

# THE ARENA

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## Repression Comes To Stanford

By THE ARENA Staff

"We're not interested in free speech, we're interested in the people's rights!" In those words, Janet Weiss explained the position taken by the members of the Stanford radical community justifying the suppression of free speech and free movement on the Stanford campus. Weiss, a graduate student in the English Department where she has served as a Teaching Assistant, stridently expresses her point of view at every available opportunity. No one has interfered with her right to speak freely, both in and out of the classroom. Yet, she and others like her believe that the right to express oneself freely is limited only to those who fall within the boundaries of "friends of the people."

Henry Cabot Lodge does not fall within these boundaries. Thus, according to Janet and friends, he has no right to speak. Period. Regardless of audience or topic, an alleged war criminal like Lodge may not express himself as long as self-appointed "friends of the people" see fit to oppose him.

The activities of Stanford radicals have not been confined to stopping Lodge and his ilk. If this were the extent of their suppression, perhaps the Stanford community could turn its head and say: "Well, he's a public figure; he knows what he's getting into when he comes here." But fascism of the Left at Stanford applies not only to well-known figures. This repression has been applied to staff members, teachers, administrators, and students on this campus. Time after time, those who have disagreed openly with the speech and actions of radicals have been subjected to harassment, threats, and physical abuse.

Radical repression is a reality right now at Stanford. It takes place not only at rallies and speeches, but also in dormitories, classrooms, and public areas. Outspoken libertarians are by no means the only targets of leftist ire; often, students with no discernible politics become innocent victims of radical piggery.

To illustrate, a member of THE ARENA staff was recently hassled verbally on the Tresidder Union



Leonard Siegel, New Left Project member and familiar figure in radical circles, prays for deliverance under heavy questioning by members of the Stanford community not as enlightened as Leonard. He did his good deed that day by helping "The People's Friends" prevent Henry Cabot Lodge from speaking.

balcony. A casual acquaintance of his, without realizing what was going on, came over and made a few friendly remarks to him. Immediately the friend was subjected to abuse: who are you? are you a pig too? will you oink for us? The bewildered student retreated, and did not find out until later the reasons for the unfriendly treatment.

Such treatment has been accorded other members of THE ARENA staff because they dare to a) publish a newspaper that counters radical views; b) appear at Leftist rallies and speeches; c) take action where necessary to prevent the destruction of the university. None of this action has been taken with the intent of abridging the rights of anyone to speak as he pleases or go where he pleases. Rather, when Stanford libertarians act, they do so with the intention of assuring these rights.

Can the same be said for Stanford radicals? When Lodge is kept from speaking, and interested members of the community kept from listening, can it be said that those on the Left are truly interested in the people's rights? Have radicals discovered a new principle of human rights such that these rights apply only to some people, and not to all of the people?

THE ARENA insists that such a principle does not exist, and that

the implementation of this non-existent principle must not take place anywhere, including the campus of Stanford University.

Fascist repression exists at Stanford, but it does not exist in the President's office, or in the Business School, or in the headquarters of the Free Campus Movement. It exists every time someone is prevented from speaking or acting within the framework of his rights.

Ask the various ARENA staff members who have received public and private threats, and who have been prevented from attending open meetings: Who is abridging your freedom? Ask the staff members who have been prevented from working because of the dangers of mob violence: Who are the oppressors?

Ask the administrator who was physically ejected from an open meeting: Who is violating your rights? Ask the students of a Freshman English section who were told by their T.A. that they needed to be "set straight," and were consequently assigned the Quotations of Chairman Mao: Who are the real fascists?

Such repression can exist only if its victims are unable and unwilling to resist it and recognize it. THE ARENA calls upon all members of the Stanford community to reassert their rights and bring power to the individual, thus bringing true power to the people.