



# OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

JOSEPH E. CONNARTON  
CITY CLERK

(617) 349-4260

JOHN E. FLYNN  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

OCTOBER 2, 1991

TO: ALEX RODRIGUEZ  
CHAIRMAN, LICENSE COMMISSION

FROM: JOSEPH E. CONNARTON *JEC*  
CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: LINCOLN INN

Pursuant to the request of the City Council at its meeting of September 30, 1991 I am forwarding to you the enclosed communication received from Marc A. Rodwin, Esquire, relative to his on going concern of the operation of the Lincoln Inn.

As you will note by his communication, reference is made to certain licensing issues relative to the operation of the Inn.

Finally, Councillor Francis H. Duehay indicated that final licensing by the commission has not taken place and therefore raised the issue that any functions held by the Inn may be in violation of city policy. The City Council has requested a report by you, through the City Manager, for its meeting scheduled for Monday, October 7, 1991.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

c.c. Robert W. Healy, City Manager.

September 23, 1991

By Hand

Dear City Councilors:

I regret to inform you that despite the help the City Council provided Cambridge residents last spring by holding hearings and passing resolutions regarding the Lincoln's Inn, the problem is still festering. I am therefore writing on behalf of neighbors to request your help once again.

Last spring the City Council passed two important resolutions that are now being ignored. The first one requested that institutions of higher education draft codes of conduct for students and forward a copy to the Clerk of the City Council before the end of the spring term. The second one requested that Dean Robert Clark write the Lincoln's Inn requesting that they hold all their parties away from Follen Street and residential neighborhoods, preferably on campus.

Harvard and MIT have submitted codes of conduct. However, Harvard did not develop new codes of conduct to address issues such as the nuisance cause by their students at the Lincoln's Inn. In particular, the law school has merely sent you their long-standing rules and regulations which have been completely ineffective in the past to deal with the Lincoln's Inn problem.

The problems at the Lincoln's Inn arose in spite of the existence of the Law School's long-standing Principles of Responsibility. These do not address issues such as noise, disturbance to neighbors and residents of the City of Cambridge. I think that it was clear to all who attended the April 1 meeting that the intent of the resolution was that the law school and other schools of higher education develop new codes of conduct to deal with problems such as the Lincoln's Inn nuisance. We are therefore dismayed to find that the law school has done nothing in this regard.

The second resolution was that Dean Robert Clark request that the Lincoln's Inn hold all their night time parties on campus or away from Follen Street or other residential neighborhoods. Dean Clark wrote such a letter. However, the Lincoln's Inn has never officially replied and we have been informed by several individuals that the Lincoln's Inn currently plans to hold some night time parties at their 44 Follen Street premises this fall. The law school had winked at the student's lack of response. Although it is nearly six months after the City Council resolution the law school has done nothing to follow up on the Lincoln's Inn lack of response. This inaction has occurred in spite of our urging a both the Lincoln's Inn to respond. This I met with officials from the Lincoln's Inn Alumni board this summer, the Harvard University Department Office of Community Affairs, and sendt letters and made

phone calls to law school officials. The law School has promised to supervise the Lincoln's Inn but they have not done so.

Nor is this failure merely academic. The Lincoln's Inn now is again both violating the conditions imposed by the Cambridge License Commission and disturbing neighbors. Last spring the License Commission has stayed renewing the Lincoln's Inn their license pending several conditions. The Lincoln's Inn was supposed to submit floor plans and the Cambridge Zoning department was to review the plans and issue a certificate of occupancy stating the maximum number of people that could be present at any public gathering. The Zoning board has not yet issued a certificate of occupancy and the License Commission has not yet renewed the Lincoln's Inn License. They therefore have no right to hold any social gatherings on the first floor.

Despite this, and in direct violation of License Commission policy the Lincoln's Inn held an afternoon open house party on Saturday September 14, 1991 with over a hundred people. The Inn had informed both the law school dean of students and neighbors that the License Commission has issued them a certificate of occupancy. However, Mr. Richard Scali, Executive Director of the License Commission informed me on September 20th that this is not the case.

