



# THE HILARIAN

ISSUE 1 2021



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# EDITORS' WELCOME

Why hello there...

It's your favourite Law Student Society satirical publication. What? There's only one of those? Haha that's super weird because there's like such a massive readership for this magazine? Anyways.

2020 has been a hell of a year for all of us, but we've officially graduated (kinda) from Zoomiversity, right into the cold, wet, suffocating arms of IRL University. Is it just me or does Ligertwood seem more prison-like than usual?

For us, your 2021 editors and sub-committee, our approach to the new school year has been to mass produce top-tier satirical content to further suppress the trauma of 2020, and the anxiety of a new academic year. Thus from that pit of desperation and panic, Hilarian Issue 1 2021 was born. You're holding it right now, and hopefully you're excited to devour it, afterbirth and all.

This time, we're coming at you hard with some recurring content to keep an eye out for in future issues. This includes Christina Akele's movie and TV recommendations tailored to fit your law student ~lifestyle~.

Put on our Issue 1 playlist (which absolutely freakin slaps), and tickle your funny bone with Will's dramatic hypothesis on the source of last year's Ligy pipe burst. Cry along with Liv as she eulogises Donald Trump's Twitter account, and all the good it has done for society. In a spine-tingling account Felix Eldridge exposes the darkest, filthiest underground trade of Ligy that is course scalping. Jenny gets personal, providing laughter at the expense of her most traumatic experiences in the dating sphere.

You're gonna need to sit down for this.

Will, Olivia & Jenny xx



# PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Greetings law students,

Welcome to the Hilarian magazine, the official student magazine for Adelaide University Law Students!

My name is Peter Tantalos and I am the President of the Adelaide University Law Students' Society for 2021. The mission of the AULSS in 2021 is to represent all law students equally, to provide a positive law school experience, and to prepare students for life beyond university.

The Hilarian forms an integral and important part of the personality of the AULSS and the law school more broadly. Unlike many of the fake news outlets we see today, the Hilarian features only the highest quality of creative satire, thoughtful articles, inspiring poems, opinions pieces and anonymous love letters.

The Hilarian is also a place to explore the experiences of your fellow law students and to take a healthy procrastination break from your studies.

Your talented and fantastic Hilarian Editors for this year are William Broderick, Jenny Jung and Olivia Edmonds. Their dedication and passion for the Hilarian is clearly shown in this edition of the Hilarian and I wish them all the best for this year.

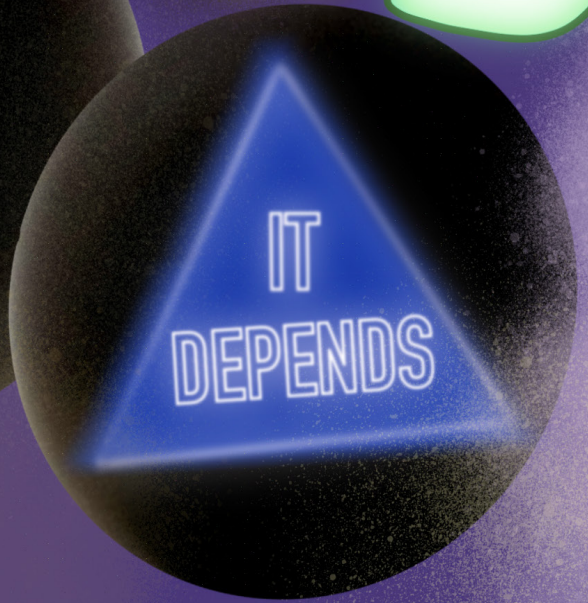
I look forward to seeing you all around the Ligertwood building and at our AULSS events and initiatives. If you have any questions, queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at [president@aulss.org](mailto:president@aulss.org).

Enjoy this first edition of the Hilarian for 2021!

Yours sincerely,  
Peter Tantalos



A LAWYER'S



MAGIC



BALL

# ISSUE 1



Phoebe Bridgers	Garden Song
Lana Del Rey	Tulsa Jesus Freak
Weyes Blood	Andromeda
Radiohead	All I Need
Nick Drake	Pink Moon
Pink Floyd	The Great Gig in the Sky
Cigarettes After Sex	Apocalypse
Fiona Apple	Cosmonauts
Olivia Rodrigo	drivers license
Cocteau Twins	Sea, Swallow Me
Mitski	Last Words of a Shooting Star





# THE LAWSHANK REDEMPTION

WORDS BY: WILL BRODERICK\*

*\*Best read in the voice of Morgan Freeman*

The first time I ever laid eyes on Andy Stewfresne, I didn't think very much of him. He was giving a contract law seminar in the prison yard of Lawshank State Penitentiary, the kind of place where they lock you up and throw away the key, wrongful imprisonment be damned. That was my first impression of him. But as I grew to know him, I realised there was something different about him. Something about the way he talked. He made any convicted felon want to accept his offer. He strode through the yard like a man without a care or worry in the world.

Andy had been sent to Lawshank for having engaged in unconscionable conduct. He was sentenced to serve two entire law degrees via Zoom. Andy, however, maintained his innocence, but then again, so did every other guy in the joint. Andy found it difficult to adjust to Lawshank life at first, but slowly, over the course of the ensuing years, he became one of us. It was also during this time that he caught the attention of the Warden Giancaspro, a seemingly pious pastor who instituted a systemic reign of terror by forcing inmates to study the PPSA and AGLC in rap form.

The Warden took a shine to Andy and pressganged him into service. Andy had no choice but to institute force majeure clauses, which covered horrific 'accidents' in the yard. He was also made to initiate offers with other faith leaders of the Warden's ilk, like former Archbishop Spyridon Ermogenous, so that they could proselytise to the prison populace. Andy complied, always making sure to judge whether or not the postal acceptance rule applied in accordance with *Stevenson, Jacques & Co v McLean*.



And that's just how things were for a while. Year in, year out, Andy would comply with the Warden's demands. First you hate the walls of Lawshank, then you get used to them. That's institutionalised. After a long litany of abuses however, it was time, in Andy's words, to 'get busy living or get busy dying'. It was only later that I found out what he meant by that. One day, after what felt like nineteen years of his Zoom sentence, Andy was absent from morning rollcall. The Warden blew a gasket. Nobody, but nobody, escapes from Lawshank State Penitentiary. The only admissible piece of evidence found that pointed to Andy's escape was two AULSS-branded pens, one of which had been sharpened to a point. The pens had been affixed together to create a makeshift rock hammer. Andy always loved geology, the study of pressure and time. That's all it takes, really. To survive Lawshank. Pressure and time.

Once I got out and reconnected with Andy at Sant-Raphael-de-Zihuatanejo, he told me how he did it. On a dark stormy night during mid-semester break, Andy used his LSS rock hammer to break through the wall of his office, climb through the depths of the prison, and escape into the sewerage system.

The water flowed triumphantly from the broken pipe, flooding the entirety of the law library. And those that remained within the confines of Lawshank, without a question raised, knew. Instantly, almost psychically. In their tired faces surfaced a bittersweet grin, as they pictured Andy Stewfresne: the contract law savant who crawled through 500 yards of shit and came out clean the other side.



LAW

THE SHANK

R E D E M P T I O N 7



# LIGGY HOROSCOPE

Hey witches, it's your LSS in-house astrologer. How are you? Working hard? Would you allow me to be your spiritual guide as I distract you pour un moment from your IRACs and your VCLT and provide you with a moment of introspection and ~spirituality~? Lord knows us law students could use of bit of that good, good self-awareness and reflection. If you're one of those people that think astrology is bogus, well, turn the page. We'll have more fun without you anyway.

## Aries 21 MAR - 19 APR

This is your time to stretch your horns, speak your mind. Give that poor first year a piece of your mind for standing in the middle of the Hub!

## Cancer 22 JUN - 21 JUL

Cancer, I know you're used to taking everyone's bullshit with a straight face. But in the coming week, expect even more BS. Love you <3

## Taurus 20 APR - 20 MAY

You'll prosper in all things academic! Also, your law school cutie is finally gonna notice how mysterious you look holding that soy latte reading your book.

## Leo 23 JUL - 22 AUG

My favourite attention whore, I see a passionate, destructive, short-lasting fling coming your way... Dark hair, immaculately trimmed beard, etc...

## Gemini 21 MAY - 21 JUN

During Aries season, the traits that make you the worst air sign will make you more likeable! Go you and your unreliable, unpredictable ass!

## Virgo 23 AUG - 22 SEP

My favourite virgin you can't drive! your routines are a mess, making you super irritable. Calm, realign your priorities. Maybe clean your room again?



Libra 22 SEP - 23 OCT

You've always been a hopeless people pleaser. Maybe Aries season can teach you a thing or two about disappointing your parents?

