

A STUDY IN PURPLE

History



MADE BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS

Editors Note

Welcome to the final issue of A Study in Purple!

In this edition we have chosen to focus on the topic of history. In our current political climate it is vital now more than ever that we need to remember history in order to understand what shapes our future. Our actions now are built on the foundations of the past, and as a society we must try to learn from history rather than repeat it.

This issue includes intellectually stimulating articles and creative writing pieces and everyone can take something away from it. We hope you do too.

For the final time,
your asip team.

✦ meet your new team ✦

The chief editor's job is so manage the magazine. They will decide on the theme for each issue, collate and edit all the articles, as well as writing the editors note.



POLLY CAMERON
CHIEF EDITOR



DARCEY BOYLE
CREATIVE EDITOR

The creative editor they will design the design the layout of the magazine and the website once the articles have been edited as well as managing any art submissions.

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AN INTERVIEW WITH SOME OF

Butney's Historians

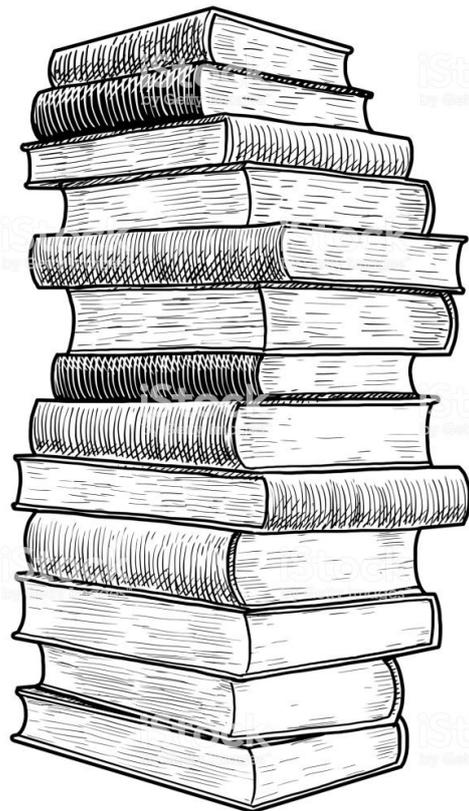
When we talked to Mr Coulsen, he told us that he chose to study politics and international relations at university because of his interest in global politics. When asked what his favourite book was, he says Michael Palin's *Erebus* is an excellent work which follows the history of one ship which explored the oceans in the 1780s. For the lower years he recommends *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles for anyone interested in Stalinist Russia and for Sixth Form he recommends *The Five* which is about the victims of Jack the Ripper and the untold stories of their lives. When asked what his favourite period of history is he told us it is modern history as it is closely linked to politics; he told us that his interest in politics is amplified as he views it as post 1945 history. He also expressed an interest in 1920s America - especially the summer of 1927 which had plenty going on. When asked whether he disagreed with any historical arguments he states that the trenches of World War One were not bad at all; the soldiers had three meals a day, they received money and the generals in charge of them were skilled. The saying "lions being led by donkeys" in the First World War was in fact a myth. He also gives us something to think about at the end: are figures such as MLK and Gandhi glorified? We

study how an individual's actions affect history but should we also study how society affects that individual in order for them to take the decisions that they have?

When we sat down with Dr Shawcross to discuss history, it was evident that he was extremely passionate about his subject. He said he loved the the narrative, the drama, the excitement, the story that comes with history and it's grand epics. His love for history stemmed from when he did a project on the American Civil War when he was younger and expressed an interest in confederacy (his parents later told him there were a lot of negatives to it - like cowboys and the confederate uniform for example). When asked what he found most striking about his subject, he said anyone could make the world a better place by learning it and that's what makes it so special. Dr Shawcross did his doctorate in French imperialism in Latin America. As he used to live in both Columbia and France, he thought to himself - how can he marry the two? And when asked what he loves most about history he says it's the narrative; he tells us that history is some type human experience and that reading great narrative history is the same as reading a great novel, it is Intellectual stimulating and there is nothing he doesn't love about it. His favourite author when he was younger was John Julius Norwich and his favourite period of history was 19th century France from 1852 to 1870; he loved the Bonapartists with their great architecture and their scandals and sex and art (he later added he wouldn't want to live in that time though because of the way it all ended in catastrophe and failure and war and destruction). Dr Shawcross finished declaring that Louis Napoleon is his favourite figure in history. He also added on a more serious note before going on to ask us what he should have for dinner: that people learn what they want to learn from history, but it always repeats itself.



Mr Pattie recalled how his enthusiasm for history began at a young age, as he developed a fascination with the subject when he visited historical sites as a child. As he grew up in Scotland, he was able to utilise its history and heritage as he recalled atmospheric visits to ancient castles in the pouring rain and howling wind. His interest in the subject was also sparked by a visit to The Secret Bunker in Fife, where underground war rooms remained from a plan to relocate Churchill's government there, as this visit only made him more curious about the history behind it. When asked to comment on his favourite historical books, Mr Pattie emphasised how he makes a point of always reading something new and reserves re-reads for very few books, one of which is, of course, the Harry Potter series. He also finds himself always coming back to 'The Things They Carried' by Tim O'Brien, a set of short stories that he has read four times! A key reason why, he explained, is the fascinating insight they provide into the Vietnam war, 1960s America and the human condition, as they are semi-autobiographical. As we began to discuss key political figures, Mr Pattie recalled his study of the 'Thirty Years' War' and his interest in the Swedish King and protector of Protestantism, Gustavus Adolphus. Despite being killed in only his second battle, the "Lion of the North", as he was known, still won the war and towers over its historiography. Another key figure, he discussed, is 16th century monk Martin Luther, who he argued, changed the shape of the early modern world. When asked about a historical argument he disagrees with, Mr Pattie describes how the Great Man Theory of history oversimplifies momentous shifts in history as the work of an individual, despite the importance they may have had in driving and achieving change. Instead, he argues, a multi-faceted approach to history is essential and there should always be a consideration of nuances and various other factors at place in every historical event. Mr Pattie also discussed how there is a tendency for there to be lost voices in our western-centric view of history and how these views should be challenged. He emphasised how we must attempt to re-centre historical narratives and find and uncover these lost voices and views of history, and it is often female and "minority" voices which are disregarded. He used the example of the repeated narrative of empire from the white British perspective and argued how we should hear more accounts of and from the places that were colonised as this can be a crucial tool in knowing more about an event or period of time.