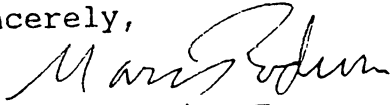
The party, while not particularly noisy, did result in several people loitering in the street drinking beer. In the past the Inn claimed that they had a management plan which would prevent problems and that only invited guests would be invited to their party. However, we found that there was no one checking at the door, and no apparent effort to card individuals to determine whether or not they were under age. Indeed, it appeared that there were underage people there drinking.

Furthermore, despite their not yet holding night-time parties the Lincoln's Inn has already disturbed neighbors with noise. We have had several reports of door slamming and noise at 2, a.m. caused, it appears, merely by the seven residents of the house. Other neighbors have complained about the poor upkeep of the premises. (Copies of letters of complaint enclosed).

It may therefore be appropriate for the City Council to hold public hearings. The council could appropriately call representatives of the Lincoln's Inn and ask why they have not honored the city resolution and Dean Clark's letter. They could ask them why they have held a party in violation of the License Commission rules. They could inquire about the noise and poor house upkeep. They could also call officials from Harvard Law School, find out why they have developed no new codes of conduct to address the problems caused by the Lincoln's Inn.

We appreciate the support you have given us in the past and hope that you can help us again now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marc A. Rodwin".

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

# To Harvard Neighbors, A Once-Venerable Club Is Now Affront to Law

By DAVID MARGOLICK  
Special to The New York Times

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Sheila Cook knows all about the past glory of the Lincoln's Inn Society of Harvard Law School. Decades ago her uncle, the legendary constitutional scholar Zachariah Chafee Jr., belonged to the club; so did her cousin, John H. Chafee, now a United States Senator from Rhode Island.

But, she says, that was when lawyers, even young ones, behaved themselves like gentlefolk. Lincoln's Inn, she wrote the Cambridge License Commission last year, has become a "de facto speakeasy." She ought to know; she lives next door.

"In the 15 years I have lived on Follen Street, the members have done nothing but disrupt the neighborhood with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties and their trash," she wrote. "The Inn's members care only for themselves. These are the individuals who will be responsible for carrying out our country's laws. It is a frightening thought."

As it always does, summer has brought a measure of tranquility to Follen Street, a blocklong alley seven minutes by foot from Harvard Square and three minutes from Harvard Law School. The Inn's clubhouse, a structure built in the era of Queen Victoria and the architectural style of Charles Addams, is largely empty.

## From Gripses to Hostilities

The peace is welcome after a year in which long-simmering neighborhood gripses against the Inn mushroomed into outright hostilities, complete with letter-writing campaigns, petition drives, noise logs and heated sessions before the local license commission and City Council. All focus on one perplexing question: whether, when it comes to law students, the best and the brightest can also be the rudest and crudest.

Neighbors complained of years of late nights spent listening to hundreds of America's future leading lawyers drinking, laughing, shouting, cheering, flirting, cavorting, brawling, staggering, cursing, door-slammings, wall-banging, record-playing, engine-racing, wheel-screaming, piano-playing and vomiting at their all-night, all-you-can-drink parties. The experience could be called "nightmarish" except that nightmares require sleep.

Inn members pledged to mend their ways, but those promises have fallen on deaf — or, perhaps, deafened — ears.

"Nothing would convince me they won't go back to their old ways," said David Owens, an architect who lives across the street. "I don't trust them. For people who are studying the law, they're not very civil."

Neighbors bitterly point out that when the club moved to its current

'They think they can break the law while everyone else has to obey it.'

location in 1947, members seeking the zoning variance that is required to put a club in a residential neighborhood assured local officials that the "scholastic demands" on them would surely keep things quiet. Mention Lincoln's Inn to its neighbors these days, though, and they are more likely to think of John Belushi and other residents of "National Lampoon's Animal House" than Felix Frankfurter.

