Somebody Is Out There! (and answering)
By Heather Aiden

Jessica Dilley's article "Is Anybody Out There?" (Feb. 12) shows how sadly undereducated young people can be in the political and economic arenas. It appears that Jessica fears losing her freedom, yet advocates the same restrictive government regulations that are slowly, but surely, taking our very freedoms so subtly out from under our feet, minute by minute.

Jessica apparently wants the government to bureacratize every aspect of life, from birth to sexual preference and from gun ownership to business regulation in order to preserve our freedom--this is ludicrous! If she only knew just how much freedom we have lost in recent decades from restrictive regulations that benefit some people, but have negative secondary effects in the future. In order to make sound economic and political decisions, one needs to consider not only how a decision will affect a single person in the short run, but, more importantly, how a decision will affect everybody, and its secondary costs and benefits in the long run.

From her article, I gather that Jessica is pro-abortion, pro-affirmative action, pro-homosexual, pro-welfare, pro-gun control, and anti-business. It makes sense for her to feel this way, since she is only thinking about herself and what is best for her. After all, we are all innately self-interested! If Jessica truly understood the effects of political decisions, she would realize that it is actually better for her, in the long run, to favor anti-affirmative action, anti-welfare, anti-gun control, and pro-business policies and candidates. As far as Jessica's stances are concerned, pro-abortion and pro-homosexual are the only ones that make political and social "sense," since they promote freedom of choice. As long as we are allowed to make choices, we preserve our freedom. However, being pro-affirmative action and anti-business will only bring more red tape to businesses and will hinder the very competition that provides the thrust for our economy, the strongest in the world! With all of our regulations, taxes, and policies, eventually American businesses will falter. They will get better returns in other countries (with less red tape), so our thriving economy will die as businesses move overseas. This will leave the U.S. with a failing economy and no choices (as to products we choose to buy and competitive prices we pay for necessities). Now, THERE'S a loss of freedom!

Her pro-welfare stance, on the same note, will also make bureacracy more cumbersome. Our government is getting too big-providing for EVERYONE...if we let them get much bigger, who knows, eventually it will be a federal offense to wear the wrong clothing to school (Clinton and his dress code)! As far as welfare is concerned, we need to actually understand the issues at stake here. The people who want to cut benefit programs are not political "Grim Reapers." They do not want to KILL the welfare system; they only want to cut marginal (year to year) spending increases!

So, before you go out and join a club to become politically active, become politically responsible! Research and rethink your interests and stances. You will get a whole new view of the political arena and how government policies really affect you. Once you understand how even the smallest changes can affect the world order, then you can join the club that best represents your interests. Remember, it takes more than just joining a club to become politically responsible!!