#### bullsheet@denison.edu | denisonbullsheet.com | @DUBullsheet



The Bullsheet, a forum for news, humor, and community dialogue, is funded by DCGA, is hanging on for dear life, and is printed each day that classes are in session. Submissions must be sent before our editors shamble into the office for next day submission via e-mail to: bullsheet@denison.edu. Submissions herein solely reflect the opinions of the authors.

Edited last night by: Ellie Delivered this morning by: Evie vol. LXVIII / no. 44 / November 2nd, 2021

# NOTES ON [THE BULLSHEET'S] RECENT APOLOGY

To the staff of the Bullsheet,

[...] Having read the exchanges involving the recent apology, I have some advice that I strongly encourage you to take. Firstly, in the apology sheet, you should have mentioned and emphasized that you're still learning as white people how to navigate discourse around subjects like race, and the fact that the original article was even written and published is testament to the fact that you can never understand or experience racism.

You must acknowledge that your words, as a publication whose staff is completely white, hold more weight, especially when discussing things like race. Any time you, as white people, discuss non-whiteness, you need to be hyper aware and double-check your words. You also should have stated in the apology that people of color, especially Black people, are not there to correct your racism, and this is something that should have been caught much sooner... In fact, ask yourself why it took so long, and why someone had to call you out in order to realize the tonedeaf and offensive impact of your words.

I also strongly encourage [...] amplifying non-white voices, and see if [they] would like to contribute to the sheet. You have a publication, so the platform is there to use, and it should be used to give people of color a voice on campus [...] If you feel guilty about this situation, good—live in that discomfort. But, it also means that you have the capacity to learn. So learn and let people know that you are indeed learning and actively trying to do better. You can start this learning process by rereading *Beloved*, and genuinely comprehending the weight of the story, and why it should never have been made light of in a satirical newspaper. If you have any further questions about how to navigate discussions of race, Google them.

\*Editorial note: brackets indicate omitted or rephrased text to preserve the author's identity.

Anonymous

### FOLLOW-UP STATEMENT FROM STAFF

Denison is a predominantly white institution and it is important to see how that is reflected in the organizations on campus, especially those that have the privilege to be a forum of news and conversation to campus. That being said, the current Bullsheet staff is all white. Knowing this, we should have been more cautious in ensuring that what we publish is inoffensive and acceptable to all of the campus population, not just white students and staff.

White people are afforded privileges non-white students are not, which includes the privilege of ignorance in relation to race. Our first apology did not critically address all of the problems related to the article. We did not think to fully consider the implications of our language or the burden placed upon the Denisonian author to bring the obvious issues with our article to light.

Continued on back...

It is not the responsibility of non-white people to be educators on issues of race. We need to assume responsibility for our actions, to critically reflect on how we think, and educate ourselves. For it to remain unaddressed for so long was a product of blissful white ignorance at the expense of Black suffering. As a staff, we apologize for allowing the article in question to be published in the first place. We apologize to the author of the aforementioned Denisonian article as well as the rest of the black community at Denison for publishing content that finds humor in Black tragedy, something with a long legacy in media and entertainment.

The Bullsheet is limited in terms of providing a healthily diverse variety of content. We want to strongly encourage non-white students (and staff) to submit content, write responses, and apply to the Bullsheet, if they so choose. Most importantly, we would like to emphasize that the Bullsheet is and will always remain a forum for community dialogue. Submissions don't need to be satirical--we want to invite open and honest conversations among Denisonians.

The staff thanks our peers who hold us accountable and allow us to grow.

Staff

## VISUAL CONTENT INTERRUPTION

Random images sourced from the Bullsheet's local downloads. Make your own file names.







The best of all possible bones

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#### Staff "Wiki Roulette" Box

Jack "etree" May, Managing Editor "New Orleans Baby Cakes" Wagner, Junior Editor William "List of human Sesame Street characters" Kelsey, Junior Editor Ellie "879" Schrader, Junior Editor

s and incidents involving military aircraft (1950–1954)" Whitney, Head Maggie "Elephant Nature Park" Bell, Senior Writer Blythe "Leaky mode" Dahlem, Junior Writer Emma "Steganalysis" Rutherford, Junior Writer

Lena "Leper colony" Hanrahan, Junior Writer Evie "List of awards and nominations received by Glee" Waters, Junior Wat Claire "PO'ed" Anderson, Sophomore Writer Lily "I Took a Pill in Ibiza" Anderson, Sophomore Write Mick "Semantic satiation" Smith, Sophomore Writer