A HISTORY OF WOMEN

SHAVING

FLO JARVIS

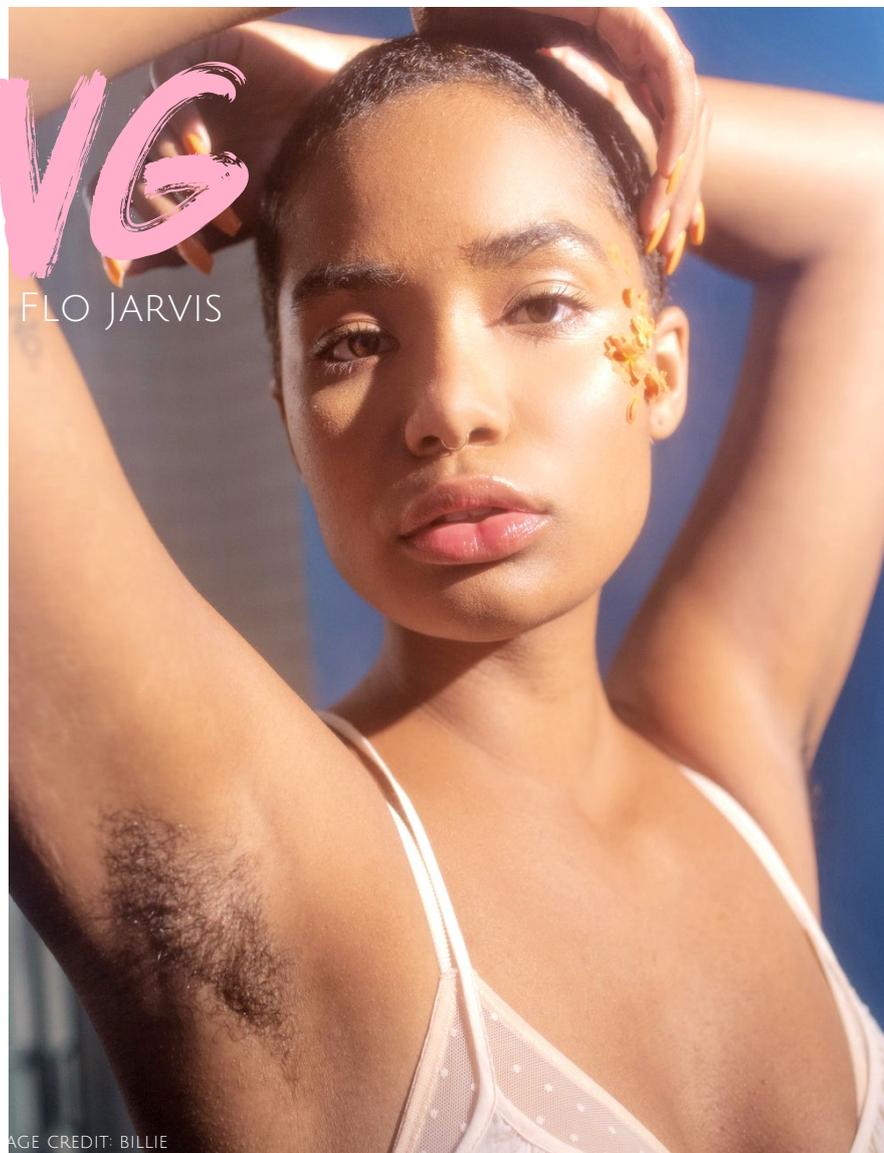
As seems appropriate, our history starts with the cavemen. Archaeologists have found evidence to suggest that they were the first to embrace shaving not for vanity, but for safety. Both men and women shaved their heads and faces so that in battle there was nothing for the enemy to grab onto. But technology wasn't what it is today, so 'shaving' for cavemen meant whittling down a stone so it was sharp and using it on your bare scalp. Ouch. Shells were sometimes used as tweezers to get the smaller hairs.

Moving to the ancient Egyptians, we can find tweezers, pumice stones, and even copper razors dating back to 3000BCE. There's also evidence of beeswax or sugar based pastes, which were applied to the skin and ripped off with fabric, much like today's waxing techniques. So shaving was becoming easier and with the influence of people like Cleopatra, shaving became a matter of cleanliness. It was believed that the less hair you had, the more clean you were.

This continued into the Roman Empire where shaving also became a matter of class - having the time and money for grooming signalled wealth. Body hair at this point was very uncivilised and respectable women removed all of it. They used pumice stones, razors of flint, tweezers called volsellas and creams.

Now let's move to the 16th Century and to England. Queen Elizabeth I, as monarch, had the power to set trends. According to Elizabeth facial hair is NOT OKAY, eyebrows must be perfectly sculpted, and it's even said that the tops of foreheads were shaved to make faces look longer. However, long skirts were worn at all times so for women in Europe leg and pubic hair was totally fine. Phew.

In the 18th and 19th Centuries razors were being developed and were getting much safer, with the first straight razor made in the 1700s by Jean Jacques Perret. In the 1800s King Camp Gillette created a ever safer razor but it was only marketed at men. But then we hit the early 1900s and Gillette realised that there was an open market in shaving for women, so in 1915 he released the Milady Décoleté: the first razor directed specifically at women. To boost sales he launched the 'Great Anti Underarm-Hair Campaign' (yes, that is a thing) and pioneered the lie that armpit hair is unhygienic. It became labelled 'objectionable hair' and the rising popularity of sleeveless dresses helped



AGE CREDIT: BILLIE

sales. When fashion began to favour shorter skirts, women were encouraged to start shaving their legs. This was catalysed by the shortage in nylon in World War II, which meant most women couldn't access tights, and thus seemed to necessitate the shaving of legs. Soon after, pop culture introduced tweezing eyebrows until there was only one market that had yet to be exploited on a woman's body: her public hair. The bikini was invented in 1946, in the 80s and 90s Brazilians became mainstream and the first salon offering a complete wax of the pubic region came about in 1987.

But why is this story important?

Shaving turned women's bodies into markets to be exploited. Shaving was born from lies in advertising. Shaving took away a woman's choice about her own body.

Shaving taught women that to be acceptable they had to put themselves at risk, to give their money and time, and to literally shave themselves away.

These traits are extremely prevalent today, and all of them can be traced back to shaving.

Read until
the end for a
gothic
reading list!

gothic literature

EMILY HINDLE

Gothic fiction was first established by Horace Walpole with *The Castle of Otranto*, published in 1764. His text may be considered the original gothic, with subsequent literature drawing on its themes and ideas.

The Castle of Otranto includes many classic features of the Gothic genre. The setting consists of a large house or castle containing many secrets and mysteries, as Walpole's own interest in gothic architecture manifests itself in his writing. The haunting setting promotes a feeling of suspense and fear in the reader, allowing anticipation and drama to build throughout.

Frequent displays of the supernatural introduce an undefined relationship between the modern world and the past, featuring sudden juxtaposition and violent conflict where the past erupts within the present and deranges it. This is often achieved through the powerful motif of the ghost, as what is believed to be dead returns vividly alive to the present. Family relationships within gothic novels also tend to be largely dysfunctional, often bordering incestuous. The disruption of the family unit in this way often acts as an uncomfortable suggestion on society, with the idea of a family breaking down working to question the stability of current leadership.

