

Isaac Burke
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Auditor of NUI Galway Life Society (2013/2014)
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November 15, 2013

Dr. Pat Morgan
University Equality Officer
NUI Galway

Dear Dr. Morgan,

I would like to make a formal complaint regarding the organizers of the regular poster sale event which takes place regularly in Áras na Macléinn.

This week (from Monday 11th November) the Life Society put up posters around campus highlighting the number/frequency of abortions that take place or have taken place in various countries around the world. The posters were an advertisement for Life Society signature collection events on 13th and 20th November.

By midweek, the statistics on the continuing state of the posters were as follows (not a complete list by any means):

Reading room poster board: 2 posters defaced (with Feminist Society stickers)
Reading room poster board: same 2 posters later removed and binned (Tuesday)
→ I put up two posters there again.
→ The 2 posters were again removed and binned (Wednesday)
→ I put up two posters there again.
→ The 2 posters were again removed and binned
(Thursday/Friday)

IT Building: 2 posters removed

IT Building: 1 other poster completely covered [**poster sale event**]

Smokey's poster board: 2 posters defaced (with Feminist Society stickers)

Outdoor poster booth 1 (concourse): 2 posters completely covered [**poster sale event**]

Outdoor poster booth 1 (concourse): 2 other posters ripped down

Outdoor poster booth 2 (arts millennium): 2 posters ripped down

Outdoor poster booth 3 (cairnes): 4 posters ripped down

These statistics are no surprise to the Life Society. This response has become a regular pattern of events when the Life Society posters for an event on campus. NUI Galway Security has been contacted on several occasions over the last few weeks in relation to this problem, but they have said that they can do nothing. I also spoke to the Societies Officer about the problem early this semester, but nothing substantial was done.

On Wednesday 13th November, I discovered that several large yellow posters belonging to the Poster Sale Company had been placed directly on top of ours in different locations

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around the campus. I had to take time off my work specifically to track down the people responsible and ask them to explain their actions. When I complained, some posters were subsequently taken down and placed elsewhere, but not all.

I would ask that this company be formally warned that such behaviour is unacceptable and amounts to a breach of University poster policy.

I also ask that steps be taken to remedy this problem in general. I would like to stress the ongoing nature of the problem.

Sincerely,

Isaac Burke