

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Blue Jean Day causes anger, inconvenience

Gay Awareness Week is important because it forces students to examine and re-examine their views on homosexuality and gay rights.

I do not wish to condemn or judge gays, nor do I wish to criticize Gay Awareness Week. But I do want to propose a beneficial change to one aspect of Gay Awareness Week — Blue Jeans Day, the day that gays and pro-gays wear blue jeans to show their support for gay rights.

The idea of wearing a symbol one day during Gay Awareness Week is a good one. The choice of blue jeans as that symbol, however, does more harm than good to the cause of gay rights.

Blue jeans were originally chosen as a symbol because nearly everyone owns them; so anyone who wants to show support can do so without purchasing something special or being inconvenienced. A good idea. The idea does have drawbacks though.

Since blue jeans are so very commonly worn, they do not actually indicate support for gay rights. Students who are either unaware of the day or who do not care about it may wear jeans without supporting gay rights.

Worse than not being an accurate indicator of support, Blue Jeans Day causes a great deal of animosity toward gays. Many students are angered at being either inconvenienced in their dress or unwillingly identified as gay supporters.

If gays will shoulder the inconvenience of choosing a less common symbol, then they will be doing far more to advance their cause than Blue Jeans Day does now.

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