Scorpio 23 OCT - 21 NOV



You know those traits that make people go "oh shit" when you tell them you're Scorpio? Yeah, expect to be extra aggressive and jealous these times!

Sagittarius 22 NOV - 21 DEC

You + Aries season = unstoppable fire energy. Maybe this time, put that productivity to use this time instead of looking up 'cheap flights'? Ok?

Capricorn 22 DEC - 19 JAN

I know you - you're the only goddamn person here who wishes they could stay home again. But get out there! Go hit up some law school events? \*wink\*

Aquarius 20 JAN - 18 FEB

As a fellow Aquarian, please slow down that mouth of yours. You're definitely oversharing your creepy theories about time and space. No one likes it.

Pisces 20 FEB - 20 MAR

You're feeling really in your feels right now. I get it. Classic Mercury things. But be strong! Get yourself out there, over-indulge in alcohol, be stupid!



WRITTEN BY: JENNY JUNG



# SIGMUND FRAPP:

## WHAT YOUR COFFEE ORDER SAYS ABOUT YOU

PSYCHOANALYSIS BY: JADE UYEN LAM



### ANYTHING WITH COW'S MILK

You don't really care about social norms and are distrusting of new things. You can't comprehend how milk can come from nuts and this deeply unsettles you. You hate 'PC' culture, and your YT recommendations consist of 'Feminist gets OWNED!!' and 'Dr. Phil best moments'.

### ESPRESSO/LONG BLACK

It's exam season and/or you've got a receding hairline. Likely to use Latin incorrectly in conversations but your mum thinks you're doing a great job. Wait - there's no milk or sugar in your coffee? No way...we had no idea. Aren't you all grown up?

### DOUBLE ESPRESSO

If the words "NGP application" and "This semester is gonna be different" rings a bell, you drink (or should drink) double espressos. You're also concerned as to whether how rough you like it in bed is technically domestic abuse.

### INSTANT COFFEE

Late for everything and you definitely have sex with your socks on, but you're pretty fun to be around. Ironically, you're also a self-proclaimed 'don't talk to me before my morning coffee' coffee pleb/addict.

### FRAPPUCINO

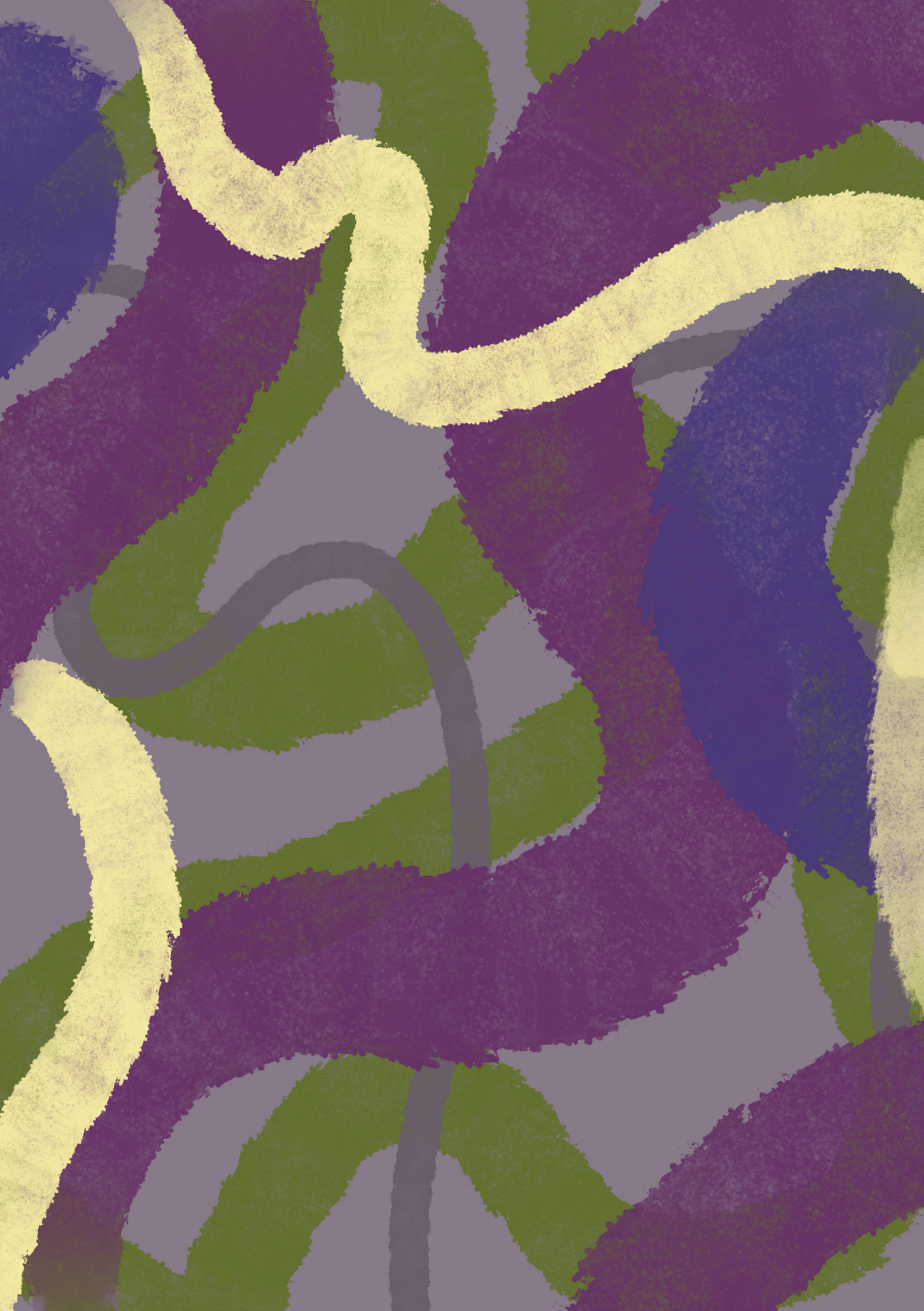
Blood relative to the mocha drinker except you're shameless about it. You take vitamin gummies and should consider growing up soon. You're absolutely blowing the bank (or your pocket money) just with your coffee budget.

### LATTE

Kinda basic and you like to play it safe. Pastel high-lighters are in your arsenal alongside an iPad to "study" on. You've got a Hydroflask and you're ignorant to how loud it is against the desk. Bonus points if you describe yourself as 'charitable' for that \$1 PayPal donation towards sustainability while you're shopping on Shein.

### MOCHA

You definitely peaked in high school and can't shut up about your ATAR. You wear your white Adidas sneakers with everything, especially with your ruched dress from Cotton On. And don't even try to tell me you didn't cut your high school dress into a crop top for Schoolies.



# A EULOGY TO

@REALDONALDTRUMP  
@REALDONALDTRUMP

WRITTEN BY: OLIVIA EDMONDS

Here lies the Twitter account of President Donald Trump, may it rest in peace. Today we say goodbye to a constant companion and commentator especially over the past 7 years. May we bow our heads in grief as we bid farewell to a true pool of wisdom and insight. Without which, we would be far less informed of the intricate workings of former President Trump's mind. To be privy to this intellect, is truly a blessing, and whilst this account is now in a better place, we must be thankful for the time we were able to access it.

Prior to its tragic passing in January 2021, the beloved handle was #6 on the list of most followed twitter accounts with 88 million followers. But for those of us who loved it, and ache with its passing, its accomplishments lie not in the number of followers it gained, but in the perspectives it generously granted. This account held no qualms in speaking its own truth and was a true confidante particularly when it came to the 2016 election: its coverage

of Hilary Clinton's downfall rivaling that of Regina George scribbling in the Burn Book.

As we solemnly reflect, we must ask ourselves what this loss will mean for us both individually, but as humans. For some, this loss will be especially painful. We keep Robert Pattinson, in particular, in our prayers, as for where else shall he receive his dating advice from now? Who now will mentor young Environmentalist Greta Thunberg, or remind her to "work on her Anger Management problem, then go to a good old-fashioned movie with a friend"? To whom shall 3-time Oscar winner Meryl Streep turn to now for humbling reminder of her true ability?

These are questions we must ask as we access our spirituality and reflect.

I ask you now to bow your heads as we reflect on the account's life. We must find strength in our unity. For never again will we be able to scroll mindlessly

through our Twitter feed and encounter such immeasurable wisdom in just 280 characters.

No other account will truly replace this one, and its presence goes unmatched - perhaps with the exception of the deranged energy exuding from a Great Uncle, who has had a few too many glasses of Christmas punch.

May God bless @realDonaldTrump and may the hashtag #MAGA be firmly etched in our memories, for generations to come.

