

## LETTERS *to the editor*

The "Write On" column is intended as a forum for students to respond to articles in *Imprint* as well as issues in nursing today. Please send your letters to: *Imprint* Editor, c/o NSNA, 45 Main Street, Suite 606, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201, or e-mail to [nsna@nsna.org](mailto:nsna@nsna.org), att. WRITE ON.

### What is the big picture?

Dear Madam Editor,

I have just received my April/May 2007 issue of *Imprint* magazine and have found it to be informative and well written. I am excited to share with you that the LaGrange College Division of Nursing in Georgia is graduating 27 BSN students into the profession of which I am one. My letter to you is in response to the letters published in the aforementioned issue of *Imprint*. Two readers took the time to write in concerning issues that they had with the magazine. While I am certainly in favor of expressing one's opinion, I have to say that I am troubled by the subject matter of their letters. Complaints of articles that advertise various products and a letter taking offense to the phrase, "Give a Damn." My response is this: Have we lost focus on the big picture? Is this all we can find to write in response to? The nation faces a severe crisis as the nursing shortage unfolds before us. Millions of individuals do not have access to quality healthcare. Thousands of individuals are being infected each week with communicable diseases such as TB and HIV/AIDS. The cost of quality nursing education is sky rocketing with neither relief or funding in sight. And finally (although the list could go on) nursing faculty are becoming as scarce as frog hair.

Surely, we need scholarly and insightful responses

to these issues! I encourage my colleagues to be conscientious objectors, but please, respond to the issues that are the most important! When expounding the precious energy of a nurse, make it a worthwhile cause-not simply a rant about a trivial item. As nurses, we are continually pushed to the walls concerning resources and our comfort levels. Stand up, take charge, and make your voice count.

Thank you, Madam Editor, for your eloquent responses. Keep up the good work.

**Happy to "Give a Damn,"**  
**Rex Campbell BSN(c), BA**  
Atlanta, GA

### Correction

*From the editor:* We regret an error in the February/March 2007 edition of *Imprint*. The feature, "Responding to Disaster," featured images taken by students from the University of West Florida who went to Biloxi, MS, on an assistance mission shortly following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. (Their story was featured on page 14 of the February/March 2006 issue.) The devastation in the Biloxi area was, unfortunately, as disastrous in some areas as in New Orleans and the article implied that most of the images were of New Orleans. We apologize to Mrs. Shawn Bolender and the students at the University of West Florida for wrongly identifying their images and applaud their fundraising efforts to help those affected in the still-struggling region. ☺

