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## Letters to the Editor

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# Pornography sold at Student Center

I've been following the censorship of these-called controversial exhibit in Artist Alley in the Student Center. Unlike most of the student body, I have actually had the opportunity to see the photos in question.

I saw the display purely by coincidence; I was walking through that hallway while the black paper was off during last week's SPC vote. I looked at all of the pictures and read all of the captions and my eyes did not fall out of my head.

If it weren't for the big stink I've been reading about in the paper, I wouldn't looked so closely. I have been sorely offended, but not by the artist. I was offended to realize that psychopathic homophobes like the quoted caller(s) live in Carbondale, and are probably SIU

students.

Obviously, the issue needs more attention than our campus is currently giving. Censoring this work serves no purpose but to squash the artist's message. It's hard for me to believe that the student body is so cloistered to be offended by a simple snapshot of a nude man.

I'm also very offended that SPC decided that we students are not mature enough to handle the content of the exhibit.

I think I'm most offended, however, that the Information Station sells both Playboy and Penthouse and the University Bookstore sells Playboy, Playgirl, Penthouse, Penthouse Letters, Playboy Beauty Queen, Playboy Lingerie, and Forum. Both of these

stores are located in the Student Center, and the content of these magazines is much more graphic than the censored artwork.

I'm trying to decipher the difference; why is the variety of pornography available to any student with five bucks, but a thought-provoking and artistic display is immediately and completely censored?

Is it that these magazines almost exclusively picture naked women? Is it that they bring in revenue? Is it that they're heterosexually oriented and don't threaten the status quo? I am disturbed that censorship like this happens on my campus, and I am truly disgusted with the SPC.

—April Pruitt, junior, political science