

2013

Not Wythe Standing: The News (Vol. 4, Issue 6)

Repository Citation

"Not Wythe Standing: The News (Vol. 4, Issue 6)" (2013). *Student Newspaper (Amicus, Advocate...)*. 191.
<https://scholarship.law.wm.edu/newspapers/191>

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NOT *Wythe* STANDING

THE NEWS

Love and Law School

By *Staff Writer Adam Wolfe (1L)*

Love and Law School both start with an L, but together they can end in disaster. With small classes, daunting learning curves and syndrome-inducing stress it's not hard to see why courtship might take a backseat to contracts. Still that isn't stopping William and Mary's current crop of 1L's from prosecuting affairs of the heart, mostly with each other.

"It's probably inevitable," said single 1L, Chris Kaltsas, about dating another law student. "We are so insular and when you're around people this long you're bound to find something acceptable."

Kaltsas was one of about nine first year students who had gathered on Super Bowl Sunday to take in the big game. But in a scene replete with pizza, red Solo cups and breaks in conversation to focus on the flat screen, chatter still turned to relationships.

"I wouldn't say it's inevitable," Jeremy Cole, Kaltsas' roommate chimed in. He has started a relationship with another 1L, he said. "But the odds are that it was going to



be inside the law school because we just don't meet anyone else."

"I rarely come into contact with people outside of the law school," a female 1L added (she asked to remain anonymous for fear of embarrassment).

The conversation turned to a fellow student who is attending a bible study at a church to which he does not belong in order to meet a

girl outside Marshall-Wythe. While everyone present wished him luck, we also decided that this was a bridge too far.

Still, everyone felt that the habitual pattern of interacting with each other, and only each other—they called it "insularity"—was fostered by the law school. The women especially expressed regret about how it limited

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their selection of mates.

"The women at William and Mary are a lot more attractive than the men," said the anonymous 1L. "We always ask if guy is 'regular cute' or just 'law school cute.'"

As her friend flashed a knowing smile, she explained that her dating experience had revealed that law school men are more socially awkward than average, and more willing to spend time away from a mate.

"Your standard becomes a little bit lower," she added.

The idea that one must check his or her expectations was rampant among the group.

Another by-product of the insularity: it provides a breeding ground for gossip. Everyone in a small school can't help but know everyone else's business. This leads to unwanted public attention on the private intricacies of coupling.

"You're afraid someone will find out about it," Kaltsas said. "In fact, everyone will find out about it."

At that, a chorus of agreement sounded in the room. Kaltsas said this potential scrutiny has prevented him from asking certain individuals for dates. In a community so aware it would make Hester Prynne blush,

the stain of rejection can follow someone trying to traverse social circles populated by friends who are also – we have been assured – life-long colleagues and competitors. The idea of a fellow associate someday regaling the senior partner with stories of someone's romantic missteps and outright fumbles has to pose a disincentive. That may seem farfetched, but as our legal skills instructors are fond of saying, every legal community is a small legal community. Word gets around.

While the social stakes of hooking up have increased, the 1Ls present still shunned the idea that a law school relationship might lead to anything more. Despite many studying for the first time with already-married classmates and professors who discuss their own partner in the law school, the 1Ls unanimously reported that they were not thinking seriously about matrimony.

"If you don't already have a husband lined up, it's always in the back of your mind that by the time you graduate you'll be in your mid-20s and it's tick-tick-tick," Eva Zelson said. "But you're thinking about torts, not marriage."

The others agreed, remarking that their frame of mind hasn't changed on the subject since college.

The larger question is how anyone has time to weave these tangled webs. For a set of people stereotypically portrayed as busy in the extreme and at their wits-end with dense reading and writing assignments, where do free moments come from?

"You don't really have as much free time as in college, but you know that going in," Cole said. "For me, dating has taken more time away from other friends, not school work."

This time crunch can be felt doubly

by students in long distance relationships. Jason Hilton says he spends up to 10 hours a week communicating with his girlfriend in Colorado, and that still doesn't seem to be enough. They have been together for six years.

"Let's just say I'm looking forward to spring break," he said, looking grimly away as the Ravens scored a field goal kick.

However, to others being in a relationship during law school has its advantages. Nick Leonardi, a 1L who has been both single and in a relationship while in law school looked at it with a characteristic analytical bent.