However, one of the most

fascinating features of the Gothic is its progression and evolution from its 18th century origin. For example, the late Victorian Gothic shows a gradual

fear that if man could evolve they may similarly devolve, or degenerate to a primal state. A similar terror of urban spaces is revealed, alongside the time of



IMAGE CREDIT: PIPHOTO69

progression of the genre, as main threats in the story are brought within the domestic space, putting terror into everyday issues and giving commonality to the action.

When looking at the novel *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, the storyline was clearly set upon specific concerns of the period to exploit the fears of people at the time, and harness them to create dramatic effect. The idea of degeneration came about following the publishing of Charles Darwin's *Origin of Species* in its ground-breaking argument between scientific theory and religion. Popular belief of the time generated a

the industrial revolution leading to the rapid expansion of urban areas and a rise in poverty, crime and dangerous living conditions. This expansion of the city resulted in the loss of rural community at the time, as though people lived in close proximity it was anonymously.

The novel created the implication that the criminal could lurk behind an acceptable public persona, and that appearances might provide no real indication of the personality within. Hence, the Victorian Gothic may be considered a product of specific social fears and anxieties, through the figure of the divided self.

Skipping to the present, film today features the general Gothic aesthetic largely in setting and on-screen visual representation. Popular young adult fiction series such as *Twilight* draw on the Gothic with the figure of the vampire. The idea of a misplaced creature somewhere between life and death, pitted against other evil individuals of its kind, creates the image of a marginalised

for the transition period of adolescents is effective in creating a primary character with which they may relate. Also interesting is the recent subtle shift in the visual representation of Frankenstein leading up to the present day. More recent adaptations have framed the creation of Frankenstein as a result of genetic engineering and modification while featuring different portrayals

moving away from unambiguous horror and gore featuring torture and mutilation. This is in line with a recent shift in perception, creating films based more on terror and the ambiguous, where anticipation and tension is allowed to build.

What can clearly be seen is the tracing of Gothic influences from their 18th century origin, with novels of the past serving as a foundation to show specific historically contextualised fears and anxieties. Though these may change and adapt over time, the ability to rework texts to draw on different social dynamics allows the Gothic an ongoing impression on literary and visual culture today.



figure, so speaking to its adolescent audience. Certainly, fiction that is most appealing children and young adults is that with which they can identify. The use of the vampire as a metaphor

scientists of the time; proving the endlessly adaptable nature of texts to suit the current social climate. A final example is the recent progression of the horror genre with films

gothic must reads.

1 Frankenstein by
Mary Shelly

3 The Beetle by
Richard Marsh

5 Jane Eyre by
Charlotte Brontë

2 Vathek by
William Beckford

4 A Sicilian Romance
by Ann Radcliffe

The Amritsar Massacre

100 YEARS ON

AHANA BANERJI

"Fire low. What else have you been brought here for?" said General Reginald Dyer, commanding his troops to initiate the massacre of hundreds of Punjabi civilians. On 13th April 1919, protestors gathered in the Jallianwala Bagh to campaign peacefully against the British Raj; many of the men were Sepoys, recently returned from fighting in the First World War. They had risked their lives fighting for Britain and now they wanted what was promised to them before the war- independence. They gathered in Jallianwala Bagh, a park which also hosted families on days out and Sikhs making their way to and from the Golden Temple, celebrating Vaisakhi. Dyer was merely ordered to suppress the crowds, but within thirty seconds of entry, he ordered his troops to start shooting at the densest areas of the crowd without warning. The shooting went on for ten minutes, and a ceasefire was only called because all the ammunition had been exhausted. The casualties are estimated to be between 500-600 unarmed, nonviolent Indians, including at least 15 children, the youngest of whom was six-months-old. "I was going to punish them," said Dyer, three days after the massacre, "to prevent anybody who thought they could manage to mutiny, from mutinying." This statement epitomises the British view on India at the time; the country was a commodity, and any amount of violence was justifiable in order to keep it in British control.

British occupation of India relied on structural racism and the glorification of white people to uphold control. Given this, perhaps it isn't surprising that news of the massacre didn't even reach Britain until December 1919, whereupon Winston Churchill dismissed the affair as an anomalous event in British rule. However, the Amritsar Massacre was merely the violent product of continual persecution, implemented by 'fancy punishments'; for example, it was mandatory for people of colour to salute any white person they passed, and failure to do so would result in public floggings, or the 'crawling order', in which Indians were forced to crawl down a street, or crawling

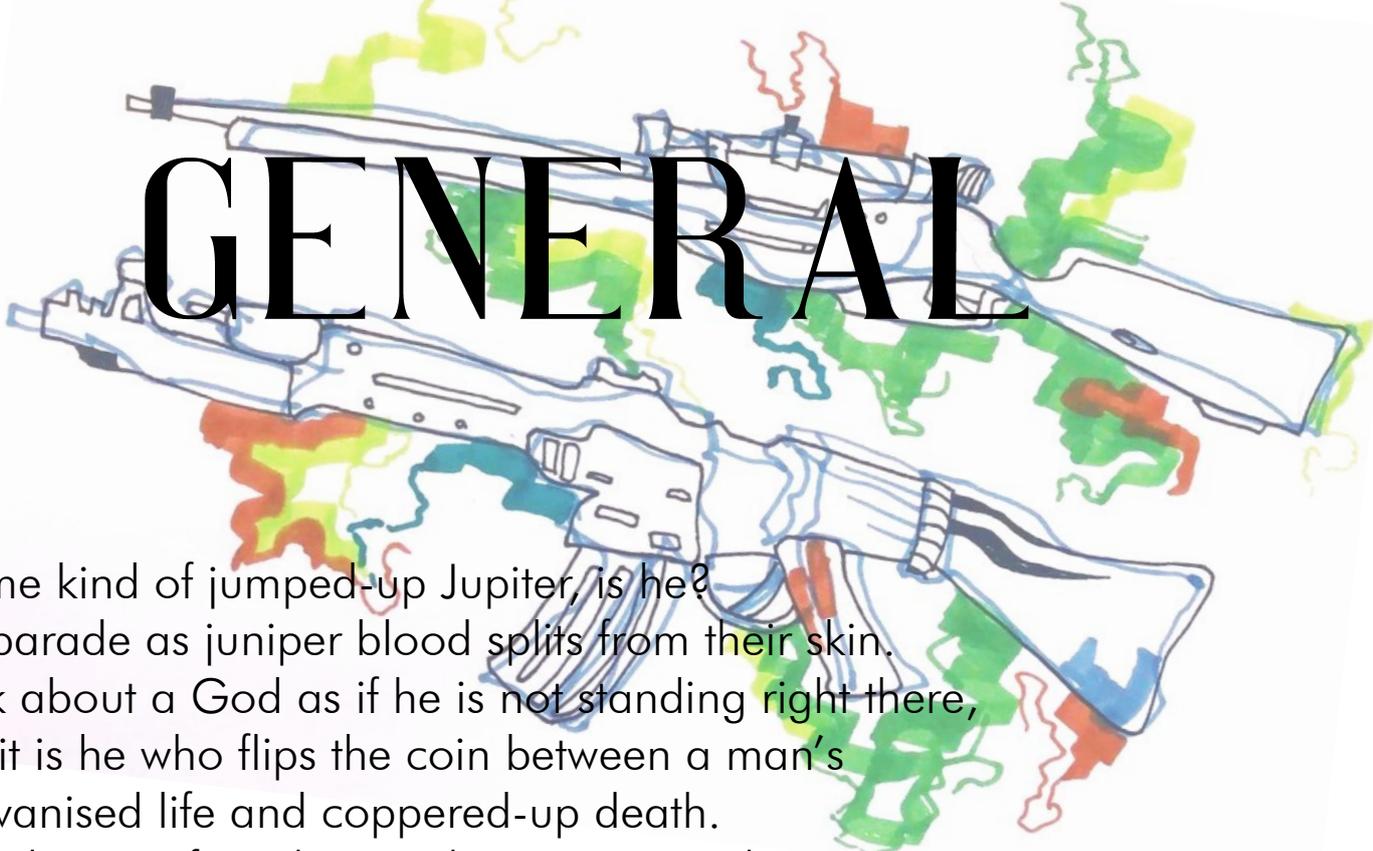
lane, while British soldiers jeered. "I now view the massacre in the context of all the so-called 'fancy punishments', and I realise all the people who died at Jallianwala Bagh died because of their skin colour," says writer Sathnam Sanghera, upon his research into Amritsar. "The idea of British exceptionalism runs deep in our [British] culture. What happened in the crawling lane was an act of not only racism but of racial humiliation and white supremacy. It's morally obscene."