I will end now with some tender words, a poignant quote from the deceased itself, which I believe neatly précises the poetry we are all grateful to have experienced:



Donald J Trump

@realDonaldTrump

I would like to extend my best wishes to all, even the haters on this special date.

11 Sep 2013





Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

Following

The Fake News Media is going CRAZY! They are totally unhinged and in many ways, after witnessing first hand the damage they do to so many innocent and decent people, I enjoy watching. In 7 years, when I am no longer in office, their ratings will dry up and they will be gone!

Jun 11, 2018

93,777 Likes



Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

The fact that I am having a meeting is a major loss for the U.S., say the haters & losers. We have our hostages, testing, research and all missile launches have stoped, and these pundits, who have called me wrong from the beginning, have nothing else they can say! We will be fine!

6:04 PM - 11 Jun 2018

33,609 Retweets



Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

Following

36K

Employment is up, Taxes are DOWN. Enjoy!

8:24 AM - 17 Apr 2018

23,118 Retweets 113,453 Likes



Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

23K

113K

Following

Crooked Hillary Clinton is the worst (and biggest) loser of all time. She just can't stop, which is so good for the Republican Party. Hillary, get on with your life and give it another try in three years!

8:31 AM - 18 Nov 2017

51,389 Retweets 191,954 Likes

79K

51K

192K

Why would Kim Jong-un insult me by calling me "short and fat?" Oh well, I try so hard to be his friend - and maybe someday that will happen!

7:48 PM - 11 Nov 2017 from Vietnam

272,784 Retweets 616,587 Likes



131K

273K


617K



# DATED A GAMER BOY?

## YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO LEGAL COMPENSATION

WRITTEN BY: JENNY JUNG



Does your boyfriend's mouse and keyboard light up? Does he have two monitors so he can watch gaming youtubers while doing his physics assignment? Did he build his own computer? If you answered yes to any of the above, then your constitutional rights and freedoms may have been breached by a gamer boy.

I myself have previously fallen victim to the inexplicable pull of a gamer boy. My first long-term boyfriend was pretty heavy into his gaming and remains so. As a self-proclaimed 16-year-old 'alt girl', it was pretty much inevitable that I fulfil the destiny of all such persons and fall in love with a STEM boy who builds PCs. I thought I was cool, even quirky, for doing so, only to find out (thanks to TikTok) after we broke up that this was common practice among men-loving-people who wore tattoo chokers and a lot of eyeliner in high school.

If you've been in a similar situation with a gamer boy, I would like to offer you legal representation to help you overcome this phase of your life.

There are certain aspects of a relationship that you only experience when you date a gamer, in particular gamer boys. Each experience may entitle you to pecuniary damages. Give yourself bonus trauma points if he also plays guitar and/or is a Discord moderator.





1. If you've ever purchased gaming gear, eg. PC, console, games to spend more time with your gamer, only to be yelled at by him and his friends about how bad your aim is: **damages equivalent to the retail price of item at the time of its purchase**

2. If the word "pog", or words containing "pog" eg. "pogc hamp" mean anything to you: **\$100 per pog**

3. If you went to his house but had to wait over an hour for him to finish his game: **\$420 per hour waited**

4. Every time you've heard him yell "He's one shot!!" after dying in a shooter game: **\$150 per utterance, \$500 if he wasn't actually one shot**

5. If you're aware of and follow gaming youtube/twitch controversies eg. CallMeCarson: **5 free counselling sessions and a personal apology from me**

If these apply to you, chances are that you now don't know what love is without the putting together of the Minecraft beds, the having to earn attention, takeout foods and late nights. Let this be a reminder for you to not to approach that tall, pale, unshaven engineering student with RGB gear or a reddit account next time.

Anyway, here's Wonderwall.







# THE DEMISE OF DANCE

WRITTEN BY: MADDIE MCSHANE

Yep, you heard right. Throw away your nightly routine, it's time to hit the streets because dancing is back, and worse than ever before.

The scene at the club door is enough to give Steven Marshall an aneurysm; people piled on top of people in the wriggling, snaking line. The passing of cigarettes, the intermingling of sweat, but it's all good because you've checked in with the QR code. Forty-five minutes of feigned sobriety later and you've finally made it into the cacophony of lights and bass. Stumbling through the dancefloor uneasily, you make the disconcerting realisation that there is not a soul in here that remembers how to dance.

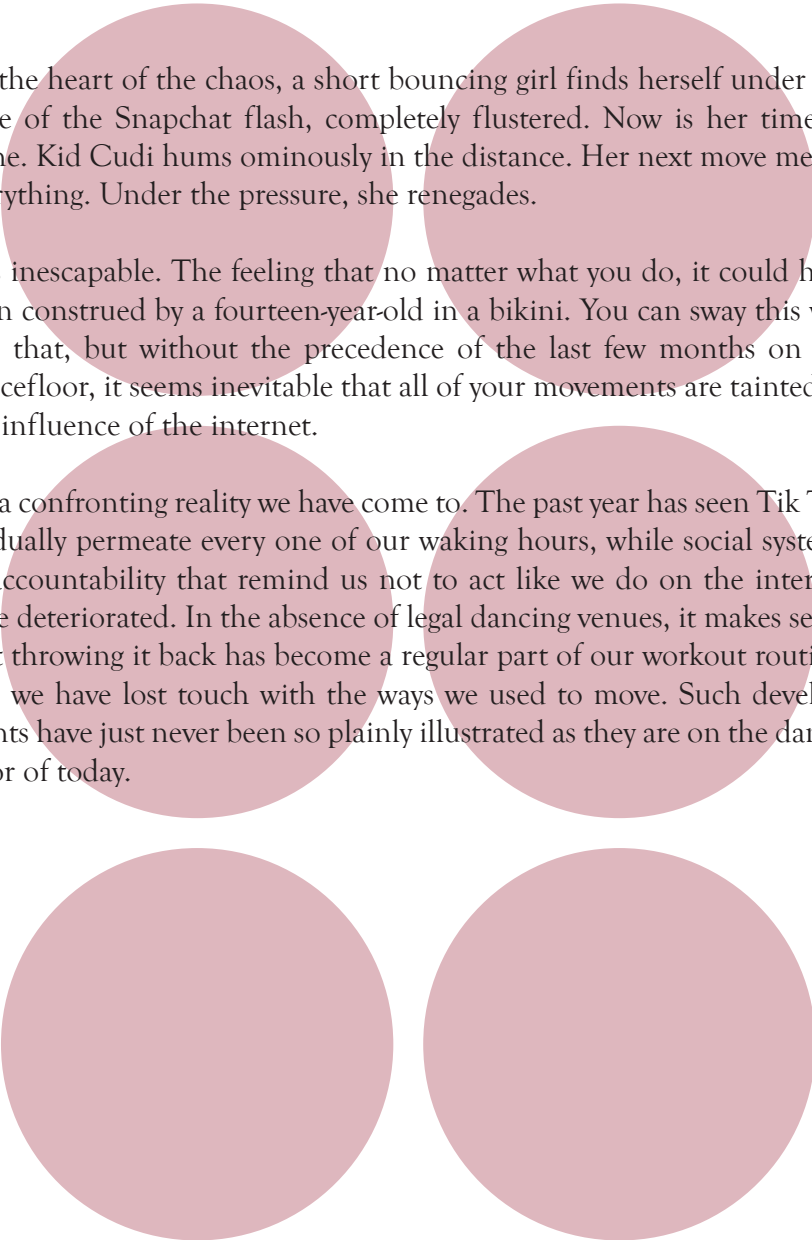
On the outskirts of the crowd hover the preppily dressed private school boys. They box step slowly, glancing at each other occasionally to make sure they are in the right. Occasionally, one of the lads shows how wild he is by throwing up a gang sign into the air. The mystery of whether or not it was ironic lingers elusively.

Crowded next to them are a cluster of girls that bounce eagerly from side to side. They move their hips but not their hands for they clasp their gin and tonics like their life depends on it. They regularly express their enthusiasm for #dancing through a Instagram story lip-syncing the music.

In the heart of the floor move the groovers; an assorted collection of those on hard drugs, and sober anthropology students who genuinely have moves. They never stop dancing.

But I can't help but feel that there is a pervasive, all-consuming force which tugs at each and every person in the venue: The Pull of TikTok Dances.

In some cases, it manifests itself in the subtle thrust of hip. But in others, it is painfully obvious.



In the heart of the chaos, a short bouncing girl finds herself under the glare of the Snapchat flash, completely flustered. Now is her time to shine. Kid Cudi hums ominously in the distance. Her next move means everything. Under the pressure, she renegades.

It is inescapable. The feeling that no matter what you do, it could have been construed by a fourteen-year-old in a bikini. You can sway this way and that, but without the precedence of the last few months on the dancefloor, it seems inevitable that all of your movements are tainted by the influence of the internet.