## "Think They Can Break the Law"

"They think they can break the law while everyone else has to obey it," said Norman Vandale, superintendent of the apartment house next door. "And when you say something to them they try to quote the law to you. They're supposed to be lawyers, so they don't listen to nobody."

The Inn's officers acknowledge past indiscretions, and say they have taken steps to prevent recurrences. They have installed new storm windows, disabled the piano, removed the stereo from the pool room. And members of a newly created alumni board will attend parties, almost as chaperones.

The officers maintain that they have been maligned by obsessive, puritanical neighbors and by politicians vying for their votes. "Harvard Law School, Harvard University and Harvard students make very easy targets," said Adam Samuel Weiss of North Caldwell, N.J., a third-year law student who is the Inn's newly appointed "governor in charge of neighborhood relations." He called the charges "a bum rap," noting that they have been no complaints for the last several months.

Others defending the Inn have imported a notion from the law of torts: "assumption of risk." They say a little lost sleep is part of the price one pays for living in the shadow of a great university. "If there is noise, there are simple ways to deal with that," one alumnus, Frederick Scribner of Cambridge, told the license commission. "They're earplugs. You buy them at a drugstore."

In fact, residents say earplugs designed for use on pistol ranges have not helped. Neither have complaints to the police, nor letters to various Harvard Law School deans. But Sarah E. Weld, the law school's dean of students, maintained that the school was paying close attention to



David Margolick/The New York Times

"I don't trust them," said David Owens, a neighbor of the Lincoln Inn. "For people who are studying the law, they're not very civil." Mr. Owens with his children, Nicholas and Rachel, in front of the Inn.

the situation and would intervene if problems arose again.

The first 130 or so of Harvard's 1,600 law students willing to pay \$125 a year, plus a sprinkling of students from other departments, belong to Lincoln's Inn; seven actually live in the building. They are heirs to a distinguished tradition: past members include former Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr. and his successor, David H. Souter; Gov. William F. Weld of Massachusetts; and Representative Patricia Schroeder, a Colorado Democrat.

If it was in the classrooms of Langdell Hall that they learned to fight legal battles, it was at Lincoln's Inn that they learned to schmooze. "Many of us entering the daunting temple of intellect known as the Harvard Law School found ourselves dismayed — indeed, overpowered," William A. Truslow, a 1964 alumnus of the law school, wrote last fall to the license commission. "It was to the Inn that we would flee to nurse the wounds administered by stern and demanding professors, who lectured with more authority than Zeus and asked questions with about as much

kindness as the Marquis de Sade." Local ire with the Inn peaked last fall, after a particularly noisy Columbus Day bash. In November 40 current and former neighborhood residents wrote to the license panel describing their experiences and urging that the Inn's lodging license be revoked or made conditional on good behavior.

Following assurances from Inn members, the panel renewed its lodging license. The action then moved to the City Council. In April, following three hours of charges and countercharges, the council voted 7 to 1 to request Dean Robert Clark of the Law School to ask Lincoln's Inn to hold all of its parties on campus.

And, citing what it called the "intrusionary impact being exerted on

For some, Lincoln's Inn is a 'de facto speakeasy.'

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Jim Bourg for The New York Times

According to neighbors, the Lincoln Inn has been the scene of many all-night, all-you-can-drink parties.

our neighborhoods by the often unruly, insensitive and, yes, arrogant behavior of students," the council passed a second resolution calling on the presidents of Harvard, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other local universities to adopt codes of conduct for those enrolled in them.

Dean Clark has, in fact, asked the organization to hold its large parties on campus, but the Inn seems disinclined. "What we do on our property is nobody's business as long as we do it considerately and within the bounds of the law," said Mr. Weiss. He said the City Council resolution had "as much binding force as their resolution on Nicaragua."

