

GALLEY

There are many sides to the question of whether or not the student body should forfeit its Friday night dinner in order to contribute to the Bennington Civil Rights Committee the money which would ordinarily be spent for this food. We would like to present a dissenting opinion to this gesture.

This gesture supposes universal public consent to a matter which should be decided privately. An ample number of contribution boxes have been distributed throughout campus, and they allow a community member to decide privately both whether or not she wishes to contribute and the amount to be given. A contribution should be made by this means, rather than through a legislative decision which in essence assumes that the community is of one mind concerning its beliefs about this matter. Consequently, this is an instance in which a majority rule vote should not decide what the action of the minority must be, since a contribution to civil rights is a private decision, and the manner of giving should be decided by personal discretion.

Jeannie Nicholas
Marianne Stafne
Sally Wolter

May 20, 1963