It's a confronting reality we have come to. The past year has seen Tik Tok gradually permeate every one of our waking hours, while social systems of accountability that remind us not to act like we do on the internet have deteriorated. In the absence of legal dancing venues, it makes sense that throwing it back has become a regular part of our workout routine, and we have lost touch with the ways we used to move. Such developments have just never been so plainly illustrated as they are on the dancefloor of today.

# LIGGY LOVELETTERS <3

Xander

For your heart I will pander  
For being mine the time is  
nigh  
To get my heart, you need  
not try

the girl with the blue eye  
and the blue glasses, we  
made eye contact across the  
law library, and i knew i  
had to meet you!!  
hot choc from st raphael's?  
xo

Ellie V you are so fine and  
boujee. I've made a  
booking for after our  
succession seminar at  
Osteria Oggi. Please give me  
a thumbs up if you're down.

To the curly hair girl studying  
in the law library  
I haven't seen you there be-  
fore

I hope you'll come again  
You improved the vibes  
to a 20/10

You looked really cute  
concentrating as you studied  
Maybe one day we could share  
a table and work together  
No academic dishonesty  
though

Kaitlin may have the finest  
ass and glutes I've seen but  
wait until you see the pics  
of her from pro vino.  
message me if this interests  
you



# THE LAW STUDENTS'

WRITTEN BY: CHRISTINA AKELE

It is difficult to argue that law school is an easy journey. When we are drowning in readings or trying to analyse a case written in undecipherable, archaic English, it can be easy to forget how law can make for fabulous, over-the-top drama (or even, heart-warming comedies).

If you are looking to take a break from those textbooks, look no further. Here are a few bespoke recommendations of TV shows and movies and documentaries which will hopefully make you feel a little less guilty about procrastinating (because they're 'educational' ... right?).

Warning: Some of these recommendations deal with difficult subject matters that some viewers may find confronting.

## MOVIES

### **DENIAL (2016)**

This is a must-watch film for all law students as it is based on the famous David Irving v Penguin Books and Deborah Lipstadt case (so, you know, this movie probably does count as educational). The film follows the protagonist, Deborah Lipstadt (Rachel Weiss), an acclaimed American historian, who is sued for libel by author David Irving (Timothy Spall). This takes place after Lipstadt calls Irving a Holocaust denier in her book, claiming that he distorted historical evidence regarding the Holocaust to suit his own neo-fascist political ideology.

Get ready to be educated kids: if you didn't already know, the burden of proof lies on the defendant in English libel cases. So, the film navigates the arguments of Lipstadt's legal counsel, who are required to provide evidence that the Holocaust took place - so that any reasonable historian could not doubt it - and overall, prove that her statements about Irving were, in fact, true.

This is an outstanding film which explores the importance and value of truth. It also shines a light on Lipstadt's shrewd and strategic legal team, and it might make us mere, sleep-deprived law students feel like we have something to aspire

22! Imagine that ... hope!

# MUST-WATCH LIST

## **TWELVE ANGRY MEN (1957)**

If you haven't already seen this classic film, you've most likely heard of it. If not, then what kind of law student are you? Its legacy has been cemented in film history, from its various awards to the seemingly interminable instances where the film has been parodied, referenced, or adapted. So, if you don't know it, you're either living under a rock, or I am seriously overestimating the popularity of movies made in the fifties... knowing me, it's probably the latter.

Regardless, this film is brilliant. It follows twelve jurors (hence the name *Twelve Angry Men* – what did I say? Creative genius!), who are left to decide on the guilt of a socially disadvantaged boy accused murdering his father. While the evidence pointing towards the boy's guilt seems to be compelling, and with most jurors eager to leave, it takes one juror's insight (Juror 8, played by Henry Fonda) to leave the jurors questioning whether the boy really did murder his father.

Overall, the film explores the vitality of setting aside emotion and prejudice when it comes to administering justice and just how contentious evidence in a case can be. If *Twelve Angry Men* doesn't leave you impressed by the cast and script, it will certainly make you wish that you had the dramatic, persuasive talent of Juror 8 when you are writing your next law assignment.

## **MY COUSIN VINNY (1992)**

A murder trial set in an Alabama courtroom. An unconventional lawyer from Brooklyn defending his wrongfully accused cousin. An academy-award winning performance. Sounds like the perfect, serious legal thriller, right? Well, *My Cousin Vinny* has got all those things, but it is far from another Hollywood John Grisham adaptation.

The protagonist, Vinny Gambini (Joe Pesci), is an inexperienced lawyer from Brooklyn, who, after only six weeks since passing the bar exam, finds himself as the defence lawyer for two youths (or 'yutes' as Vinny confusingly refers to them



in his Brooklyn accent): his cousin (played by Ralph Macchio, aka the “Karate Kid”), and his cousin’s friend who are charged with first-degree murder. Given that it is his first trial ever, he appears incompetent at first, and when Vinny isn’t falling asleep during the trial, he is being held in contempt of court for his unapologetic confidence, wearing cool leather jackets (instead of fancy suits) and for his general inability to follow to basic courtroom procedure. However, his unusual approach and natural ability to argue comes in handy... sometimes. If you are looking for one of the wittiest, funniest legal films ever made, this is the movie for you. Ultimately, *My Cousin Vinny* excels at parodying all the common courtroom drama clichés through a hilarious script and talented cast.

## TV SHOWS

### **THE PEOPLE V. O.J. SIMPSON (2016)**

No prizes for guessing what this Ryan Murphy TV drama is about. As the title suggests, this show explores the trial of O.J. Simpson who was infamously accused of murdering his wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman in 1994.

This show is a rollercoaster ride of a legal drama (and I am not just talking about the nausea-inducing, fast-moving camera shots). The show includes incredible performances from a star-studded cast, with Sarah Paulson playing Marcia Clark, Sterling K. Brown as Christopher Darden, Cuba Gooding Jr. as Simpson, David Schwimmer as Robert Kardashian just to name a few. Yes, this show stars Ross from *Friends* playing – rather compellingly – Kim Kardashian’s dad. And no, he won’t be yelling “we were on a break!!” during the trial, as much as we might expect it.

Through a well-developed script and complex characters, the show seamlessly explores the facts of the case and navigates the legal arguments, while also balancing themes such as racism, police brutality, domestic violence, and gender inequality.

## BETTER CALL SAUL (2005-2021)

Without spoiling too much, Better Call Saul is a dark comedy series that follows attorney Jimmy McGill (Bob Odenkirk), a former con-artist, who later goes by the appellation Saul Goodman (a character Breaking Bad fans are familiar with). What sets this series apart from other legal dramas is the portrayal of its morally questionable protagonist, who begins as an aspiring lawyer but gradually descends into a life of criminality. The protagonist is no hero. He's the archetypal anti-hero, and yet, the audience is drawn to his story.

I would definitely watch this show for the brilliant writing and the three-dimensional characters. Quite frankly, I don't know anyone who wouldn't be impressed by Odenkirk's particularly nuanced performance.

**DID YOU LIKE THESE RECOMMENDATIONS?**

**KEEP YOUR EYE OUT FOR NEXT ISSUE'S LIST!**



# UNDERBELLY: THE COURSE SCALPER

WORDS BY: FELIX ELDRIDGE

“I can’t believe I didn’t get into Family Law for next year” complained Kelly to her friend Laura. “My laptop crashed at 11.29 and in the three minutes it took to restart and log back into Access Adelaide to do my enrolment all of the spots had closed. I feel robbed.”

“Oh that sucks” said Laura sympathetically. “Was this course super important to you?”

“Yeah it was! I want to practice Family Law and if I don’t get it next year it means I have to push my degree back a whole year to do it in the future. It’s going to ruin the last two years of my degree or my whole career trajectory!”

Laura dropped her voice considerably. “Well, if you really need the course enrolment I know a guy who can hook you up with requisite subjects for the right price.”

“Okay, can you put me in touch with this guy?”

“Sure.”

A few days later, as Kelly was sitting in Ligertwood a mysterious figure emerged from the elevator behind her, sat next to her and whispered in her ear. “Wanna buy an elective enrolment?”

“Yes” replied Kelly without looking at him.

The figure unzipped his jacket revealing many pockets inside. “I’ve got Contracts Selected Issues, Advanced Constitutional Law, Environmental Law.” The figure gestured steadily across his chain of pockets, pointing at different sheets of paper. “What is it that you wanted?”

“Family Law” whispered Kelly.

“Ah, I’ve got 1 enrolment left for that one. It’ll cost you \$500.”

“\$500, are you mad?” whispered Kelly furiously.

“No, not at all. I’m just a businessman and we both know that we wouldn’t both be here if you didn’t

really need to get into this course.”

