

# VIEWPOINT

## Patience is Overrated

BY CHRISTINA ASADOURIAN



Patience is not a virtue. When I want something, I want it there and then.

Self-control and fortitude are euphemisms used by hopeful failures.

When I was young and following the wisdom and philosophy of Barney and Big Bird, I was told to practice patience (and to eat my greens, of course). If you practice tolerance, and accept your situation, you will eventually get what you have wanted... only that it's a bit overdue. I've always struggled with this idea because I refuse to throw my needs and wants into fate's hands. I won't allow fate to slow me down, and decide six months down the road I finally am able enough to do whatever it is that I couldn't do at the moment.

Patience is harder to pull off than it seems.

Say you are in a bathroom, the ladies' bathroom, dealing with the all too familiar lagged line; you're about to bust your bladder, and you sense that that girl in the closest stall isn't exactly using the facilities to their fullest potential. In fact, she's probably doling up for some rendezvous. You're really angered by this, seeing as her cheap lipstick and fish nets can wait, but your bladder definitely can't. What does patience tell you to do in this situation? Wait. Twiddle your thumbs, box your anger, and wear a smile.

I choose not to forge a little smile and pretend everything's OK. I have this urge to bang on the stall door, and tell her as it is - my need to go to the bathroom is more important than your need to doll up, because quite frankly if I wait any longer it won't be pleasant for the both of us.

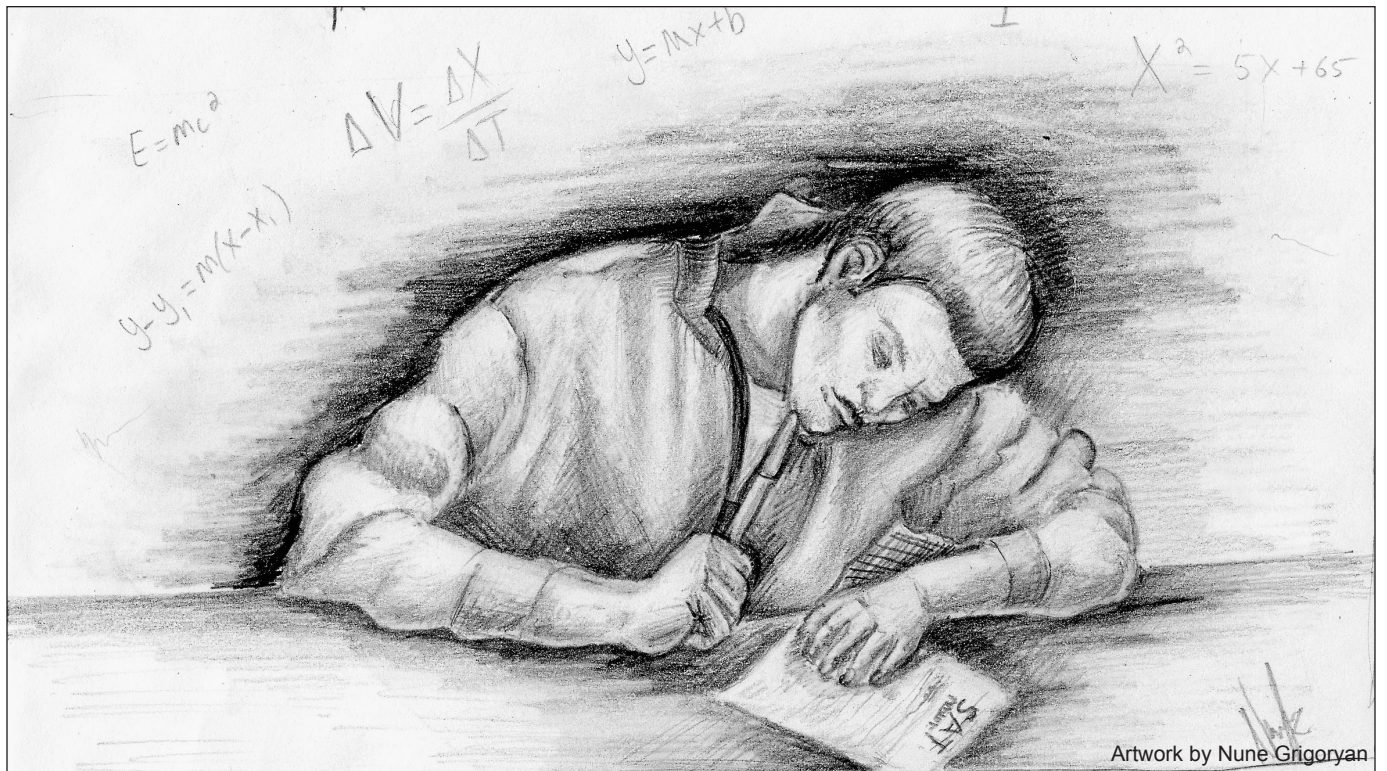
If you don't think the culture of patience should be applied to urinating, I'll offer you another example. Say that little guy we know as MLK were to put off his dreams until he decided every person in that time would be the best little civil rights activist they could be, and be in total accordance with everything he had to say. What would have happened? Would he be assassinated and forever suppress his dreams? Would he have another guy steal his glory? I'm thinking yes.