Sanghera speaks as a first-generation Indian, growing up in a world of "wilful amnesia" where any negative content regarding the British Empire is omitted. This has no doubt influenced the mindsets of generations of Britons, regardless of their backgrounds; a YouGov survey found that

If Britain cannot be honest about its history, can we really expect it to be honest in its future?

59% of the British public feel that the British Empire is more something to be proud of than ashamed- a further 34% said they would like it if Britain still had an empire.

These widespread opinions stem from a society and government which, even today, refuse to recognise the cruelty of colonialism. A century after the Amritsar Massacre, Britain has still not taken responsibility. To mark the centenary in April, Theresa May only went as far as articulating "deep regret", after the British government refused to explicitly apologise. An apology would be an acknowledgement of Britain's ruthless colonial history, something which could catalyse a conversation on racism in Britain today. After all, if Britain cannot be honest about its history, can we really expect it to be honest in its future?

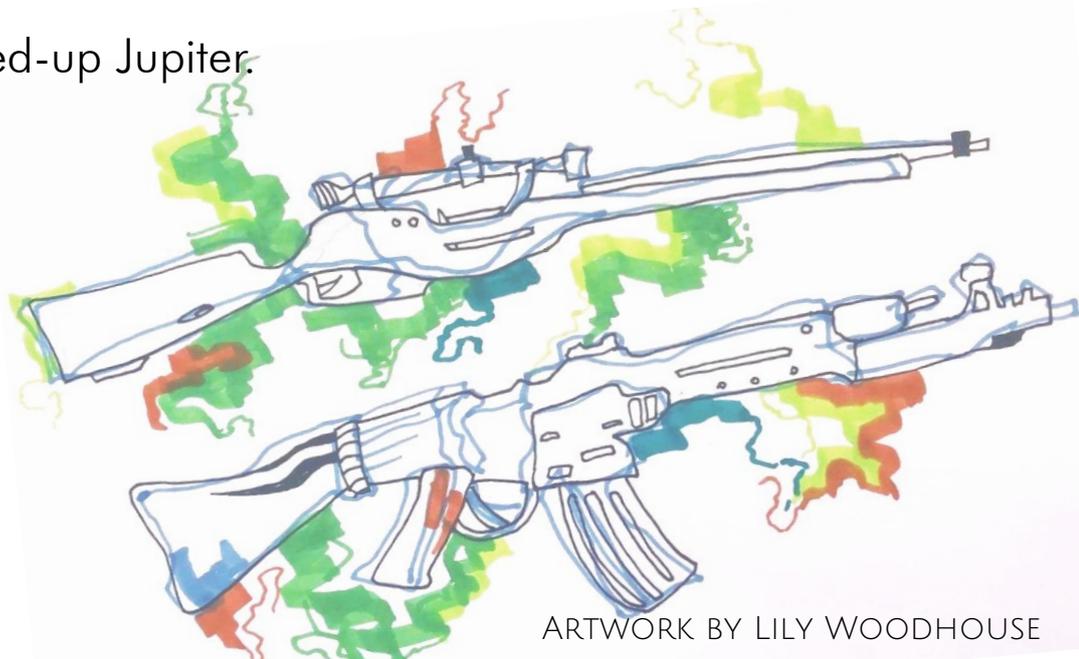


GENERAL

Some kind of jumped-up Jupiter, is he?
To parade as juniper blood splits from their skin.
Talk about a God as if he is not standing right there,
for it is he who flips the coin between a man's
galvanised life and coppered-up death.
Words erupt from his machine-gun mouth --
"FIRE LOW!" he bellows,
as the stench of his bullet-gum breath
ruptures the throat of a generation
who dared to ask for an unbound existence.

Cowrie shells are cracked under foot --
a talcum mutiny in a stampede of sweat.
Cradle the baby but don't let her drink to
the hollow breast of the empire;
don't let her know that her people are hanged
like the swinging branches of the banyan
because of him:
some kind of jumped-up Jupiter.