“Fine, how does this work.?”

“Simple. You put \$500 in cash in an envelope and switch it with me at 2pm next Monday on the third farthest bench near St Raphs. I give you the details of the time that I’ll drop the course and then you can enrol into it. The time will be sometime in the early hours of the morning so that there’s no chance that students will be checking Access Adelaide for vacancies. Come alone, otherwise the deal is off.

He rose from the chair and shuffled out of the building. Kelly didn’t even get his name.

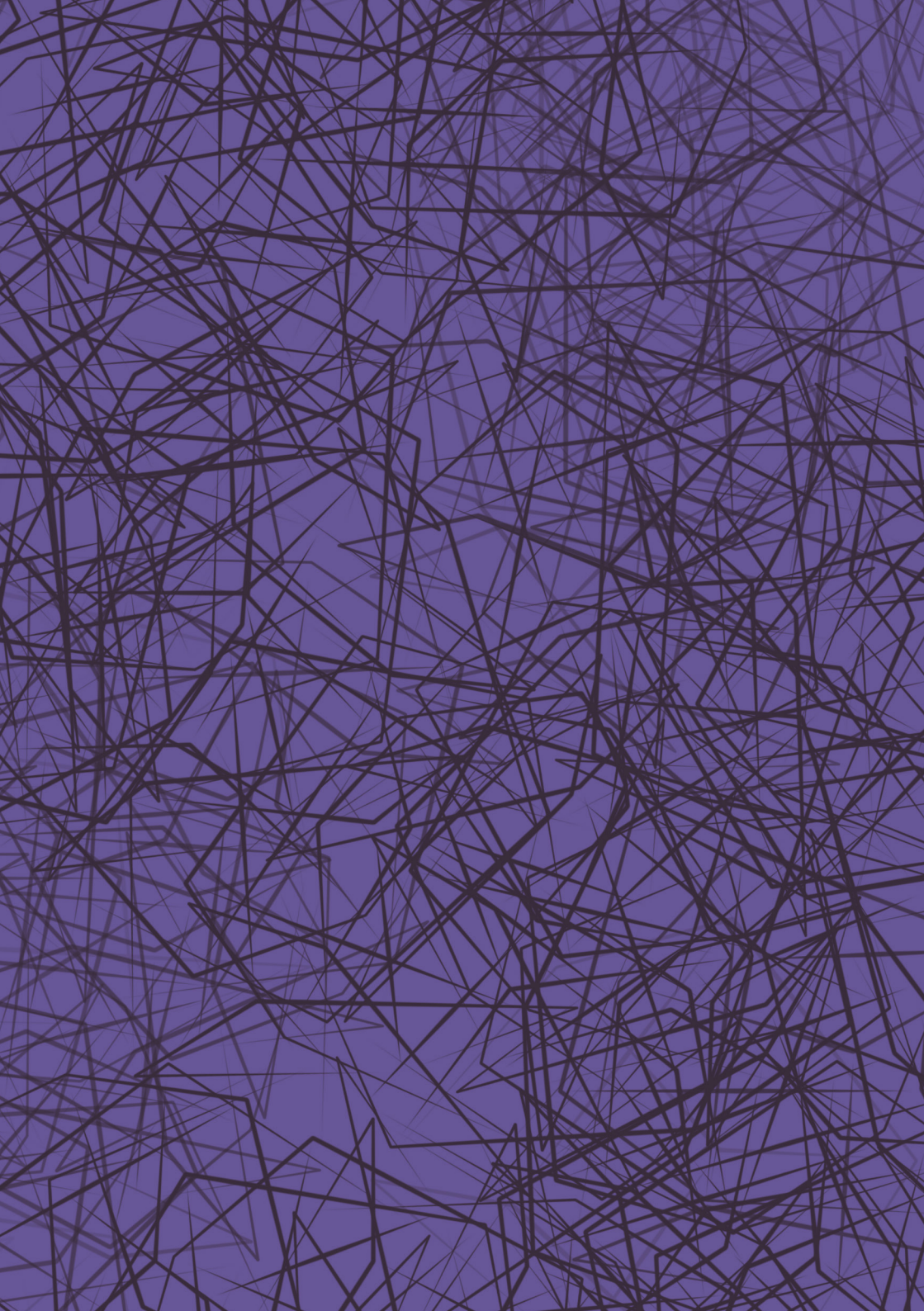
On the day arranged, Kelly was waiting as arranged at the bench. The shadowy figure appeared from the steps leading to Napier and sat next to her on the bench.

“I have the copy of the Hilarian you asked for” the figure said loudly, offering me a copy of the Law Student Society publication. “Do you have those equity notes that I asked for?”

Kelly passed him the envelope.

After briefly inspecting them, he got up and left the bench. Kelly opened the Hilarian to find that there was a small hollowed out space in the middle. Inside this enclave was a small, folded piece of paper with the words: “2.08am Wednesday.

Pleasure doing business with you”.





# TRIPLE J HACK SCHEDULE

UNEARTHED BY: RACHEL NEEF

9:00 - wake up

9:15 - tag fellow young FEMALE in betoota advocate article about 'Scotty from Marketing'

9:30 - update tinder profile pic to one at the pro-choice rally

10:00 - listen to BBC Global News Podcast

11:00 - human rights law seminar (I <3 the UN)

2:00 - UniBar with the boys (Reminder - snub the Young Libs when in public, you'll see them at the golf course on Sunday with dad anyway)

3:00 - remember to tell your FEMALE friend how SHOCKED you were about sexual assault allegations in Parliament #FreeBrittany

3:15 - piss break

4:00 - back to Liggy for corporate law seminar (take notes, this is actually where you're going to end up)

5:00 - back to the UniBar (reminder, eat a mint - we are looking for a wifey)

5:15 - forgot what you learned about personal space in primary school, FEMALES prefer it when you stand super close to them

5:16 - go and stand uncomfortably close to a FEMALE

5:17 - make eye contact with FEMALE

5:19 - smile

5:20 - 5:25 - flirt, explain how you really do think marriage equality is good, racism is bad, Tony Abbott is bad, feminism is good, explain why all these things are good as well, in very basic terms

5:26 - complain to the boys that girls aren't actually looking for nice guys

5:29 - call women psychos for not listening to you tell them how much of a nice guy you are

5:30 - call mum to come pick you up

7:00 - play among us

2 - zZZzzzZZLzZ

# I BET WE CAN GUESS WHAT D

WRITTEN BY: BELLAROSE WATTS

## YOU CHOSE TO ENROL IN ADELAIDE LAW SCHOOL BECAUSE:

- A: You dream of someday working on Wall Street
- B: You wanted to study something prestigious with bragging rights
- C: You want to become an Australian ambassador
- D: You tried/considered applying for Med but your UCAT score was shit
- E: You want to save the world but you're afraid of unemployment so you chose law

## WHEN ATTENDING SEMINARS YOU LIKE TO TAKE:

- A: Your trusty Macbook Pro
- B: Your colour coordinated notebook, pens and pastel highlighters
- C: Nothing - you memorise everything because you're a genius
- D: A crappy notebook and a singular pen
- E: An iPad to save the trees but still give you the satisfaction of handwriting

## YOUR COFFEE ORDER IS:

- A: Double shot latte
- B: Soy milk caramel flat white
- C: Long black
- D: Hot chocolate
- E: Oat milk iced latte

## WHEN GOING OUT FOR DRINKS, YOU WEAR:

- A: A blazer and RMs
- B: Cuffed jeans and a cute top
- C: Your clear rimmed blue light glasses
- D: Your pyjamas (you don't go out)
- E: Vegan Doc Martens

# DOUBLE DEGREE YOU'RE DOING

## AFTER A COUPLE OF DRINKS (OR MORE) DO YOU FIND YOURSELF:

**A:** Hurling your limbs in the middle of the dance floor

**B:** Pestering the poor DJ to play Driver's License by Oliva Rodrigo

**C:** Starting inappropriate political conversations with anyone despite promising your friends you wouldn't

**D:** Ready to go home and sleep

**E:** Getting cut off by the bartender

## YOUR ATTENDANCE AT AULSS EVENTS IS:

**A:** Frequent. You can't resist an opportunity to network

**B:** Frequent because you organised them/work in the committee

**C:** Non-existent because you didn't know AULSS existed

**D:** Frequent because you're constantly procrastinating

**E:** Sporadic depending on whether or not they align with your moral views.

## IF YOU ARE ALL/MOSTLY:

**A:** Congratulations! You're Law and Commerce/Finance. You probably went to private school and can't wait to graduate so you can slave away in the corporate world.

**B:** Congratulations! You're Law and Arts. You're probably majoring in psychology. You wanted to do criminology but it wasn't fancy enough for your parents.

