

*Parent of  
Bonnie Bashaw Hedges*

November 19, 1969

To: Parents of Madison College Students  
From: Women's Student Government Association and Men's Student Government Organization

The purpose of the Student Government is to allow every student who matriculates at Madison to become a member of a community which enjoys a considerable degree of self government.

In an attempt to further the principles of self government and to give each student an atmosphere where he may better prepare himself for life after graduation, the men's and women's student governments wish to change two school rules. The rules in question are those of Parental and College Jurisdiction.

At present, Madison College has final authority over all students whenever and wherever they are, except when they are at home or in the company of their parents. We desire to alter this rule to have students under college jurisdiction when they are on Madison campus (or at a college sponsored function) and under parental jurisdiction at all other times.

After graduation, students will not have the college to guide them in their actions. We feel that if these rules are changed, Madison College would provide a conducive media where students could adjust slowly to the concept of governing themselves.

Before the student government proceeds in altering these rules, we would like to hear from each and every parent. Please discuss this with your son or daughter and let us hear your opinion. Parental opinion will determine whether or not we proceed with this endeavor. We need 100% cooperation from parents to act decisively on this matter.

For All Parents of Women Students

The Women's Student Government Association proposes the elimination of Parental Approval Cards. This card is designed to give the parents of women full authority in determining which types of social functions the women students may attend. This card was established many years ago when Madison was primarily a girls school. Today, with the increasing number of man students who do not have such a card, the parental approval card appears to be outdated. Please discuss this matter with your daughter and inform us on your opinion.

*I say keep the cards and enforce them. I signed the card when my daughter started to college. The parent can always make provisions for changes.*

Thank you for your help.

*Mike Cappetto* President, S.G.O.

*Cheyl Nield* President, S.G.A.

Please fill out the section below and mail it to Box 1, Madison College, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 22801.

1. I have a son, daughter (please circle one) at Madison College.
2. Are you in favor of the Student Governments' new proposal regarding limitation of college jurisdiction? If not, could you please state why. *no*
3. Do you favor the elimination of Parental Approval Cards for women? If not, could you please state why. *no*

Comments and/or suggestions concerning the above can be put on the back.

*P.S. Have the Parents of male students sign Cards also.*

Madison College  
Dear Faculty;

Parent of  
(Bonnie Basham  
Hodges)

Elroy B. Basham  
Rt. #1 Box 282  
Cowington, Va. 24426  
11-20-69

In governing any body I think you have to have the heads or leaders in authority and with authority to enforce the rules of that body. I believe the men students should also have parent approval cards and the College faculty should have the right to enforce these rules on men as well as on women. If you take away the right for the College to have the final authority, as you have now, you will be defeating your purpose as governing organizations.

I hope all students at Madison were brought up in homes where the parents had the final say in most important decisions and if they were taught to respect parents I'm sure they would respect the Madison faculty. There is too much rebellion going on in our schools and Colleges now and if Madison doesn't have the final say then the parents of each student could not possibly be with them and make the decision. I do say that too many parents lack in teaching the right from wrong so you have to have an authority some time and I say while the student is at Madison, let him be disciplined by the Madison rules.

In question #2 you stated (asked) about the new proposal but you do not say what it is other than taking away the parent approval cards. I still say let the Captain of the ship be in command!

Although I believe rules need to be altered I would suggest you always have the officer in charge to make the final authority. Sincerely

Elroy B. Basham