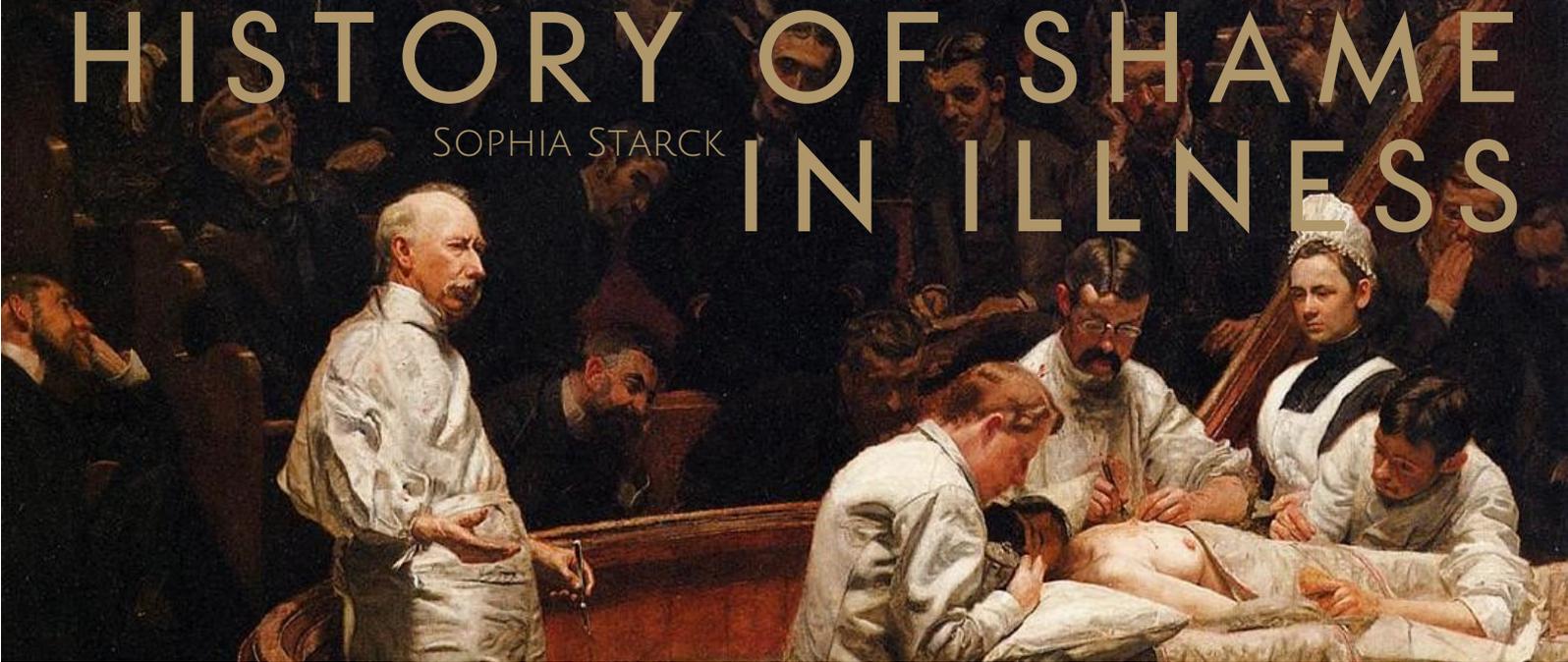
AHANA BANERJI



ARTWORK BY LILY WOODHOUSE

HISTORY OF SHAME IN ILLNESS

SOPHIA STARCK



We've all experienced illnesses. Colds, fevers, tummy bugs and probably chicken pox when you were young. Many of these are pathogen caused and although temporarily weakened, our bodies will eventually fight them off and we recover. Chronic illness or diseases that you are born with are less common but are thought to affect over 15 million people in England alone. It is these, longer term or else congenital health problems, disorders and syndromes that are more commonly a source of shame to the sufferers. The frailty that we feel for a week will be a life time ailment for a portion of the population. It can give a feeling of vulnerability and inadequacy that the body is not working "correctly". There are also historical based reasons engrained in society that originate from religion and culture.

Hippocrates. The man widely known as 'The Father of Medicine'. Born in 460 BCE in the Greek Classical period, Hippocrates revolutionised both medicine and science. During a time where disease was thought to be caused by Gods or superstition as a punishment, Hippocrates argued that disease was naturally caused by the body in response to some abnormal functioning. Hippocrates was a revolutionary in his ways of thinking and attitudes towards his patients. He was sympathetic, and understood that care was what they required, not cruelty. Hippocrates put the need of the patients as a first priority rather than empirical treatment. His standpoint largely influenced the medical system of the four pillars of medical ethics and the 'Hippocratic Oath', which doctors can still take to this day, is used where a new physician will swear to uphold to a specific list of ethical standards.

Shame of disease due to perception of it being exclusive to sinners continued for centuries. During the Genesis creation story, the world God created was stated to be "very good"; it is due to sins of man that suffering and disease was created. This generated a perception that those who were diseased in body were also diseased in their hearts through the eyes of God and were being punished. Throughout the Bible, the term 'leprosy' is mentioned 68 times. It was the given title to a variety of infectious skin diseases which we now know is caused by *Mycobacterium leprae*. Two

thousand years ago it was considered the ultimate worldly punishment from God to sinners as it would result in a life continuously burdened with discrimination and suffering. Lepers were listed among adulterers and tax collectors as some of the most shunned outcasts from society. The bacterium attacks the nerves in the skin and peripheral nervous system first then spreads to various parts of the body causing skin and bone disfigurement and sometimes growths similar to tumours to form on the skin. The obvious display of physical symptoms were difficult to conceal and meant sufferers would be instantly distinguishable and vulnerable. The infectious nature of the disease and the widespread ignorance of how it could be transferred only resulted in further discrimination and stigma. Sufferers of leprosy often became isolated and alienated from the rest of society. Although less extreme, a level of discrimination and lack of compassion with those with disease can continue to exist in the modern age.

AIDS was first clinically observed in 1981 in the United States. When it was newly discovered, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) did not have an official name for the disease and instead referred to it using various names of other diseases that were associated with it and later numerous antonyms were created. Some names in retrospect could potentially be considered damaging and offensive. The press frequently used the term "GRID" to name the disease. This stood for "gay-related immune deficiency", however when it was discovered that AIDS was not exclusive to the gay community the term was quickly discarded.

The phrase "4 H disease" was used due to what they found to be the four largest groups that were affected; heroin users, Haitians, haemophiliacs and homosexuals and was used by doctors, scientists and professionals. It is obvious to us now that many of these terms are misleading and single out groups of people this proceeded to create stigma and discrimination against entire communities. Recall the reaction from the public and media when a photo of Princess Diana shaking hands with a patient diagnosed with AIDS was released during a visit to a hospice in Canada.

The disease was still fairly new and widely misunderstood. At that time many were still unsure of the way it could be transferred; this led to, like with leprosy, some wariness and distancing from the public, this resulted in sufferers often detaching themselves from the rest of society to avoid embarrassment. That one photo presented an important message that patients with AIDS are simply people suffering with an illness which is not contagious by plain physical contact and therefore should be treated with respect, dignity and do not pose a risk of infection by being in their company. "HIV does not make people dangerous to know." Princess Diana clarified to the press, "You can shake their hands and give them a hug. Heaven knows they need it".

Mental health conditions carry other forms of stigma. It has been calculated that 450 million people world-wide live with a mental health problem. Although mostly not externally visible to others, psychological conditions frequently receive a different type of judgement. The fact that the disease or disorder affects the brain can create an

assumption that the person will think in a different way and have different rationales. It is sometimes assumed that people with mental illness will behave unpredictably to those with a "normal brain". In some cases, imagining that they would not be able to build genuine relationship with someone if they did not have a baseline understanding of who the other is as they don't understand the way they think. Some will find this concept frightening enough to avoid having lots of contact with someone they know has a mental illness; this causes isolation to be a large issue for those with mental health problems. This loneliness can then cause further mental issues, such as depression or, as some studies show, heart disease and dementia.

