

To the Party Animals of Bowdoin College,

This week the Peucinian Society will make a small departure from our normal routine. Rather than formal orations to open the debate, we will be hosting a round table.

What does this mean for all of you?

The burden is yours.

It will be nobody's responsibility but yours to formulate an engaging framework for this debate. We will not be "cutting distinctions," asking (too many) "clarifying questions," or alerting the society to the "big point" that it has been neglecting.

Nay, we will be speaking affirmatively, joyfully. If you can't relate to this one, I don't know what to tell you...

Resolved: Work Hard-Play Hard.

This mantra literally dominates the cultural rhetoric of most elite colleges. "Exert yourself," this culture exhorts. "Go the extra mile!" We are asked to wear ourselves to the bone, to load ourselves with obligations the way Bain Capital loads companies with debt. Then, like the hedge fund managers who run off whooping and throwing cash in the air, we 'de-stress.'

And how do we go about this decompression?

Kings. 'Rut. T-Pain. Dirty Dirty Grindfest. Dub-step Glitter Raves. Sweat. Light Beer. Miley Cyrus. Random Hook Ups. Walks of Shame. Awkward Socializing around Kegs of Natty Light. Hands on Hips, Thighs, and Unspeakables.

You get the picture.

Should we champion this schism between work and play? Are social house parties vulgar? Well, they are. **BUT**, do we care? What's wrong with the occasional indulgence of primal urge? Is going wild a genuine expression of youthful freedom? Does the social house party just set up another whole litany of social restraints and produce another normative social ideology? Can we have fun in a more productive way? What would that look like?

PLEASE join the Peucinian Society at 7:30pm in the Faculty Room (Third Floor) of Massachusetts Hall. Come dressed to your favorite kind of party.

Raucously yours,
Maimonides (aka the Jewish Falstaff)