"I think it takes up more time to be single," he said. "When you're single you want to go out more and do more stuff."

So it may be damned-if-you-do, damned-if-you-don't. While these 1Ls freely admitted the pitfalls of searching for Mr. or Ms. Right (or at least Mr./Ms. Right Now) none of them said they followed a policy forbidding dating while studying at William and Mary. Perhaps the question of whether it's a good idea to unite the two L's of love and law school yields the same answer as every other in legal education: it depends.

Dear Scalia

Romantic Advice from that Most Loquacious of Supreme Court Justices

Dear SCALIA:

I don't have a date this Valentine's Day. It's been about 3 years since I last dated a girl. Obviously, I think girls are missing out on me and my personality. I'm a really nice guy. This year I was trying to spend Valentine's Day with my best bros, but all of them seem to be "unavailable." What is everyone's problem?

GREAT GUY IN BROOKLYN

Dear "GREAT" GUY,

I thought I had seen everything. This past month I bore witness as a man, who has twice sued the Supreme Court for treason, appealed to the Supreme Court a lawsuit listing as the Defendants - you guessed it - the Supreme Court. I hope it does not come as a shock to you, Great Guy, that as we were all conflicted off the case, his appeal was sadly denied. *See Sibley v. Supreme Court*, 133 S.Ct. 393 (2013) (standing for the bombshell proposition that if you sue the Supreme Court, appealing the Court of Appeals' decision to the Supreme Court probably isn't going to work). This was the first brief that, in all my years of being the nation's finest jurist, I could not for the life of me understand. It appeared as though his argument was that because the plaintiff was named after one of the

lawyers for Dred Scott in the famous 1857 case, the Supreme Court erred in disbaring the plaintiff.¹

But I digress. Where was I? Oh yes, I thought I had seen everything. Until I saw that you proposed to celebrate Valentine's Day with all of your male siblings. Who does that?

Oh, wait a moment, my law clerks have just handed me an article that defines "bros" as a man's close male friends. However, I can't say I accept the article's source—something called "Urban Dictionary." From what I can tell, this website is taking first amendment rights afforded under *U.S. v. Stevens*, 130 S.Ct. 1577 (2010) way too far.²

Because this is not in any edition of Webster's Dictionary—see *MCI Telecommunications Corp. v. American Tel. & Tel. Co.*, 512 U.S. 218, 225-28 (1994) (explaining that dictionaries are the only valid source of statutory interpretation—unless you're using a stupid dictionary)—I refuse to accept that "bros" means your friends.

I digress again. What was my point? Oh yes, you are the problem, my friend. Your love life is as much a "life" as the Constitution itself.³ There is literally nothing I can do to help you.

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone else! AS

SCALIA FIN

The Honorable Justice Scalia is channeled by a man with equally deep romantic insight, Joseph Figueroa (2L).

NOT **WYTHE** STANDING
(THE NEWS)

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Marshall-Wythe School of Law*

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Letters to the Editor and contributed articles likely do not reflect the opinion of the newspaper or the NWS Board. Join our Facebook page for more information.

¹ Editor's Note: While this seriously tangential paragraph appears to be hyperbolic, it really isn't an exaggeration at all. If you glean nothing else from this article, go look this up and read the whole thing. Seriously, go to Westlaw and type in 2012 WL 2109664. You're welcome.

² Especially given the website's defi-

nition of "Antonin Scalia."

³ Which is to say that it is "dead, dead, dead, dead." See Katie Glueck, *Antonin Scalia: The Constitution is 'Dead'*, POLITICO (Jan. 29, 2013, 8:26 AM), <http://www.politico.com/story/2013/01/scalia-the-constitution-is-dead-86853.html>.

新年快乐



Happy Chinese New Year!

By Staff Writer Yan Yan (LLM)

Chinese New Year, or the 'Spring Festival,' is the most important holiday in China - just as Christmas is in the United States. The festival begins on the first day of the first month of the traditional Chinese calendar, or lunar calendar, and ends on the fifteenth day with the Lantern Festival. According to the Chinese lunar calendar, this year's Spring Festival will be on February 10. Most Chinese people will stay up all night on New Year's Eve. It is a day when Chinese families gather together for their annual reunion dinner. It's also the happiest day in my memories because my cousins and I used to stay at Grandma's and eat lots of food and watch TV all day.