Although there are measures of prevention and medicines for some illnesses, others are simply a slight abnormality that can be borne, with or a disease unintentionally caught. Judgement and prejudice can be detrimental to the quality of life of those who are likely already suffering.



In 1863, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson wrote to the Aberdeen Medical school, asking for permission to attend anatomy classes. This is the response she received:

“the entrance of ladies into dissecting-rooms and anatomical theatres is so undesirable in every respect... it is indeed necessary for the purpose of Surgery and Medicine that these matters should be studied, but fortunately it is not necessary that fair ladies should be brought into contact with such foul scenes... Ladies would make bad doctors at the best”

Born in east London, after school, Garrett Anderson was expected to marry and live the life of a Lady. After having meetings with the feminist Emily Davies and Elizabeth Blackwell (the first American female doctor) she realised that she wanted to become a doctor.

In 19th century Britain, this was unheard of. She applied for many medical schools and was rejected, so she decided to study nursing at Middlesex Hospital. Here, she found ways to attend classes that were intended for male doctors (but was eventually banned from attending these classes due to complaints). At the time, the Society of Apothecaries (which made the exams that people took to become doctors) did not specifically forbid women from taking their exams –

Garrett Anderson decided to take the exams and passed in 1865, allowing her to become a doctor. Following her success, the Society changed their rules, preventing women from taking the exams so that other women would not be able to follow Anderson's route and become doctors.

Together with Sophia Jex-Blake, Anderson founded the London School of Medicine for Women in 1874. Three years later, female medical students could access clinical experience through the London Free hospital and two years after that, an Act of Parliament granted medical institutions to let women qualify as doctors.

In 1902, Anderson retired and moved to Aldeburgh on the Suffolk coast. In 1908 she became mayor for the town and the first female mayor in England. Anderson, who died in 1917, was a member of the Suffragette movement and her daughter Louisa was as well.

To me, as an aspiring medical student, she is one of the most inspiring people in the history of the fight for gender equality. Anderson's perseverance meant that I, and other aspiring female doctors, are free to pursue our dream. There is still gender inequality in medicine – particularly in fields such as neurosurgery – but currently we are living in the best time to become female doctors. Her story inspires me and I hope other young women who want to study medicine/STEM subjects can be equally as inspired.

TIANANMEN SQUARE

C.C



IMAGE CREDIT: MASHABLE

Fourth June 1989: In the West, a day widely documented as the tragic end to the Tiananmen square protests, taking the lives of thousand in China, a black-hole in history.

This month marks the 30th anniversary of the massacre. However, Chinese citizens are yet unable to commemorate the event at risk of imprisonment. It remains taboo, eradicated from all Chinese history books, only living on etched in the memory of those unlucky enough to experience it.

The protests began as a gathering in Tiananmen Square to mourn the death of Hu Yaobang, a liberal CPC leader widely supported by Chinese youth. But this was not the only source of discontent among students at the time; governmental corruption, increasing economic inequality, and inflation contributed to growing social unrest. Soon, the rally turned into widespread demonstrations expressing public anger at the slow pace of political change. The government started to fear the rise of a revolution. On the 4th of June, it imposed martial law and the unarmed protests were crushed by immense military force, killing an estimated 10,000 people.

The grim reality remains that Tiananmen changed China for the worse. Immediately after the crackdown, the redistribution of power led to the expulsion of numerous liberal party members, and scrapping of many reforms. It marked the beginning of an increasingly oppressive nature of the regime. China's security system has been

ever-expanding, aided by development of alarming new technology; its new facial recognition database contains information on nearly all its 1.4 billion citizens. Police spending is also on the rise, along with surveillance of activists and suspected non-conformists.

Additionally, since the Tiananmen Square protest, an increase can be seen in numbers of "silent dissidents". While the massacre may have increased opposition to the government, it has simultaneously made citizens too frightened to voice this. Dissidents have lived on since the protests through warnings passed from victimised parents to children. These are particularly found in areas whose citizens experienced the most brutal treatment.

So, what can be drawn from these changes thirty years on – not just about the past, but China's future? It is unlikely a similar event on the same scale could occur today, thanks to the government's "stability maintenance" which nips potential protests in the bud. However, while the silent dissidents remain quiet for now, they may become mobilised at any hint of weakness in regime. On the whole, the Tiananmen Square massacre shows the unpredictability of the Chinese government and its actions. Thirty years ago, few would have guessed the CPC would have lashed back so violently in such full view of foreign countries. As China's global role continues to grow, we must remember Tiananmen Square above all else as a cautionary tale: a warning of what the Chinese government is capable of when provoked.

MANHINO

elements floating in free Space -
Stars and Planets expanding continually -
the stark impermanence of Human existence -
pockets of hope lie battered amongst Our isolation -

the sweet release of Death as it kisses -
Lips so exhausted from years of tireless exploration -
no burial Spot but the floating amongst segments of Rocks -
still our eyes find peace and begin to close because They cannot see.

tears dripping down into oil exhaust Fumes -
fuel mixing with the inherent salvation for Life in all its forms -
surrounded by nothing but the twisted emptiness of the cruel Galaxy -
alas - pockets of the future - We sought so desperately for throughout our lives.

GOVHAR DADASHOVA

This poem is one I believe to be truly representative of this issue's theme, because it is inspired by the works of Emily Dickinson, who was known for her radical dashes but also her themes of death and her unique perception of how we see the universe. In my opinion, a fitting type of poetry as we move into a future of tumultuous social and political upheaval, but continue to gaze back at our shared history.

GOVHAR DADASHOVA

WHAT ARE THE HISTORICAL EFFECTS OF ABORTION LEGISLATURE ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES?

The impact of abortion on racial and ethnic minorities cannot be understated, and it is completely fundamental to the development of a more progressive and understanding society.



SOURCE: BENNY BING

In the past few weeks, we have listened to the constant repetition of rhetoric

describing the colossal effects that white middle class women will suffer across the world due to the wave of harmful abortion legislature which has been enacted globally. The source of these frustrations was initially triggered by Alabama's decision to fully prohibit abortions, one of the many Republican tactics played in the hopes of overturning the 1973 Supreme Court decision of *Roe vs. Wade*. Their reasoning for stimulating another Supreme Court decision lies in their complete capability to successfully overturn the initial decision if the case reaches the Court, due to the majority of the Justices leaning towards the Conservative side. This is a truth we have seen reaffirmed in the election of Brett Kavanaugh, who has been previously accused of sexual assault, and would not hesitate to further undermine female rights. However, whilst the anger of these women is wholly relevant and valid, it seems to have led many online to ignore how this legislature will exacerbate the challenges already faced by women from racial and ethnic minorities.