**C:** Congratulations! You're Law and International Relations/Development. You probably went on or plan to go on exchange so you can tell everyone about how cultural you are for the rest of your degree.

**D:** Congratulations! You're Law and Science/Health and Medical Science. You think you're quirky for your degree choices but you actually just have to do twice as much work as everyone for half as many employment opportunities.

**E:** Congratulations! You're Law and Environmental Policy and Management. You're a little naive but you mean well. Hopefully you make it out of law school without becoming too disheartened.

# A CHILLING TRUTH: EXERPTS FROM TED CRUZ'S [POODLE'S] DIARY

DISCOVERED BY: OLIVIA EDMONDS

Tuesday February 16th 2021:

It's unbearably cold, and has been for the past week at least in Texas; and yes I feel it too - this floof is merely an accessory and doesn't provide an ounce of insulation. Adorable? Yes. Practical? No. But c'est la vie. There are certain expectations of me in this neighbourhood and being superfluous and white are but some of the many.

My family has been complaining more than usual, though I suppose that is to be expected with this whole plunging into arctic temperatures situation. My water bowl has frozen over, not that they've noticed. My name might be Snowflake, but I admit even I am starting to struggle. Luckily, I've been sticking to my usual afternoon routine, which involves sitting snugly by Ted's feet in his home office, sheltered somewhat by the warmth of the mahogany desk. Overhearing Ted's conversations is one of my favourite past times. As a Senator he receives some interesting phone calls to say the least. Just yesterday for instance, he received an international buzz from none other than the Australian Prime Minister; what an honour! My fluffy and (might I add, adorable) ears pricked up in excitement. The chat started off casually, with Mr Morrison enquiring genuinely about the cold. They exchanged some frivolous banter about the complete opposite climates they were experiencing. Then Mr Morrison offered some sage advice for which I was sure to take note of: "Ahh yeah nah yeah you see mate, I totally get your situation - what you really need is a nice holiday to escape, warm you and the family up - the girls will love it. Seriously, it'll take your mind off things! I'd recommend Hawaii personally." Ted replied something along the lines of how he really just couldn't pull off a floral shirt the way he'd seen Scott could - so he might head towards Central America instead and don a sombrero.

Wednesday February 17th 2021:

Paws too cold to write today, the power has been switching on and off.

Friday February 19th 2021:

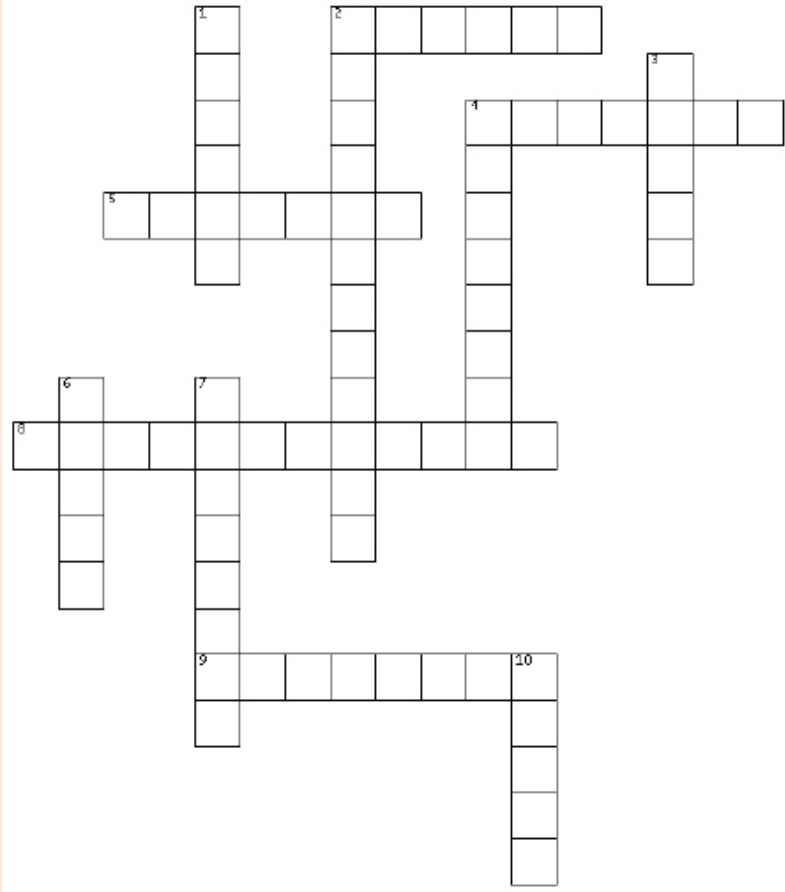
I'm rapidly transforming from a Bichon Frise to a Bichon Freeze. The darkness is closing in. They say everything is bigger in Texas, and naturally so is this god damn house, its vast halls near impossible to heat. With no power, the prospects of my survival are looking slim. Each morning I gaze out the large bay windows, to no avail. You see dear reader; my family has deserted me. Left me in this marble house, a pre-built mausoleum, to literally catch my death by cold. The words Cancun ring like a dog whistle in my ear. The images of the Cruz girls gleefully packing their suitcases with bikinis, sunglasses, and beach towels haunt my mind, visiting me in my kennel each night like post war flashbacks.

I'm so cold. Darn you to hell Scott Morrison for your excellent travel advice in a time of crisis.





# A CROSSWORD: ALL THE UNI PROMISES YOU'VE BROKEN



TURN PAGE FOR ANSWER

WRITTEN BY: DANIEL SLADOJEVIC

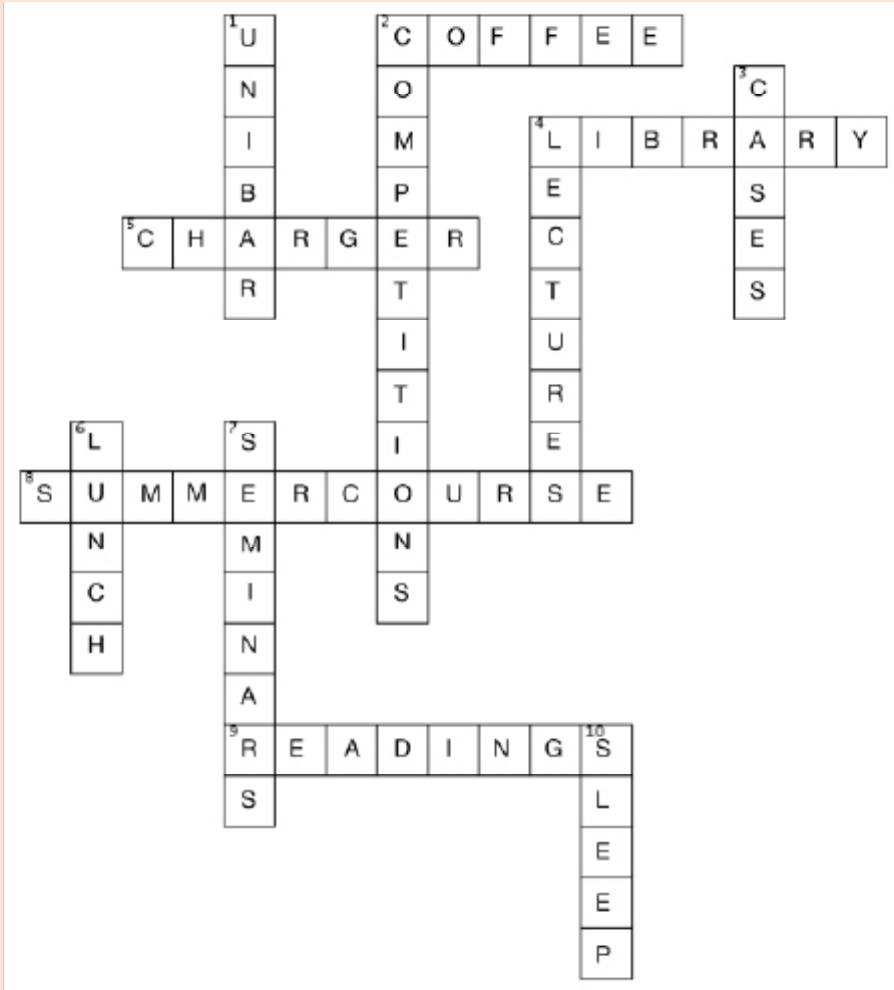
## DOWN

1. Your favourite place on campus (but shouldn't be...)
2. Knowing its good for the CV, but always putting it off "until next semester" until you graduate
3. Me think, why waste time reading whole thing when summary do trick?
4. Already 4 behind but no worries...
6. Buying it in city > packing it (always)
7. "Will attendance be marked?"
10. Needing more than 6 hours a night to function = myth

## ACROSS

2. Liquid Gold (because of all the money you could've saved)
4. Talking to friends > Working in the weird, dark corner booths
5. "Oh no! My laptop died ... what a shame I don't have one and have to leave early"
8. Unenroll from this every January 11th
9. Haven't actually done one since the first week of Foundations...