Before the festival starts, people will pour out their money to buy presents, decorations, material, food, and clothing. It is also traditional for every family to thoroughly clean the house in order to sweep away any ill-fortune and to make way for good incoming luck. Windows and doors will be decorated with red-color paper cut-outs and couplets with popular themes of 'good fortune,' 'happi-

ness,' 'wealth,' or 'longevity.'

On the Eve of Chinese New Year, supper is a feast with the whole family. The food will include such items as pigs, ducks, chickens, dumplings, Chinese cakes, sugarcane and sweet delicacies. Meanwhile all of us will watch the five-hour national gala on TV over supper. The whole family will end the night with firecrackers. Firecrackers are so popular that some regions, including some in Beijing and Hong Kong, have banned them due to concerns about fire hazards. Early the next morning, children will greet their grandparents or other elders by wishing them a healthy and happy new year in order to receive money in red paper envelopes. The spirit is all about reconciliation: to forget all grudges and sincerely wish peace, good luck, good wealth, and happiness for everyone.

According to the stories, Chinese New Year started with a fight against a mythical beast called 'Nian.' Nian would come on the first day of the new year to eat livestock, crops, and even villagers - especially children. To protect themselves, the villagers would put food in front of their doors at the beginning of every year. Once,

people saw Nian scared away by a little child wearing red. The villagers then understood that Nian was afraid of the color red. Hence every new year, the villagers would hang red lanterns and red spring scrolls on their windows and doors. People also used the firecrackers to frighten away Nian. From then on, Nian never came to the village again. Now 'Nian' actually means 'year' in Chinese. The traditional red stuff, like red couplets and red lanterns displayed in door frames, really light up the atmosphere. The air is filled with strong happy emotions.

The second day of the Chinese New Year used to be the day when married daughters visited their birth parents, relatives and close friends. This was because, traditionally, married daughters didn't have the opportunity to visit their birth families frequently throughout the year.

The third day is known as 'red mouth' literally. In the past it was considered an unlucky day to have guests or to visit others. Villagers in rural Hong Kong in the 1960s called it the Day of the Poor Devil and believed everyone should stay at home. However, it is considered propitious

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Finding Mr. Perfect?

By *Staff Writer Frantz Farreau* (2L)

Just in time for Valentine's Day, ladies, we have found "Mr. Perfect." Whatsyourprice.com conducted an extremely flawless, scientific survey asking 9,000 women which characteristics they would attribute to "Mr. Perfect."

The results? Mr. Perfect has brown hair, green eyes, a British accent, a graduate degree, he doesn't smoke and only enjoys one or two social drinks. He makes between \$150,000 and \$200,000 per year, and he is capable of having a warm and loving relationship.

For those of you who don't know, whatsyourprice.com is an online dating website that pairs rich singles with attractive singles. If you are rich enough you can buy yourself a hot date, if you are hot enough, you can use your looks to get five-star treatment beyond your wildest dreams.

Really, though, is it surprising that a website with such a shallow premise would come up with

such shallow characteristics for "Mr. Perfect"? Perhaps their study just picked the most common attributes that women mentioned, but if our society is really basing the concept of the ideal man on things like eye color and accent, maybe it is not so surprising that the divorce rate is so astronomically high. 'Til gray hair and unemployment do us part.

Sure, physical attributes are important; in fact scientific studies have linked physical attributes to significant genetic characteristics. For example,

one study asked women to rate the attractiveness of men based on the smell of t-shirts the men had worn several nights in a row. The study showed that women were attracted to men who were most genetically compatible with them. Similarly, "masculine" characteristics or "feminine" characteristics come from sex hormones, and having a healthy amount of sex hormones means that you are more likely to be fertile and your attempts at procreation with this mate are more likely to be successful. So does that mean that

connection, and you cannot form an emotional connection with somebody based on physical characteristics alone. A relationship started based on the characteristics identified by whatsyourprice.com is doomed to fail.

People who want a lasting relationship should approach their search by looking for a mental connection before the physical connection. It is not that hard to do if that is what you care about. People look for dates in places where other people share similar intellectual interests. It is also possible to get a sense for people by watching how they interact with others. If the goal is to figure out whether you're compatible, the physical falls by the wayside. At the very least, it is not what you think of first.