For the duration of history, we have witnessed too often the extent to which women from racial and ethnic minorities are forced to suffer in silence, especially regarding abortion legislature. In the United States, we have witnessed the 1976 Hyde Amendment which saw abortion being banned disproportionately to women, non-binary and transgender people of colour. This was due to the Amendment which saw abortion care being privatised and restricted from users of public healthcare services such as MediCare. These effects were only

perpetuated by the 1992 Supreme Court decision of *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey*, which aimed to tackle the 1982 Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act, that had led to the formation of barriers to abortion health care from immigrants and people of colour. This was due to the Act's complicated nature which created logistical nightmares such as long waiting times, that ultimately debilitated racial and ethnic minorities who often worked multiple jobs and couldn't afford the same flexibility as their white counterparts.

In countries where abortion is fully banned including Malta and the Philippines, the challenges faced by women from racial and ethnic minorities are even higher. This is due to the fact that they are often working lower paid jobs with longer working hours, which means that they encounter obstacles not only in the basic survival of themselves and their family, but lack the luxury of the privileged few to seek abortion elsewhere, because of expensive flight and procedural costs. Despite abortions being available in certain countries, many have enacted laws and further restrictions which require permission from their husband or paternal figures beforehand, which can be challenging in cultures which utilise more oppressive or outdated concepts to support the backbone of a woman's life.

The impact of abortion on racial and ethnic minorities cannot be understated, and it is completely fundamental to the development of a more progressive and understanding society, that we continue to consider the effects of political and social issues from a myriad of perspectives, rather than utilising the age old technique of ignoring or blanketing them as unimportant. All voices matter, and if our global history is anything to go by, that statement now resonates with us more than ever before.



THE PARTY SWITCH IN AMERICAN POLITICAL HISTORY

KHAVA CHILAEVA

The progression of party belief and party platform over the course of the twentieth century of the Democrat and Republican Parties in America has often been described as a sudden 'switch' partly because of the stark differences in values promoted at their foundation, and how these have changed in a relatively short period of time. However, I find the term 'switch' is problematic as, first, because it suggests the change was sudden when in actual fact, in my analysis, the change was gradual. Secondly, the description of the events as a "switch" suggests the parties adopted each other's policies and obscures the fact that there were other, external factors which shaped the evolution in their policies.

When the Republican Party was formed in 1856, it adopted policies which were radically liberal at the time; opposing the expansion of slavery, calling for more spending on public education and seeking more open immigration. The party's progressive agenda was spearheaded by Abraham Lincoln. However, the party's policies underwent a significant shift. By the early 2000s, the modern Republican Party's electoral had changed dramatically. It appealed to Deep South states with its campaigns for abortion, gun freedom and stricter immigration control. Similarly, the Democratic Party, after it was founded in 1828, were conservatives, partly dominated by the slave-holding South. The Democrats were generally opposed to any government action to create jobs and were certainly opposed to furthering minority rights. By the early 2000s, the Democrat party promoted minority rights and stood for diversity, with the first black president to take office in 2008 and especially following the diversity of elected representatives in the 2018 mid term elections. The party's representatives are also

known for the encouragement of young people in campaigning for change and increased social security in America. The key division on party platform at the beginning of the twentieth century were views on race, and this was a particularly prevalent issue in America because of the dark history of slavery so changing views on race across the period did help influence the evolution of the parties, such as the changing views on race in The Democrat Party, partly brought about by the Civil Rights Movement, as I will further discuss.

This evolution began at a slow pace, after the Civil War and continued over a period of over a century. After the civil war, the Republicans began to split into factions generally divided on how business orientated members were, developing a conservative business wing often at odds with the more progressive wing. But the Democrats stayed the party in favour of maintaining the strict rights of the states against the might of the federal government and were marginalized at the national level for several decades. The first major change happened in 1896. The Populist party in America suffered nationwide collapse and William Jennings Bryan, its former leader, incorporated the Populist party vote into the Democrat party as many members looked to other parties for membership after its collapse. This gave the Democrat party a sizeable left wing on economics that it didn't have before and Bryan became a strong force in the Democrat party and he was nominated as president on three occasions. In contrast, although Theodore Roosevelt had been a Republican President from 1901-09, he broke away from the Republicans and formed and ran for the candidate of the progressive party in 1912. This made the Republican progressive wing - once a third to a half of the republican coalition, much less committed to the party going forward and the different wings of the party never really reconciled. After that, Republican leadership came more and more from its Conservative wing.

The Democratic Party strengthened its progressive stance largely due to Franklin Roosevelt's presidency in 1933, when he entered office in the midst of the Great Depression. Franklin Roosevelt essentially adopted most of the old Progressive platform and incorporated this vote into his Democratic coalition. This put the party on a collision course when it came to social policy but importantly brought about immense social change largely due to policies such as the New Deal that attempted to intervene and help bring people out of unemployment and poverty. However, many of these social security measures accommodated Jim Crow laws, which were put in place to undermine the rights of African Americans as citizens, due to FDR facing pressures from conservative voters and politicians and therefore excluded many African Americans from economic aid, demonstrating how the Democratic Party hadn't yet turned away from its core white middle class voting base. However, a pattern began to emerge of the Democrat Party starting to utilize and profit from African American voters by providing and promising economic aid to both African Americans and white Americans, they appealed more to African Americans than the Laissez Faire Republican Party, thereby winning more votes.

Another key influence of the evolution of the parties and party policy was in 1964, when Lyndon Johnson essentially divorced the longest marriage the Democratic party had: the marriage with their southern white supporters. By making Civil Rights part of the Democratic platform with the Civil Rights Act passed in 1964, following social pressure from the Civil Rights Movement which reached a peak in the 60s, the Republicans lost all of what was left of their black constituencies - which had been a significant part of their remaining progressive vote in northern urban areas. In fact, in LBJ's presidential campaign, rivalling Republican Barry Goldwater, in its height, pounced on Goldwater's position and ran an advertisement titled "Confessions of a Republican," which tied Goldwater to the Ku Klux Klan (which was a Democratic organisation). Many argue this was the first time the Democrat party used race as a potent political weapon to attack the Republican Party however, most notable is the extent to which the Democrat party was able to utilise African American voters in this election as

it won LBJ the biggest landslide victory since 1829.

The Democrat Party's evolution was also decisively influenced at the end of the twentieth century in a key event which further alienated Conservative supporters of the Democrat Party; the Lewinsky scandal of 1998. This was a political sex scandal that involved 49-year-old President Bill Clinton and 22-year-old White House intern Monica Lewinsky. In the later 2000 election, the change in support was solidified as traditionally Conservative and Southern states voted Republican and ultimately helped win George W. Bush. Interestingly, this supporter base has not changed significantly in the following twenty years: the election results map depicting state support in 2000 is very similar to the states that supported the Republican party in the 2016 presidential election.

