

Moor Viewpoints: Thoughts on Winter Formal 2019



UNBIASED ELIAS

Too Many Choices, Too Little Time

ELIAS ALMAREZ-HERRERA

Editor in Chief

Although the primary elections for the 2020 Presidential election begin in over a full year, candidates have already begun announcing their intention to run. Though speculations and rumors sparked early about candidates such as Oprah Winfrey, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and even Kanye West, no celebrities have confirmed playing a role in this election. However, some of the front runners aiming to earn a spot on the Democratic ballot in November 2020 against the incumbent President Trump include U.S. Representative Beto O'Rourke, and California Senator Kamala Harris.

So far, the 2020 candidates are what CNN reports as "the most diverse ever." Of the candidates that have begun campaigning, "seven of the eight Democratic candidates are non-white, women or identify as LGBT, or some combination of the three." Despite what may seem like the most progressive election of our time, having too many candidates could end up tearing down the foundation of our democracy.

When a constituent is bombarded with too many options to choose from, each candidate's flaws will be overlooked. At the same time, some of the best policies will be disregarded by the public.

Need for Naxalone

MAX TRAN

Staff Writers

The Drug Enforcement Administration advised that first responders should always carry naloxone, an antidote to opioid overdose. This move will likely make sure that many lives are saved, and it is obvious such plans should be implemented.

Opioids have been a long standing problem among many communities, and is such an issue that President Trump has declared it as a "national public health emergency."

According to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, on average 130 people die as a result of opioid overdose in the U.S. each year. Drugs like Oxycontin, a kind of opioid, are often abused by many after prolonged and extensive use. One opioid addict even admitted that he broke his own bones just to get a prescription for more opioids to satisfy his addiction.

Chris Green, a patient who was exposed to huge amounts of opioids, was able to fully recover with the help of naloxone. Green reflects the important reason why naloxone is needed; the sudden nature of a opioid overdose. Many victims of opioid overdose die by the time they reached the hospital because of the lack of a immediate response. Without this substance, overdose deaths that could have been avoided will still happen, increasing the amount of tragic deaths due to opioids.

Moor GRAPHICS BY JENNIFER SU



"I liked the catering from Charlie's Trio because there was pasta, salad and dessert. The food and the night was worth it. It could be improved next year with more promotion and more people." -Sophomore Emily Tea



"It was a fun experience but if there was more people then overall it could have been a better experience." - Sophomore David Huynh



"Attending Boys' Federation's Winter Formal with my friends was an unforgettable memory. I hope this continues throughout the years so people can enjoy and experience the amount of fun I had." - Senior Michael Han



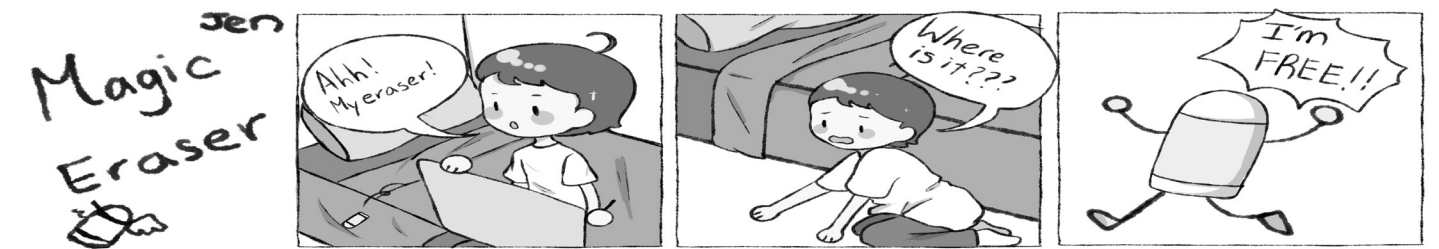
"It's an unique experience, catered to all grades in order to give the experience of prom without being a senior." - Senior Julie Luu



"It was really fun watching people I know dancing and looking like fools, even though I was dancing too." - Freshman Calvin San



"Winter formal was a really fun experience and I'm glad we got to put it together so well this year!" -Freshman Elizabeth Han



Old Enough to Serve, Old Enough to Drink

CURTIS LEE

Staff Writer

Ever since the reversal of the Prohibition in 1933, the legal drinking age has been left to the discretion of each individual state. As of right now, most states and U.S. territories have maintained a legal drinking age of 21. This decision is a number that many claim to be scientifically accurate since the brain is not fully developed at the age of 18, according to several studies. In addition, many claim that teens are more likely to drive drunk leading to accidents and even death.

The outdated decision and continued enforcement of the legal drinking age of 21 should be changed to 18. At the age of 18, individuals are legally recognized as adults. This allows them to gain the right to marry, own a gun, vote and fight for the U.S. military. All of the listed items require good judgment and maturity. This should be enough proof to allow those from ages 18 to 20 to be able to drink without parental oversight.

Alcohol in excessive amounts is harmful to any individual regardless of brain developmental phases. In multiple European countries, there is

no legal drinking age because moderate consumption can prove to be more beneficial. Some of those benefits include a reduction in heart disease development and protection against type 2 diabetes. Brain development is also not fully completed until the age of 25 therefore the age of 21 is not even con-



sidered to be the fully developed stage.

The concerns over drunk teenage drivers is not due to the age of the driver but rather when the alcohol is introduced. Highest rates of drunk drivers' ages are consistent with the legal drinking age. This shows that the issue of high rates of young drunk drivers is not caused by the age of the driver. Regardless of when the

legal drinking age is, there will always be a high rate of drunk drivers at that age.

Perhaps the stigma against younger adults drinking is rooted in the misuse of alcohol in American History. The Prohibition was put into action for a reason and it was simply because of the harm that it was causing to families. Known as a "noble experiment," Prohibition was taken to reduce crime and corruption and solve social problems. However, the ban on alcohol ended up doing more harm than good. Crime increased, drinkers switched to more dangerous drugs and there were no measurable gains.

It is now known that the Prohibition was a failure because the desire to consume alcohol was greater than the government's ability to enforce its law. Countries around the world have no drinking age requirements because of how it is properly consumed. By upholding such a high age requirement, this only forces curious teens to participate in illegal activities in often illegal places.

Adults, 18 and older, have the legal responsibility to take care of themselves therefore, all adults should have the right to drink. If they are legal to serve in the military, they should be legal to drink.

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