Marc A. Rodwin, a lawyer representing the neighborhood group free — in part because he lives at 50 Follen St. — said he would like to see Lincoln's Inn sell its house. Four similar properties on Follen Street have recently been sold for \$1 million each — enough, Mr. Rodwin said, to keep Lincoln's Inn in beer for centuries.

Ms. Cook, Senator Chafee's cousin, is more optimistic that some accommodation can be reached.

"I really think they have been shaken up," she said. "But Harvard Law School is a fairly arrogant bunch. If you go to Harvard, you're at the top of the heap. Students from Harvard think they're brighter than the rest of us who live here."

# Harvard Law's Animal House

## Year After Year, It Makes a Strong Case for Incivility

By David Margolick  
New York Times Service

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Sheila Cook knows all about the past glory of the Lincoln's Inn Society of Harvard Law School. Decades ago her uncle, the legendary constitutional scholar Zachariah Chafee Jr., belonged to the club; so did her cousin, John H. Chafee, now a U.S. senator from Rhode Island.

But, she says, that was when lawyers, even young ones, behaved themselves like gentlefolk.

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"In the 15 years I have lived on Follen Street, the members have done nothing but disrupt the neighborhood with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties and their trash," she wrote. "The inn's members care only for themselves. These are the individuals who will be responsible for carrying out our country's laws. It is a frightening thought."

As it always does, summer has brought a measure of tranquility to Follen Street, a block-long alley seven minutes by foot from Harvard Square and three minutes from Harvard Law School. The inn's clubhouse, a structure built in the era of Queen Victoria and in the architectural style of Charles Addams, is largely empty.

The peace is welcome after a year in which simmering neighborhood gripes against the inn mushroomed into outright hostilities, complete with letter-writing campaigns, petition drives,

noise logs and heated sessions before the license commission and the city council.

All focus on one question — whether, when it comes to law students, the best and the brightest can also be the rudest and crudest.

Neighbors complained of years of being all too aware of America's future leading lawyers as they have laughed, shouted, cheered, flirted, cavorted, brawled, staggered and cursed at door-slamming, record-playing, piano-playing, engine-racing, wheel-screaming all-night, all-you-can-drink parties.

Inn members pledged to mend their ways, but "nothing would convince me they won't go back to their old ways," said David Owens, an architect who lives across the street. "For people who are studying the law, they're not very civil."

Neighbors bitterly point out that when the club moved to its current location in 1947, members seeking the zoning variance that is required to put a club in a residential neighborhood assured local officials that the "scholastic demands" on them would keep things quiet.

Mention Lincoln's Inn to its neighbors these days, though, and they are more likely to think of John Belushi and other residents of "National Lampoon's Animal House" than Felix Frankfurter.

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See HARVARD, Page 5

# HARVARD: Legal Animals

(Continued from page 1)

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Others defending the inn have imported a notion from the law of torts: assumption of risk. They say a little lost sleep is part of the price one pays for living in the shadow of a great university.

"If there is noise, there are simple ways to deal with that," one alumnus told the license commission. "They're earplugs. You buy them at a drugstore."

In fact, residents say earplugs designed for use on pistol ranges have not helped. Neither have complaints to the police, nor letters to various Harvard Law School deans. But Sarah E. Wald, the dean of students, maintained that the school would intervene if problems arose again.

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International

Herald

Tribe

September 19, 1991

Robert C. Clark  
Dean, Harvard Law School  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dean Clark:

Nearly a year has passed since we brought the Lincoln's Inn nuisance to your attention and the problem is still not resolved.

Six months ago the Cambridge City Council passed a resolution asking that your request that the Harvard law School's Lincoln's Inn Society hold their night time parties on campus. Approximately five months has passed since you complied with this request and wrote to the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn Society. The Lincoln's Inn has not yet bothered to respond to your letter.