Currently, there is a political deadlock between the Democrat and Republican parties in passing legislation in Congress as they have become opposing in all most all policy areas, mainly because circa the late 1990s, there was the final generation of Republican liberals and Democratic conservatives. However, today, they are very much in the minority (represented by figures such as Senator Manchin.) Similarly, liberals amongst the Republican party are near to none; this shift was most apparent in 2006 and 2008. This evolution can clearly be described as such as over the course of the past century, the parties have shifted values and core supporters based on broader developments including changes in the social, political and economic climate that have influenced them, instead of the common belief this was a sudden and swift change. It is important to understand the nature of the evolution in the parties' respective policies and the factors that influenced them to begin to understand how the deadlock that persists in modern American politics can be resolved. Most notably, in the sphere of gun control and abortion.



150 YEARS OF HISTORY

ROSIE THOROGOOD

This year marks 150 years since the periodic system is considered to have been discovered in 1869 by Dimitri Mendeleev; the United Nations General Assembly and UNESCO have therefore deemed this very year the 'International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements.' When we think of the periodic table, we generally think of the rows and blocks of individual elements, and the many experiments chemists undertook to isolate these elements and position them in these columns. However, there are almost endless secrets and stories behind the periodic table, far beyond the structured groupings of the elements. Inspired by the book 'The Disappearing Spoon,' by Sam Kean (a great read for any scientist, not just chemists!); I'm going to explain a couple of these brilliant stories hidden in the rows of elements.

The periodic table was not created by Dimitri Mendeleev all by himself, no, there were at least six other scientists, who all invented the periodic table working separately,

unknowns, Mendeleev filled his table with predictions of new elements to be discovered. He even provisionally named these elements by using the Sanskrit word 'eka' (meaning 'beyond') and so named, for example, the predicted element in the box below aluminium, 'eka-aluminium.'

Naming the undiscovered elements however made Mendeleev extremely unpopular with the discoverers of the elements he had already named. One such example of this was the first discovered element after the publication of Mendeleev's 1869 periodic table; the discovery of the element Gallium: Gallium was found in 1875 by Paul-Emile Lecoq de Boisbaudran, when he saw coloured spectroscopic lines from a mineral, which had never been observed before. Paul named his newfound element 'Gallium,' after the Latin name for France ('Gallia'). However, critics were quick to accuse him of naming it after himself, since Le coq ('rooster' in English) is 'gallus' in Latin. When Mendeleev found out Lecoq's discovery he complained that he should get credit, since Gallium was Mendeleev's predicted 'eka-aluminium.' The fight between the two scientists began, and cruelly Lecoq lied to claim that actually an unknown Frenchman had created the periodic table before Mendeleev, and that all Mendeleev's ideas were taken from him. During this feud, Mendeleev also argued Lecoq must have incorrectly measured Gallium, as the density and atomic mass he'd predicted was different to what Lecoq calculated. Interestingly, Lecoq took back his publications of data and results on Gallium, quickly correcting them to match Mendeleev's predictions.

Gallium is one of the few liquid metals you can touch without severe burns. It has one of the widest liquid ranges of any elements, with a low melting point and high boiling point. Placing it in the palm of your hand is enough to melt it, and resulting from this, gallium is the star of many practical jokes. It moulds easily into a spoon shape, and so a common joke is to shape it into a teaspoon then watch people go bananas as their spoon disappears into their tea:

This story raises a fundamental scientific question around theory VS experiment. Was it Mendeleev's theory that allowed Lecoq to discover the new element, or was it experiment that gave Lecoq real evidence for Gallium,

ОПЫТЪ СИСТЕМЫ ЭЛЕМЕНТОВЪ.
 ОСНОВАННОЙ НА ИХЪ АТОМНОМЪ ВѢСѢ И ХИМИЧЕСКОМЪ СХОДСТВѢ.

	Ti = 50	Zr = 90	? = 180.
	V = 51	Nb = 94	Ta = 182.
	Cr = 52	Mo = 96	W = 186.
	Mn = 55	Rh = 104,4	Pt = 197,4.
	Fe = 56	Ru = 104,4	Ir = 198.
	Ni = Co = 59	Pd = 106,6	Os = 199.
H = 1	Cu = 63,4	Ag = 108	Hg = 200.
Be = 9, Mg = 24	Zn = 65,2	Cd = 112	
B = 11	Al = 27,1	? = 68	U = 116 Au = 197?
C = 12	Si = 28	? = 70	Sn = 118
N = 14	P = 31	As = 75	Sb = 122 Bi = 210?
O = 16	S = 32	Se = 79,4	Te = 128?
F = 19	Cl = 35,5	Br = 80	I = 127
Li = 7 Na = 23	K = 39	Rb = 85,4	Cs = 133 Tl = 204.
	Ca = 40	Sr = 87,6	Ba = 137 Pb = 207.
	? = 45	Ce = 92	
	?Er = 56	La = 94	
	?Yt = 60	Di = 95	
	?In = 75,5	Th = 118?	

Д. Менделѣевъ

The original periodic table

but it was Mendeleev who went on to be the most important figure in the story of the table's development. Unlike other creators of the periodic table, Mendeleev's table did not just arrange elements into groups and periods, but it predicted other elements, with details about the elements, including their atomic weights and even densities! Whilst other scientists had left gaps and

which then just so happened to be supported by Mendeleev's theory? Lecoq always denied ever having even set eyes on Mendeleev's table before his discovery, so we are expected to believe that it was experiment that founded this discovery, however we will never know if Lecoq actually did have knowledge of the table, and was purposely on the hunt for new elements, predicted by Mendeleev.

Not only can discovery of elements spark big questions, but it is also the properties of the elements once they are discovered that can continue to astound and amaze chemists and scientists across the world. Beryllium, for example, is a pale, insoluble metal, which has no similarities in appearance, in any way at all, to sugar, yet it's effects on the taste buds are identical to that of sugar. (The only small drawback being that, in anything larger than a small dose, beryllium is toxic.) There are five types of taste buds in our mouths, all of differing reliability: taste buds for bitterness examine foods for poisonous nitrogen chemicals (e.g. cyanide in apple seeds); savoury taste buds look out for glutamate, which helps build proteins, so they signal your body towards protein-rich foods, but it is salty taste buds that can be affect by flow of charge, and sweet and sour taste buds which are also easily confused. Beryllium tricks sweet and

sour taste buds, and so we find a sweet taste in the toxic element!

The periodic table is fundamental to the history of chemistry, and by extension, much of the history of science. The organisation of elements based on their physical and chemical properties is invaluable in modern-day science, and something which all scientists should be hugely grateful for. We should not just be thanking Mendeleev however; the stories behind the periodic table stretch far further, and include many other notable scientists that when both credited and uncredited in their time. What we achieve today in science is only possible because of the research and work done by scientists before us, right from the initial understanding of modern-day elements and compounds.

It is important too to note that the periodic table is changing, as the environment around us changes, and unfortunately we are seeing a decline in certain elements due to overuse in industries across the globe. We need to remember that these elements should be respected and protected: silver in soap, for example, is nothing but a waste; the modern day iPhone contains 75 different elements; surely there is a way we can be more economical with the precious elements we have?

Goodbye!

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