Every now and then, I do try to tell the little voice in my head to chill out, and let it be; however, some times just call the need to be stubborn.

For me, I choose to exercise my right to be a brat, and take advantage of now. People preach practice, but I'm not listening.

\*Christina Asadourian is the Viewpoint Editor of *Explosion*.

### STAFF EDITORIAL



Artwork by Nune Grigoryan

Many colleges and universities across America have unrealistic expectations towards the entrance of students into their schools. One major requirement is to have a high S.A.T. score. We believe that colleges and universities should not hold the S.A.T. as a high prerequisite to base a student's acceptance on. Universities and colleges should employ an alternative method of selecting their students, and the S.A.T. should not be the highest qualification for a student to get into that school.

Students worldwide have their dream colleges selected and their plans sorted out, and having their S.A.T. scores being the determinant for entrance to the college or university might crush all chances of getting into that school.

Students can be exceptionally intelligent and have an extremely high G.P.A., but might score poorly on the test. Should that one score be the core of their academic achievement? Should they be obliged to enroll in a school that

they don't want to attend simply because someone else from a different school had a higher score? We don't know the teachers at that school, we don't know the measures they've taken to ensure an adequate S.A.T. score, and we do not know the circumstances for the test day.

The universities should reconsider how they accept their students. The S.A.T. should not determine where that person is set to go to college. The S.A.T. is a test that offers a narrow scope of the student's academic ability and competency. Some students who were enrolled in honors classes, did not even know that UC schools focused on S.A.T.'s.

Mari Khasmanyar is among the many students who are against focusing on the S.A.T.'s. She said, "I knew that colleges had high requirements, and I knew the basics, if you get A's, have a good G.P.A., volunteer, join sports and clubs, then you're overachieving and your transcript would stand out. I don't consider a test that everyone in the country has to take something

that sets your transcript apart. What if something tragic happens to you the day before, does that mean that four years of your hard work has to go down the drain?" If we take the time to think about what the S.A.T. is, it is a test of your knowledge and skill attained from high school compressed all in three or four hours worth of time, it becomes evident that the S.A.T. is poorly representative of your academic ability.

Students dedicate their four years of high school by preparing themselves to go to a college that is proper for their academic level and standards. If they score horribly on the S.A.T., then they have a low chance of getting into the school that they so desire to attend.

Students who do not get accepted into their school of choice, tend to give up on their plans for the future. The S.A.T.'s are unfair and should not be mandatory for schools to look at in order to decide whether or not their school is right for you.

## EXPLOSION

The Staff believes it is our duty to report campus news, to inform students of affairs in the surrounding community and world, to explore issues, and to offer constructive criticism where necessary. By-lined articles reflect the views of the writer, while editorials reflect the majority opinion of the editorial board.

*Explosion* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and in good taste. We reserve the right to edit for space or clarity.

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