



**Foundation for Individual Rights in Education**

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October 20, 2003

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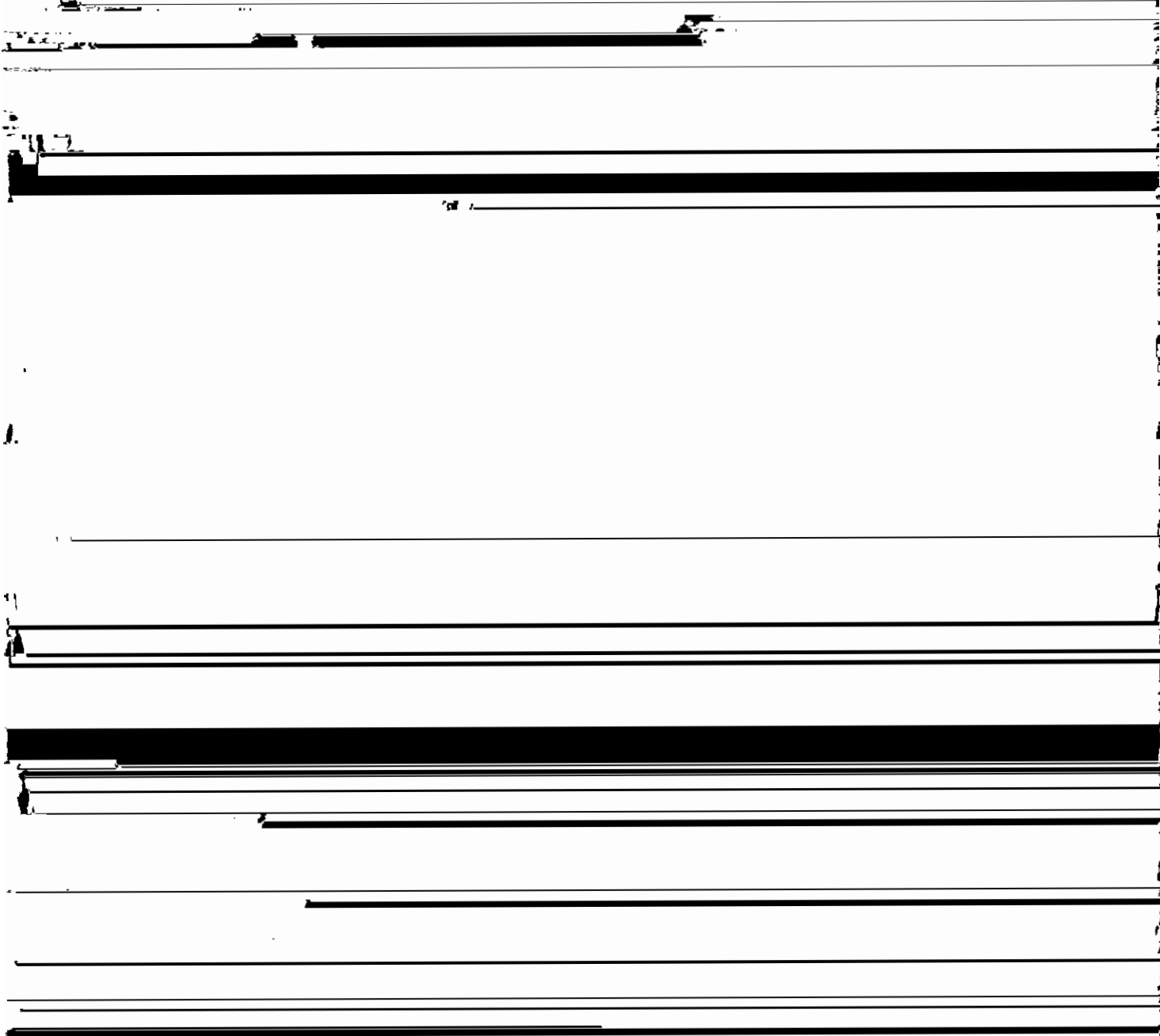
Greg Lukianoff  
DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND  
PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Dear Father Spitzer,

the flier approved by the Crosby Student Center, as is required by the Gonzaga University Publicity Policy. This policy lists "hate speech," "disrespect for others," and "exclusionary" materials among the types of postings that are not permitted at Gonzaga.

In violation of this same policy—which asks students to report "all incidents of non-official flier destruction or removal"—many of the College Republicans' fliers were taken down by members of the university community who found them "offensive." At least one of the fliers was removed by a university official, Director of Student Activities David Lindsay, who is quoted in *The Gonzaga Bulletin* as saying that he "took one down because our publicity policy says that we don't allow hate speech to be posted around campus." After discussing the flier at a Student Life

*differences that separate the peoples of the world*” as well as *“the rights and responsibilities that come from commitment to a free society.”* Thus, the university itself has stated that an



American citizens—which include the First Amendment—is an essential part of an education at Gonzaga.

The discrepancy between how the university intends to prepare students for life in a “free society” and the way in which the College Republicans’ basic rights have been denied is staggering. Far from teaching a lesson in the centrality of free inquiry and the importance on understanding “ideological differences,” Gonzaga University has, in effect, declared that some viewpoints—and even the use of certain words—can and should be silenced.

What makes this case especially bizarre is that the flier in question repeated the title of a book

cc:

David Lindsay, Director of Student Activities, Gonzaga University

Bernard J. Coughlin, S.J., Chancellor, Gonzaga University

Sue D. Weitz, Vice President for Student Life, Gonzaga University

Michael Casey, Corporation Counsel, Gonzaga University

Robert Prusch, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Gonzaga University

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Alfred Morisette, Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Gonzaga University

Robert V. Lyons, S.J., Presiding Officer, Members of the Corporation of Gonzaga University

Paul Schafer, Student