



# THE BULLSHEET

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“GRANVILLE’S LARGEST DAILY PUBLICATION”

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## *A HOAGEST PROPOSAL*

Mason Allen,  
Pseudonym

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**For preventing the students of bored souls in Denison,  
from being a burden on their university or country,  
and for making them beneficial to the publick.**

**Dr. Pepper Mason Allen Swift**

**2023**

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It is a melancholy object to those, who walk through this great school, all about, individuals who, instead of going out at each opportunity and shaking ass, take part in idle activities of their own choosing with little to no merit towards the health of our establishment. They play games, and joke amongst themselves, and partake in nights of cinema with their compatriots. How can they, in this hour of great need, when seasonal depression is at its most wild and untameable, at the whims of Mother Nature in this hellish month of March/April (Marpil), when winds and rains and waves of cold come with no warning and depart with even less, having sapped from this student body the energy required to shake ass and also do academics I guess. Furthermore, it is at the times of the shaking of the ass that one would normally go out that one feels the most downtrodden, and yet how will they find respite? For you see at these late hours of the week’s end, we find that our bastions of hope for our mental health, the Hoaglin Wellness Center, is but a ghost town, if ghost towns had no one working in them for the weekend and it had fun little lights on inside. Perchance.

So how, then, can we find a solution to this problem? How, then, can anyone in good faith be expected to shake ass in these conditions? It is here that I would like to bring forth my own solution to the problem. I would like to call this student body’s attention to the organization known as Denison Survivor. This homage/recreation of the titular game show on campus involves sentencing WILLING PARTICIPANTS to all sorts of activities and challenges that the players themselves take part in, in addition to whatever other extracurricular activities, employment, and academics they find themselves a part of. So far, in my infiltration of this group, I have observed that they will do these activities for hours on end in order to gain an edge in the game, no matter how deranged. The conclusion is clear. THE STUDENTS YEARN FOR TASKS. Consider another body on this campus, the DCGA, which to my understanding is some kind of federal authority roleplay club. These individuals willingly put themselves in situations to do work, to be of service to the students of Denison!

Ergo, we now have our problem- a lack of mental health advocates on the week-ends and at night- and our solution- a (mostly) willing workforce! This then addresses both their desire for activities and labor, and a countermeasure against that accursed evil, seasonal depression, so that the average Denison student is once again enabled to shake ass as mentally stable individual.

# DOWN WITH THE EMPIRE...

## 20 YEARS AND COUNTING

Ali Imran,  
Class of 2024

In 2003, the United States began the unprovoked invasion and occupation of Iraq based on false and disproved claims that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction. Today, hundreds of thousands of Iraqis have been killed while millions have been displaced. The much wider and wide-spread mass death, disability, and infrastructural debilitation in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan, and elsewhere in the wake of the “War on Terror” remains uneven, incalculable, and increasingly painful to even contemplate.

Yet, here we are, looking over our shoulders at the wreck of the past, being propelled into a future by the violence of imperialist fantasies. If the death of a loved one can turn the world upside down, what do we do with scales of death so immense that numbering itself becomes a sleight of hand that erases life and entire worlds as “casualties” and “collateral damage”? What does it mean to commemorate and live through this temporal marker in the aftermath of the U.S. empire?

Dr. Zahra Ali (an LCH speaker this semester), joining from Baghdad on March 23, provided a timely reminder to be acutely aware yet weary of the deathscapes that litter the terrains of the U.S. empire. Dr. Ali’s lecture was a well-attended and desperately needed moment of political, historical, and ethical clarity. Focusing on the October 2019 uprising in Iraq, she provided a brilliant mediation on resistance in Iraq in the wake of an ongoing assault on life writ large at the hands of, what she calls, “forces of death.” An important aspect of her discussion was a refusal to center the U.S. or its violence, even as they mark the present moment, and brought to fore the (public, political, social, and intimate) life - lived to its brim - in Iraq.

Dr. Ali shared the story of a young protester in Baghdad who was shot and killed by Iraqi security forces using a gun left behind by the U.S. military. The gun was an advanced version of those used by the U.S. military in Vietnam - these very material and ideological networks unleash violence on BIPOC communities in North America as well. While I recall this particular moment, her talk was about a lot more and I suggest you watch it. Yet, it must not be forgotten that the U.S. invasion of Iraq had majority and wide-spread public support in the U.S. from Democrats, Republicans, leftists, you name it!

Much critical work on the post-9/11 has shown how nationalism, racism, gender, human rights, and other civilizational discourses are operationalized in the service of the empire (like much of the discourse on Ukraine). WOT reinforced and was invigorated by the liberal rights discourses and the white fragility and loss of racial/ sexual innocence that has spurred white nationalist and patriarchal (“men’s rights”) anxieties.

20 years later, there is much ado (but not much doing) around rights, gun violence, and environmentalism at Denison. But let’s be clear: U.S. state and law and its off-shoots will not bring an end to these systems of violence because they are responsible for these ecological and social catastrophes and protect rapists, torturers, and war criminals (all continuing legacies of the foundational colonialism of the U.S) from Abu Ghraib to Guantanamo. And the truth is we are also the next batch of the empire’s foot soldiers. There is no ethical living under these systems but there certainly is the path of resistance and solidarity, there is divestment from militarization and policing, and the need to be trenchant in our work and politics even if it means giving up on respectability or false safety.

99. Chicken-Aspic Vegetable Salad



### Staff “Jell-O Salads” Box

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