So maybe women trying to define Mr. Perfect are just trying to find somebody who would be a good provider; somebody who is capable of having a warm and loving relationship but not somebody who will stay in a warm and loving

relationship forever. Or, maybe a man who can have a warm and loving relationship with his children, but the relationship with his spouse is less important. Who knows? There is some credence to this theory though. The New York daily news went to look for Mr. Perfect, and found him. His name is Ian Clague, Cambridge grad, lives in Brooklyn, British accent. He's got everything Mr. Perfect should have. And guess what? Mr. Perfect is a divorced father of two.



identifying Mr. Perfect is just identifying who would be the perfect evolutionary mate?

But there is more to a romantic relationship than procreation. There are plenty of heterosexual couples who enter relationships and stay together knowing full well that they cannot have children. And homosexual couples are certainly not pairing off to procreate, though a homosexual couple could certainly raise happy, healthy kids. No, a romantic relationship requires an emotional

REEL DEALS

House of... Valentine Cards?

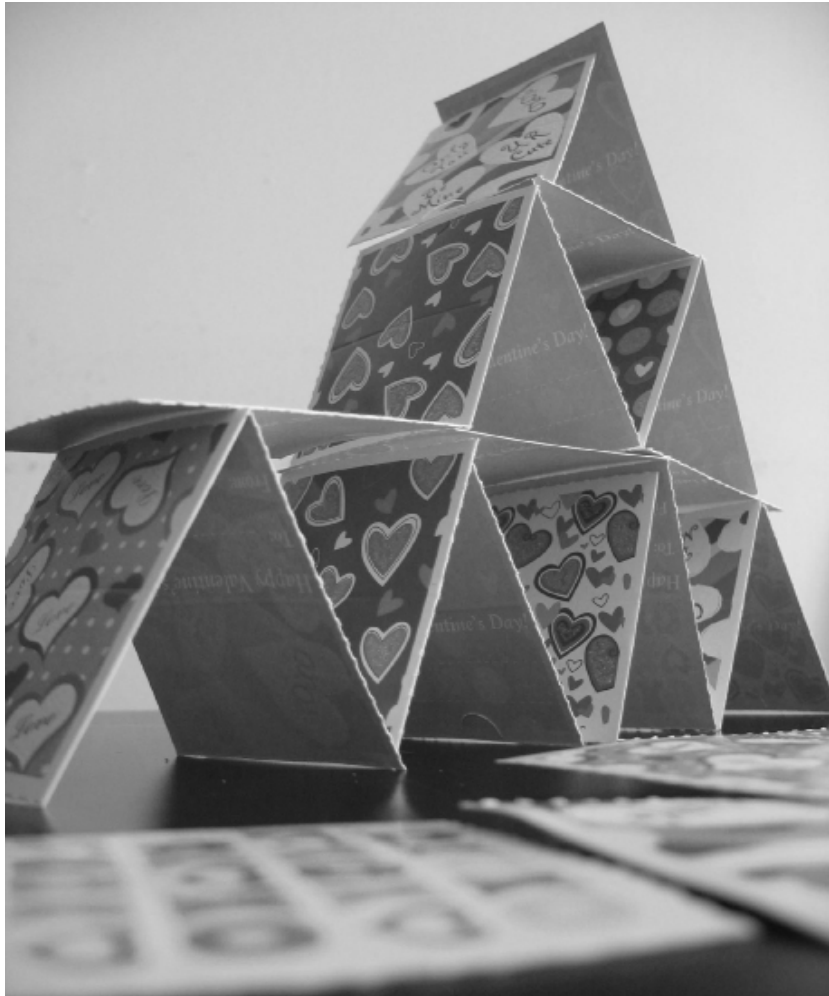
By *Columnist Samuel Clemens*
(noL)

In the Netflix original series *House of Cards*, Francis Underwood (Kevin Spacey) has no patience for useless things. We know this because within the first minute and twenty seconds of the series he says it directly to us, the faithful viewing audience whom Underwood is all too eager to acknowledge and engage. If the audience shared (Spacey)'s sentiment, this is the only minute and twenty seconds they would abide. This is to say it's useless for him to talk to the camera. So useless in fact, that it hovers in the ether between distracting and infuriating. Infuriating because *House of Cards* is still spectacularly enjoyable. Therein lies the frustration. Anything featuring one of the most accomplished actors of the past twenty years and one of the most inventive directors working today (David Fincher) should be reasonably expected to avoid such a glaring mistake. Certainly the

two gentlemen would beg to differ, but each would be hard-pressed to argue in good faith that the director of *Fight Club* and *The Social Network* could not possibly have concocted a better scheme to introduce us to our

newest televisual antihero than plopping him in front of the camera and spouting his CV: 22 years in Congress as a House Majority Whip who "keeps things moving in a Congress choked by pettiness and lassitude."

