

DISPUTATION CXXXVIII

October 1, 2015

Dear Peucinians,

Hope your week is going well and that the wave of readings, exams, and papers hasn't yet overwhelmed you. Get plenty of rest and take care of yourselves. This week, coincidentally following the campus wide teach-in, we will discuss the following...

RESOLVED: THE PRIVILEGED OUGHT QUIETLY LISTEN

Affirmative: Andrew Carnegie '17

Negative: Sir Gawain '17

Privilege comes in many forms. The rich and powerful cis-white-male from noble birth, good country, and fine school is what immediately comes to mind. However, consider the privilege of a black straight male compared to that of a gay male or poor white woman. Intersectionality defies our standard conception of what privilege means and forces us to think more abstractly.

The arbitrary advantages given to specific classes of people seem to defy reason, giving rise to legitimate questions on how to overcome inequality. A major stumbling-block, however, is the following question: how can those with privilege help others overcome a system designed in their favor? Carnegie will argue that those with privilege must quietly listen, giving space for the unprivileged to advance their cause as they see fit. Gawain will insist on open discourse between the two parties, fostering a coalition intent on overcoming these barriers.

Peucinians, every week I ask that you come to these meetings with an open heart and mind. This week is no exception. Tomorrow, I expect nothing but curtesy, respect, and a genuine passion to openly discuss the resolved statement.

See you then.

7:45 PM Thursday October 1st
Massachusetts Hall Faculty Room (Top Floor)
Semi-Formal Attire

Sincerely,
Αἴαντος

Pinos Loquentes Semper Habemus