In the spring the Lincoln's Inn told us that final exams prevented them from responding immediately. During the Summer I met with the Alumni Board of the Lincoln's Inn and was told that nothing could be done in the summer but that these issues would be addressed as soon as the fall term started. Although the Lincoln's Inn has not officially replied they have told several individuals informally that they still intend to hold parties at the 44 Follen Street premises. We have heard this from so many sources that we find it hard to believe that the law school is not also aware of this. We are troubled that you have taken no action.

If your letter of the previous spring is too mean anything the law school cannot idly sit by and overlook that the Lincoln's Inn is ignoring your request. Nor do we think it appropriate for the law school to accept any half way measure that falls short of the Lincoln's Inn honoring your request.

Last year the Law School assured the neighbors that they would take some responsibility for the conduct of the Lincoln's Inn problem. However, until now it has treated the problem with benign neglect. Already since their return this fall I have received several complaints from neighbors concerning the Lincoln's Inn activities. The Inn has not implemented their so called management plan. We therefore call upon you to take swift and forceful action to resolve this problem. Unless this problem can be resolved within the next couple of weeks we will have no choice but to again before use public forms and point out the failure of the Law School to accept responsibility.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

September 19, 1991

Neil Rudenstein  
President, Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear President Rudenstine:

We hope that you can intervene and help resolve a problem between Harvard Law School students and neighbors that has festered for some time. We take the extraordinary action of calling on you because years of efforts have failed to correct the problem despite concerted efforts by neighbors.

Moreover, the problem already has tarnished the good name of the university as press such as the International Herald Tribune and the New York Times, and the Boston Globe has reported on the matter. Unless the problem is resolved quite soon the matter will be before public forums again and the press and media are likely to pick up the story again. Already several alumni have written to university officials stating that they are withholding financial contributions until the problem is resolved.

The problem could be quite easily addressed with minimal university effort or inconvenience. I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you or one of your assistants to briefly explain the nature of the problem and how it could be resolved.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

enc: copies of letters to Dean Archie Epps, Dean Clark, Dean Sarah Wald, News article from International Herald Tribune and New York Times

September 19, 1991

David Wylie, Esq.  
Wylie, Lipman & Freeman  
31 Milk Street  
Boston, MA 02109-1213

Dear Mr. Wylie:

We are writing to urge that the Lincoln's Inn stop comply with the resolutions passed by the law school and with the request of Harvard Law School Dean Robert Clark and hold all their night time parties at a location away from 44 Follen Street.

The Lincoln's Inn has not even formally replied to Dean Clark but we have been informed that they plan to hold night time parties on Follen Street.

Unless the Lincoln's Inn unequivocally states that it will fully comply with city resolution and law school request we will have to go back to the city council and take other appropriate action to end the Lincoln's Inn nuisance.

Sincerely,

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50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

September 23, 1991

By Hand

1991 SEP 25 AM 9:36

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Last spring the City Council passed two important resolutions that are now being ignored. The first one requested that institutions of higher education draft codes of conduct for students and forward a copy to the Clerk of the City Council before the end of the spring term. The second one requested that Dean Robert Clark write the Lincoln's Inn requesting that they hold all their parties away from Follen Street and residential neighborhoods, preferably on campus.

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David Margolick/The New York Times

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If it was in the classrooms of Langdell Hall that they learned to fight legal battles, it was at Lincoln's Inn that they learned to schmooze. "Many of us entering the daunting temple of intellect known as the Harvard Law School found ourselves dismayed — indeed, overpowered," William A. Trustlow, a 1984 alumnus of the law school, wrote last fall to the license commission. "It was to 'the Inn' that we would flee to nurse the wounds administered by stern and demanding professors, who lectured with more authority than Zeus and asked questions with about as much

