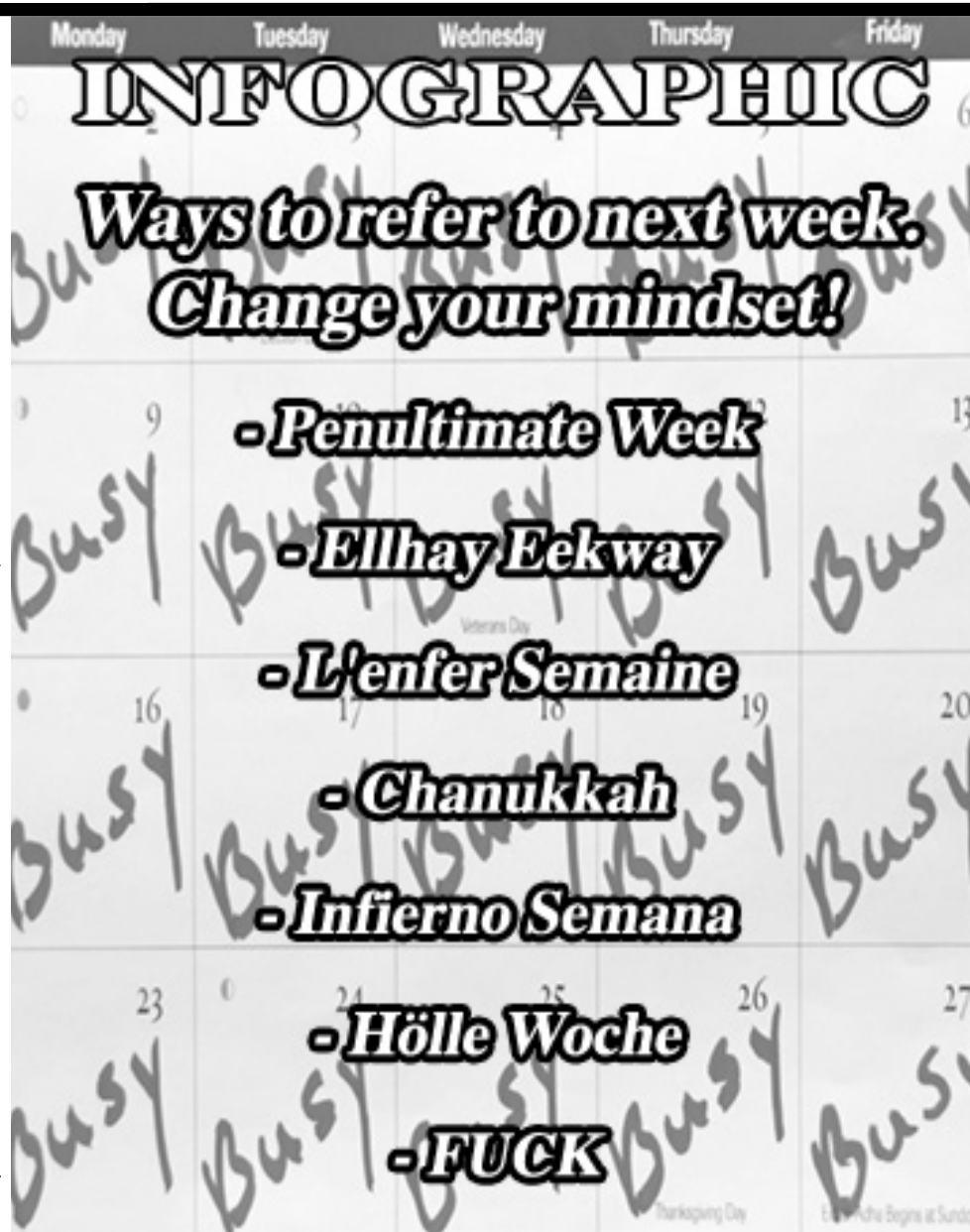
main focus will be the antics of Mittens, one of Professor Livestein's many cats.

