



association of university and college employees

February 6, 1981

The Editor
The Vancouver Sun
2250 Granville Street
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir: Re: U.B.C. Engineer's Annual Lady Godiva Ride

We direct this letter to The Editor because it concerns a subject which is larger than the University of British Columbia. It concerns our society and our present attitudes with respect to the equality of men and women. We believe that changing these archaic attitudes will take much longer if these "boyish" activities continue to be condoned.

On February 2nd, 1981, the following letter was sent to the President of the University of British Columbia, Dr. D.T. Kenny, protesting the annual Lady Godiva ride held during Engineering week in January:

President Kenny:

On behalf of the Executive of AUCE Local I, which represents the library and clerical workers at the University of British Columbia, 93% of whom are women, we wish to express our disgust and repugnance with the University's complicity in the continuance of the Lady Godiva ride, organized by the Engineering Undergraduate Society.

We would expect that the image the University of British Columbia would like to put forth is that of an enlightened institution, striving to eradicate the inequity between men and women. This is far from the truth. By condoning this annual event the University administration makes a mockery of any claims that they are opposed to the sexist activities of the Engineers. Apparently sexism still permeates the minds of members of the University administration and of the Engineering Undergraduate Society. This lack of consciousness does nothing to enhance the opinion presently held of Engineers, the Faculty of Applied Science, or the University as a whole.

We consider the continuance of these activities to be insulting, and not as mere "boyish" nonsense. Although directing this matter to you may draw some attention to this Engineering Undergraduate Society event, to ignore such sexist behavior is worse. The onus is on you to prevent such events from occurring in the future.

Yours truly,

*Wendy Bice
Union Co-ordinator
A. U. C. E. Local I*