# CROSSWORD ANSWERS



# THIS CHARMING BUMBLE MAN

WRITTEN BY: JENNY JUNG

Picture this: you're freshly enrolled into Uni, freshly single, ready to live those spontaneous romantic encounters. You quickly realise you're too awkward to approach any real person so you download Bumble. A few hundred swipes later, you're in the nurse's office, getting swabbed for an STI test. You ask yourself, 'where did I go wrong?'. You are not alone. If it makes you feel any better, here's a compilation of all the genus of Bumble boys we all know and unfortunately love.



## THE 'MISTAKE'

- Clinical narcissist
- Does MDMA because 'weed makes me anxious'
- A 'good time not a long time' kinda guy, if you know what I mean
  - Makes his own 'beats' on his
    - macbook
  - Has multiple exes plotting his
    - assassination

## THE 'SOFTBOY'

- A vegan, RM-wearing softie
  - Picks his own shrooms
- Concerning amount of knowledge on fungi and the Roman Republic
- Not afraid to say he's a feminist but will talk over you anyway



## THE 'SWEETHEART'

- Is gay



## THE 'GIRL'

- Texts you first but will ghost you immediately
  - Grandpa sweaters
    - Mullet
- Will never love you back :-(

# THIS JUST IN:

## ***BORED FIFTH YEAR WONDERS IF THEY SHOULD GET A JOKE FACEBOOK NAME IN PLACE OF AN INTERESTING PERSONALITY***

WRITTEN BY: HARPER ROBB

“I’ve only got a year before Clarke Hemmerling legal susses me out online, might as well live whilst I can!”

Cole Turner always played it straight when it came to his social media presence, cleverly balancing pics of him sinking beers with the boys whilst including a token Mother’s Day post to ‘the best mum I could ask for’. Thus, proving he was a sensitive bloke but could more importantly, hold his own at the Exeter. However, in his final year of study it has dawned on Cole that potential employers will soon be assessing his online presence, leaving limited time for the student to prove his laid-back sense of humour to his peers.

“Yeah, I’m a pretty funny guy” Cole remarked “But recently I’ve been considering proving just how funny I am on a wide-scale”

The scale Cole is referring to is the ultimate public expression of humour by turning your Facebook name into pun. Sources suggest that Cole is considering the following options: PinaColelada, Gin n Turner, Turner ip (in conjunction with a cover photo change to a turnip) as well as Cholera Thomas.

“The last one is a bit niche, but I think it’s pretty relevant after 2020, people understand disease way more now. I could never have made that joke two years ago”

Cole has revealed that whilst the pandemic caused widespread suffering on a global level, he can’t help but feel “grateful” that it has bolstered his creativity and sense of humour. With this in mind, Cole sent the list to the lads group chat for opinions. Mikey reckons that ‘PinaColelada’ is the clear choice whilst Noah fervently advocates for ‘Gin n Turner’. No one votes for ‘Turner ip’,



“Boys, you raise me up” Cole replies, excited by the positive feedback and ego boost “Gonna be at the Ex from 5, beers?”

After sinking a few cold ones later that afternoon, Cole finally bites the bullet and makes ‘PinaColelada’ his official Facebook name. It’s a triumphed moment, he’s showed the world just how much he doesn’t give a fuck about his online presence by giving careful consideration into his online presence.

When asking his peers about Cole’s recent social media transformation, a peer commented:

“I’ve literally never heard a single interesting thing come out of Cole’s mouth. Does this Facebook shit change my opinion of him? Not at all”

Despite some negative feedback, Cole is chuffed with himself. Although he will eventually return to Cole Turner, for a minimum of 60 days he will be PinaColelada, in line with Facebook policy. No one can take that away from him.

# AN 'ETHNIC' INFILTRATES PRO VINO

WRITTEN BY: JENNY JUNG

It was Saturday the 20th of March. The weather was truly blessed, a stunning 30 degrees, no rain nor a cloud in sight. What a day to be alive. What a day to be an Australian. You may be asking yourself, 'what does a first-generation immigrant from Korea find herself doing on such a lovely day?'

Well, my friend, I went on a law school wine tour. Specifically, the AULSS 'Pro VINO' wine tour. I swear. Despite the sun beating down on us, this event -instead of giving me a tan - whitewashed it entirely. A disclaimer: to characterize something as 'white' doesn't necessarily have to do with the colour of one's skin, but has more to do with one's lifestyle; a way of life if you would.

Standing around awkwardly on Victoria Drive waiting for the bus to take us to McLaren Vale, I remarked to myself, "Wow, I never felt more marginalized in my entire life as an immigrant". The girls, with their highlighted hair and \*ahem\* sun kissed skin, sported the most ruffled, colourful Bec & Bridge dress to be found. The boys heads bobbed amongst a sea of blue blazers and salmon pink shirts - you can take a guess as to what brand of shoes they adorned.

A wine tour is a white man's sport, my friend. Or at least that's what I was soon to discover. The bus ride, aside from the retail store generic pop music, was pleasant, accompanied by a gorgeous view of the Adelaide South.

The first stop was the Coriole Vineyards - a function room with the most beautiful view, a sunny outdoors photo zone, five high quality wines - and what did you say? A grand piano? Upon discovery of this piano and the fact that it was indeed playable, things turned very white, very quick. As I was trying to remember how to play Clair de Lune, my dear friend shoved me aside and started to punch the tune to the infamous 'White Man Gets Turnt' song, Billy Joel's 'Piano Man'. My friend, this was only the beginning.

The medley, as we soon discovered, had a very limited track list. Piano Man,

Let it Be, and to my surprise, a piano ballad rendition of popular 2003 pop rock track Stacey's Mom. It was white as could get, but the round vowel harmonies of private school educated, suited up, 5-wine-deep law students singing to the refrain of Stacey's Mom was truly a wholesome activity.

Second stop, Big Easy Radio. Thank god for the DJ and the AUX cord, for how would we have pushed through the last leg of a wine tour without Bohemian Rhapsody. Wine tour essential. I was tired at this point. I must have passed out for a good 5 minutes on the couch. I awoke only to the gentle pulsing melody of a WAP x S&M remix. A tear of ecstasy runs down the side of my cheek (which turned out to just be some makeup debris irritating my eye). It was almost too good to be true. By the end of the tour, I looked out the window facing the courtyard and watched as my favourite white people danced to High School Musical gem Breaking Free. They're soaring. They're flying.

On the bus ride back to Uni, as I tried my best to avoid stepping on the pool of vomit on the floor, I envied the version of myself who had never experienced a wine tour with a cohort of law students. However, I thought to myself, "If I had never gone to Pro Vino, where else could I have witnessed a group of white people drunkenly singing Let It Be? Where else would I have gone to see a group of white men dressed in exactly the same suit combo?" Pro Vino - a white man's sport, for the basic white bitch inside all of us.





# **HILARIAN DISCOURSE**

# TOP 4 2020 CELEBRITY LEGAL SCANDALS FROM HELL

It is so easy to be drawn to the seemingly utopian, glamorous world of 'Hollywood'. However, the legal trouble and trials that occurred in 2020 alone involving celebrities and other high-profile figures have seriously undermined this idealised image of fame and fortune. With a handful of crazy 2020 celebrity cases, there are legal discussions waiting for us law students begin. Do you want to sound smarter at a dinner party? Perhaps you want to be well-read and updated on last year's celebrity legal scandals? If so, look no further because here is a breakdown of four cases that caused a media storm in the last year, which have only served to remind us one thing: all that glitters is certainly not gold.

## 1. IS JOHNNY DEPP REALLY A WIFE BEATER? |

This case dominated the media in November 2020 when the verdict was announced, revealing disturbing information regarding actors Johnny Depp and his ex-wife Amber Heard and their tumultuous marriage. The legal dispute arose after The Sun published an article calling Depp a "wife-beater", prompting Depp to sue the English tabloid magazine. The case was heard in London's High Court in the famous Royal Courts of Justice. It was heard over the course of 16 days in July, in which the judge, Justice Nicol, had to determine the meaning of the articles published by The Sun and whether the accusation was substantially and factually true.

### WHAT DID DEPP'S TEAM HAVE TO SAY? |

According to an interview with Tristan Kirk on 60 Minutes Australia, Depp's legal argument was that Heard's allegations of domestic abuse were a 'hoax' and that she was 'concocting a #MeToo narrative'. Depp's team provided legal evidence, namely recordings in which he attempted to prove that the statements were false.

