

Wage Gap Bake Sale Educational and Thought-provoking

TO THE EDITOR:

The Carolina V-Day Initiative's bake sale was called "wage gap" not "equality" because equality has nothing to do with it—that is the point.

According to www.payequity.org, women as a group make 77 cents to the man's dollar, all other things being equal including education and job position. The bake sale was meant to be an educational and thought-provoking event for V-Week to demonstrate a larger phenomenon on a small scale. We rounded down to 75 cents for women for convenience sake when paying with coins.

You might think that such a bake sale should be illegal because it discriminates against men. The wage gap in this country (and indeed around the world though the proportions vary) discriminates against women. It should be illegal and it is, in theory. But statistics tell us that in practice, this isn't so, even in 2008.

If you are insulted about having to pay 25 cents more than a female student for one item for one day, I would say you are entitled. I, too, am entitled to be insulted that I will make less than men as a group over the course of my entire working career. I am also entitled to be proactive in advocating change so that this inequality will one day cease in the land of the free.

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