

Who's the real victim here?

The most illuminating comment of the entire Alan Gribben/E 306 controversy was said Monday by Dr. Barbar Harlow, associate professor of English, who declared: "I actually find what Gribben is doing is appropriating the rhetoric of dissent. I find it peculiar when people of power choose to represent themselves as victims."

Indeed. That certainly explains why it sits so strangely when women, who today control most of the personal wealth in this country, who since time immemorial have dominated our culture's socialization and language transmission processes, and who constitute an absolute majority of reg-

istered voters and a majority of those actually voting, continue to represent themselves as victims.

Without calling on a single male vote, they could within six years control the presidency, both houses of Congress, every state governorship, all the state legislatures, the vast majority of state appellate courts, the federal bureaucracy and probably a majority of the U.S. Supreme Court. *That is power, raw and overwhelming.*

Dr. Gribben "appropriated" nothing. He viewed himself, apparently with much justification, as a casualty of a vicious academic division sounding in political correctness, and so stated. Under the circumstances, he probably had more right to the mantle of victimization than Dr. Harlow and her distaff colleagues.

Hugh Nations
Graduate student in journalism