### THE DEFENCE'S ARGUMENT |

Being a defamation case under the UK jurisdiction, the burden of proof lies on the defendant. The defence team decided to go for the complete defence of 'truth' (which is determined based on a balance of probabilities) under the Defamation Act 2013 (UK) which states that the defence functions for the defendant if the 'imputation conveyed by the statement complained of is substantially true'. The defence, along with Heard, presented photographic evidence of Heard with bruises, videos of drunken rages, images of drug taking, etc. Additionally, they brought forth 14 alleged incidents of domestic violence, 12 of which the judge found proved the imputations to be substantially true.

## 2. FINALLY IMPRISONED: HARVEY WEINSTEIN'S NEW YORK TRIAL

It was only last year in February when the world finally saw Harvey Weinstein being held legally accountable for his predatory behaviour towards women during his time as one of Hollywood's most powerful movie producers. This case finally provided a sense of justice for the dozens of women who have come forward with allegations of sexual misconduct since 2017, especially in the wake of the #MeToo movement (which itself began after abuse allegations against Weinstein surfaced). After years of silencing survivors, Weinstein faced several charges for rape and sexual assault in a New York Supreme Court. Here is a summary of the trial:

### ALL THE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST WEINSTEIN

Weinstein was on trial for five charges of rape and sexual assault based on allegations from Miriam Haley, a production assistant in 2006, and aspiring actress, Jessica Mann in 2013. Here were the following charges:

- First-degree criminal sexual act

- First-degree rape

- Third-degree rape

- Two counts of predatory sexual assault

(The Cut provides a concise summary of what these charges mean if you are nerdy enough to read about New York criminal law).

### THE PROSECUTION

The prosecution was led by lawyers Joan Illuzzi-Orbon and Meghan Hast who successfully established Weinstein's guilt by highlighting how the defendant exploited the power imbalance between himself and his victims, often vulnerable, aspiring actresses, before sexually assaulting them. In an article written by Ed Pilkington in The Guardian, he states that the prosecution '[built] up a profile of the movie producer as a cold and calculating sexual predator that ultimately overwhelmed defense arguments' by calling 27 Witnesses over 12 days. The prosecution called on three witnesses in particular who testified as 'prior bad acts' witnesses to prove that Weinstein had a pattern of predatory behaviour, even if the testimonies had no connection to the charges.

### WEINSTEIN'S DEFENCE TEAM

Weinstein pleaded not guilty to all charges. His lawyer, Donna Rotunno, was particularly aggressive towards witnesses (causing two to have a panic attacks). His team's main argument was that the women consented to the 'sexual interactions'.

### OUTCOME

Weinstein was found guilty of the following charges:

- Third-degree rape

- First-degree criminal sexual act

Weinstein was sentenced to 23 years in prison.



### **3. COLLEGE ADMISSIONS SCANDAL – ACTRESSES LORI LOUGHLIN AND FELICITY HUFFMAN GUILTY OF FRAUD AND BRIBERY? |**

Another celebrity legal scandal that dominated the media in 2020 was the college admissions scandal. It drew the attention of many, particularly because it implicated popular actresses Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman and their illegal attempts to get their children admitted into competitive universities. While the allegations began in 2019, it was not until last year that the actresses were on trial and sentenced. This scandal certainly played a role in raising awareness of underlying corruption in the US's elite educational institutions and brought to light how those with privilege have been attempting to undermine the law without the fear of accountability.

#### **WHO FACILITATED THE CRIMES? |**

If you were following this legal scandal, the name William Singer may sound familiar. Singer, through his 'sham charity': 'The Key Worldwide Foundation' would receive large payments from parents. Thus, he would use the 'donations' to bribe SAT and ACT test administrators. According to the Insider, Singer and his team would also 'fabricate athletic profiles for the students, in some cases using photo-editing software to put a student's face on an athlete's body'. He would also bribe college coaches to recruit the students, regardless of whether the students played the sport or not.

#### **WHAT WERE THEY CHARGED WITH? |**

In short: bribery and fraud. Here is what Huffman and Loughlin were accused of:

- Huffman paid \$15,000 to cheat the results of her daughter's SAT exam results by allowing her to have extra time to complete her exam.
- Huffman's daughter's exam was moved to the West Hollywood Test Center where proctors assisted students in cheating on their exams. Huffman's daughter received 400 points higher than what she had been receiving in practice exams.
- Loughlin, along with her husband, paid \$500,000 to the USC crew team to recruit their daughters, despite their inexperience, lack of athletic ability and disinterest in pursuing rowing. Additionally, now infamous staged images of Loughlin's daughter on a rowing machine were sent to USC in attempts to further build on the fake profile.

#### **HUFFMAN'S TRIAL AND SENTENCE: |**

Huffman pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and honest services mail fraud and was sentenced to 14 days in prison.

## **LOUGHLIN'S TRIAL AND SENTENCE: |**

Loughlin pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud, while her husband pleaded guilty to the same, along with one count of honest services wire and mail fraud.

Loughlin's team, who represented others caught up in the scandal, argued that the parents believed that their methods were legitimate. In an article by The New York Times Kate Taylor summarises the defendant's argument, writing, 'they were donating money to specific programs in the athletic department at Mr. Singer's behest...And they have pointed to evidence that the U.S.C. athletic department had a pattern of advocating for applicants whose families had made donations'. Ultimately, prosecutors contested these arguments by arguing that 'the parents knew that their children were being falsely presented as athletes in exchange for their payments, and that, whether the term "bribe" was used or not, the parents knew they were engaging in illicit acts.'

Loughlin was given a 2-month prison sentence, while her husband was given 5 months. A slap on the wrist, if I may add, and a resounding testament to the fact that celebrity privilege is all too real.

## **4. AN END TO GEOFFREY RUSH'S DEFAMATION TRIAL |**

2020 saw the end of another 'celebrity' defamation trial, but in an Australian courtroom this time. The plaintiff was Australian actor, Geoffrey Rush. The legal matter came about in December 2017 when the Daily Telegraph published an article entitled "King Lear" (a reference to allegations accusing Rush of inappropriate behaviour which surfaced during the production of King Lear, in which he was cast as the lead). The article also described Rush as a 'pervert' and a 'sexual predator'. The allegations came from Rush's co-star Eryn Jean Norvill, who played Lear's daughter Cordelia in the Shakespeare production.

### **2019 CASE |**

The trial took place in 2018 in the Federal Court. In April 2019, Justice Wigney the judge ruled in favour of Rush and awarded damages of \$2.9 million, describing the article 'recklessly irresponsible pieces of sensationalist journalism of the very worst kind'. The Judge in particular, commented on the reliability of Norvill's evidence 'concerning the conduct of Mr Rush' and that 'her contemporaneous statements to the journalists [during promotional interviews] were generally inconsistent with the occurrence of the conduct she was describing'. The defendants would go on to attempt to appeal both in regard to the defamation argument and the damages.

## 2020 APPEAL |

In July 2020, the Full Court of the Federal Court, justices Jacqueline Gleeson, Richard White and Michael Wheelahan dismissed the appeal. The case itself is quite long and complex, but it is interesting to note the justice's judgments regarding the arguments brought forward and the case history. In particular, they referred to the promotional interviews given by the actors. However, in regard to the promotional interviews, the Judges did acknowledge that Justice Wigney Judge 'should not have attached the significance which he did to the positive terms in which Ms Norvill spoke of Mr Rush'. However, they stated that there was 'a good deal of other evidence...which indicated that there was a positive relationship between Ms Norvill and Mr Rush throughout the rehearsal period and throughout the performances of King Lear' such as observations from the director and other cast members.

## DAMAGES AWARDED TO RUSH |

Non-economic loss and aggravated damages of \$850,000

Past economic loss of \$1,060,733

Future economic loss of \$919,678

Non-economic loss of \$42,302.

Overall, amounting to \$2.9 million in damages.

## SO... WHAT NOW?

There is no question that our perception of some of our favourite celebrities may have irrevocably changed in the last twelve months, to say the least. The celebrity defamation cases raise the question as to whether monetary compensation can ever truly repair a broken reputation. And realistically, does anyone truly win in the end?

The College Admissions scandal made us ask: What happened to the deserving, less privileged students who never got a sports scholarship at a prestigious university? What happened to the hard-working students denied a chance to follow their dreams? Aren't these the real victims? But also, if you could pay your way into any prestigious college, why USC? Having to bribe officials to get into USC is arguably equally as embarrassing as the actual fraud charges.

But on the other hand, Weinstein's sentencing seemed symbolic of how the voices of survivors (especially the voices of women) will continue to be heard, and it demonstrated how no one, no matter their power or wealth, is above the law.



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AULSS