"In short, it will give students hands-on experience with the frustration most adults experience in their day-to-day lives."

The student body reaction has been mixed. Some students call it a "waste of \$50,000" and "just a rehash of my History class with Professor Mabler", whereas others were more hopeful.

"Yeah, it seems like a boring class and a waste of time... but that's sort of the point, isn't it?" commented Jackie Mullif '17, "And at least it's honest about its intentions. Other classes advertise riveting and engaging content, but at least here you know you're in for a snooze-fest."

Some students have also been uncertain due to confusion about the quality of professor involved. "So I looked up Livestein on RateMyProfessor - she had an average rating of 1.3, with many reviews saying she was 'boring', 'monotonous', 'not really helpful', and 'a really, really sucky prof' - which in this context I do not know if it will be a good thing or not."



## Rantings of a Frustrated Jew during the Holiday Season

Sophie Kornbluh '16

Well, it's that time of the year again. I officially can't walk into a store or turn on the radio without being bombarded by the "Christmas spirit".

Ever since I discovered at the age of five that the majority of the society in which I exist is not Jewish, I have felt distinctly uncomfortable during the solid month of the year that is devoted to celebrating the birth of Jesus.

"But it's so secularized!" people argue. "It's just a part of American culture!" Well sure, maybe to

some extent, but isn't that just a reminder that my own culture is too marginalized to become integrated into modern mainstream practices?

By comparison, Chanukkah comes off as some archaic ritual practiced by people too stubborn to accept the cultural progress that is Christmas. (Oh, you celebrate on a lunar calendar? How quaint! That's right, gentiles. Check your Gregorian calendar privilege.)

People who know that I am Jewish have gone so far as to ask if I celebrate Christmas anyway, as if my own

traditions are insufficient to satisfy my need for winter cheer.

And let's be honest, the attempts to include Chanukkah in the winter festivities are usually pretty pathetic. For one thing, the common transliterated spelling of the holiday, "Hanukkah", is wrong. I am spelling it here with a C-H to indicate its proper pronunciation, which begins with a subtle throat-clearing sound. Go ahead and try it, it's fun. Since I'm giving you permission it isn't appropriate. And it'll add a little zest to the single conciliatory Chanukkah song you

added at the last minute to your caroling set. (And let's not even start on all the cultural winter celebrations that are completely neglected.)

Another Chanukkah misconception is that of the menorah, which isn't actually a fucking menorah. A menorah has seven candles, and is equivalent to a candelabra for daily use. For Chanukkah, we use a *chanukkiah* (emphasis on the last syllable), and it has nine candles, one for each night of Chanukkah plus one used to light the others.

Fun fact: it turns out that even Google

Translate translates the Hebrew "chanukiah" to "menorah" in English. So you see why I feel like I'm up against a lot here.

Am I bitter about all of this? Undeniably. But I'm done feeling guilty for emulating the Grinch every year. And anyway, there are some very easy steps that can be taken to ease the marginalization. Saying "Happy holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas" immediately removes Christian connotations (though it still doesn't offer the option of secular winter enjoyment). Saying "Winter Break" instead of "Christmas Break" emphasizes the fact that

we are generally not taking an entire month off of school to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

I am all in favor of incorporating light and music and warmth into winter. We need the positivity when it gets cold and dark. But when this is enacted through the lens of religion-based culture, the light and music and warmth are really only for those who identify with that culture. The whole point is to create a giant penguin huddle of happy feelings to block out the winter, and we can do this more effectively and enjoyably if everyone is involved.

### Claiming Responsibility:

**Who?** Sophie Kornbluh '16

**What?** Abraham Mhaidli '17

**Why?** Nina Galanter '18

**Where?** Aaron Weerasinghe '17

**Contributors:** Katie Lou McCusker '19, Elizabeth Zak '18, Grinnell Pun Club

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### This Week's Playlist

Hum-The Fluorescent Lights

Semi-Intelligible Conversation-S&B Staff

Deep Underlying Silence-The Universe