Narration generally, but in particular when the narrator appears on screen seems best suited for films.



After all, it is a tall order indeed to condense hundreds of pages into two hours without taking a shortcut or two. *House of Cards*, however, has plenty of time. The writers and producers knew they would have at the

very least 13 hours, if they needed them, to let the audience decide whether Underwood loves his wife "...like a shark loves blood."¹ Perhaps they wanted to portray the disconnect between what Underwood says and what he does; that kind of friction is almost always dramatic gold. This is a laudable impulse, and it's one that could have been sated in all manner of more effective ways.²

And yet...*House of Cards* is good. It looks stunning, serving up a decidedly Fincherian colorscape in which every shot looks icy black, with a subtle mist of Tang. Apart from the risible narration,³ the series is written well enough and acted marvelously enough. If Sarah Palin has taught us anything,⁴ it's that America loves it when someone "[goes] rogue." After learning he will not be nominated for Secretary of State, notwithstanding certain promises, Underwood goes full Palin⁵ and mounts a political scorched earth campaign that would

coax beams of pride from the Roman Senate. The stakes are as high as the production values, and the series is a worthwhile and thoroughly enjoyable viewing experience. It quite easily could have been even better.

¹ Actual line.

² See, e.g. Underwood saying the line to literally any character. Maybe

even his wife!

³ See above

⁴ She has not.

⁵ Note: No wolves were harmed in the making of *House of Cards*. At least... God, I hope not.

Organization Spotlight

By *Special Contributor Barb Marmet (3L)*

Bone Marrow Drive

It's spring, and that means lots of awesome events coming up from the Bone Marrow Drive at the law school. On March 14, the law school will host its annual bone marrow donor registration drive. Have you thought of joining the registry, but never have? Do you have questions

about what it means to be on the registry? Volunteers will be in the lobby all day to answer questions and walk you through the quick, painless process of joining the registry.

On that very same day, BMD will celebrate pi day in style with the second ever Pie Eating Contest! Come

out and watch the spectacle and support your favorite contender.

On March 30th, BMD will host the 9th annual Ali's Run, a 5k fun run/walk in memory of Ali Kaplan, Dean Kaplan's daughter. Ali was 12 when she passed away in 1999 from a rare bone marrow disease, and this run is a way for the law school and the wider Williamsburg community to honor her memory. There will be a table in the lobby to register during the week of March 25th, or you can register online right now at <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Williamsburg/Alis-Run>.

About 70% of people with life-threatening blood cancers and diseases are unable to find a match within their own family. Joining the registry, spreading awareness, and supporting the National Marrow Donor Program means more people finding a match and getting the life changing treatment they need.



POLICE BLOTTER: Week of February 8

Friday, February 08, 6:29 P.M.

– Stemming from the same regrettable incident, one Williamsburg man was charged with attempted murder, while his common law wife faces charges of (ostensibly successful) libel. Accusing the woman of “giving love a bad name,” the man shot her through the heart. Thankfully it was one of those Valentine’s Day candy hearts, but she was holding it at the time so it’s still a big deal.

Saturday, February 9, 4:56 A.M.

– A man accused by friends and colleagues of loving *Les Miserables* “way too much” was arrested and charged with a crime of passion.

According to authorities at the scene, he faces up to seven years in one of those messed up French jails hauling boats.

Monday, February 11, 3:21 P.M.

– In a desperate ploy to emulate Ben Harper, a man was convicted on 4 counts of “stealing [his] kisses.” He was able to avoid jail by agreeing to enter what’s referred to in the made-up police blotter business as a “Palmer plea” and entering a treatment facility, where the man complained he didn’t even get to meet Michael Douglas.

Thursday, February 14, 5:22 P.M.

– In what a Williamsburg man vainly attempted to ensure history would

remember as the “Valentine’s Day Massacre,” the man, by his own account, “totally murdered that whole rack of ribs, bro. It was a massacre.” Though his overtures toward history were initially rebuffed by, well, everyone, it was later revealed that the ribs were human. So he’ll probably get his wish.

Thursday, February 14, 12:01 A.M.

– Just about everyone in *A Good Day to Die Hard* was charged with criminal negligence for yet again trifling with John McClane, a man who had, to that point, thwarted four major terrorist attacks. Also a bunch of them were charged with murder.

Continued from Page 4

to visit the temple of the God of Wealth and have one's future told.

Now most of the people only have two or three days' vacation, so the fourth day is when corporate 'spring dinners' kick off and business returns to normal.

The fifth day is the God of Wealth's birthday. People eat dumplings on this day. People will also shoot off firecrackers in the attempt to get Guan Yu's (the Chinese God of War) attention, thus ensuring his favor and good fortune for the whole year.

Guan Yu was born in A.D. 160 (Han dynasty); he had won over one hundred battles. He represents loyalty, strength, truth, and justice in people's faith.

Finally, the fifteenth day of the New Year is celebrated as the Rice Dumpings Festival or the Lantern Festival. Rice dumpling is a sweet glutinous rice ball brewed in a soup. Lanterns are carried outside houses as a way to guide wayward spirits home. This day marks the end of the Chinese New Year festivities.

There are 12 animals representing

each year in turns. 2013 is the year of snake. The 12 animals resemble some kind of Greek or Latin signs. Basically, it's something related to astronomy which I don't understand.

All in all, the celebrations of New Year are always happy. There will be so many beautiful foods, beautiful clothes, beautiful music, and the TV performances will be of the highest quality of the year. So for the next several days - I wish you a Happy Chinese New Year!

Completely Romantic Adult Fun Page

WORD SEARCH

Directions: Find the other half of the famous romantic couple

1. Pyramus and _____		A	P									O	W
2. Katniss and _____		E	H	E	A							A	Y
3. Mark Antony and _____		W	I	E	D	Q	M					P	I
4. Mickey and _____		A	N	M	V	N	V	E				Y	E
5. Jack Dawson and _____		O	T	R	O	A	L	L	I	M	A	C	J
6. Scarlett O'Hara and _____		B	S	E	L	U	Q	E	U	N	T	L	X
7. _____ and Josephine		E	O	J	O	A	B	F	C	G	D	E	S
8. _____ and Clyde		R	N	N	S	F	U	N	O	E	L	O	P
9. _____ and Helen		N	A	S	N	C	S	K	W	K	O	P	A
10. Peter Pan and _____		I	H	B	A	I	U	O	B	I	G	A	R
11. Princess Leia and _____		C	O	E	H	J	E	B	S	I	H	T	I
12. Barack Obama and _____		E	O	M	G	S	H	E	D	A	N	R	S
13. _____ and Eurydice		A	O	H	J	P	V	A	R	E	A	P	D
14. Marie Curie and _____			E	K	E	R	B	R	T	T	E	K	C
15. Gonzo and _____													E
16. Castle and _____						I	I	O	P	K	R	A	L
17. Burt and _____								N	E	L	L	E	H
18. Wall-E and _____								N	S	A	N	L	X
19. Midas and _____									I	T	R	Y	E
20. Cookie Monster and _____										M	S	G	
											A		

PUZZLING PUZZLES

WARNING! The following problem requires rudimentary math skills.

Bob the cheapskate wants to spend \$15 to get Alice some flowers and chocolates for Valentine's Day. However, since Alice is lactose intolerant, Bob decides to get her those tiny candy hearts with cute phrases. At the supermarket, he gets into a fight with a middle-aged soccer mom over the last box of candy hearts while the store workers egged them on (literally). He lost. A friendly store owner consoled Bob by pointing out the deals on flowers, balloons, and bears. Ever since the helium tragedy of '08, balloons have terrified Alice, so Bob asks for the prices on flowers and bears. The store manager is a malcontent math major at William and Mary, so he gives Bob the price as follows: 5 bears and 12 flowers are \$118.50, the cost of 2 bears and 7 flowers is \$65. Can Bob afford one bear and one flower or should he just steal some dandelions from his neighbor's yard? And, can Bob sue the store manager for IIED?