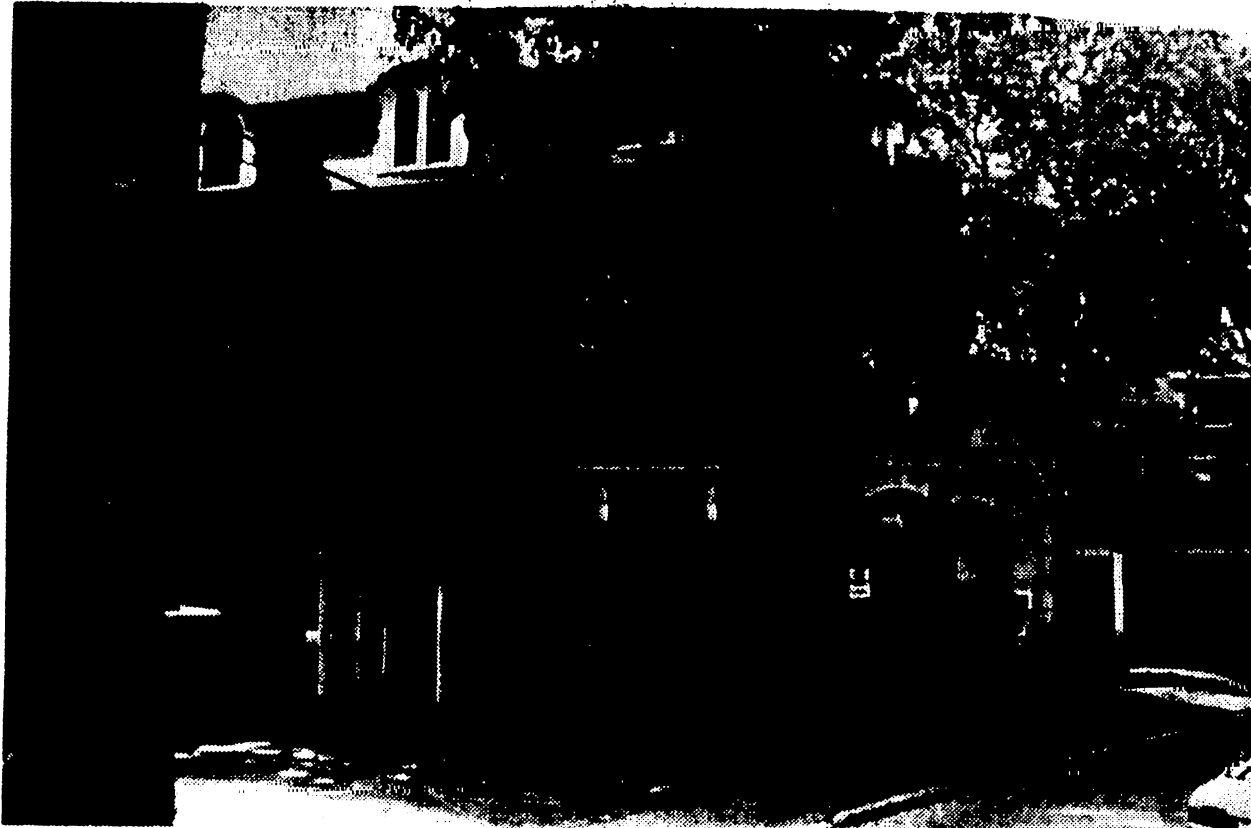
kindness as the Marquis de Sade."

Local ire with the Inn peaked last fall, after a particularly noisy Columbus Day bash. In November 40 current and former neighborhood residents wrote to the license panel describing their experiences and urging that the Inn's lodging license be revoked or made conditional on good behavior.

Following assurances from Inn members, the panel renewed its lodging license. The action then moved to the City Council. In April, following three hours of charges and countercharges, the council voted 7 to 1 to request Dean Robert Clark of the Law School to ask Lincoln's Inn to hold all of its parties on campus.

And, citing what it called the "intrusionary impact being exerted on

For some,  
Lincoln's Inn is a  
'de facto  
speakeasy.'



Jim Bourg for The New York Times

According to neighbors, the Lincoln Inn has been the scene of many all-night, all-you-can-drink parties.

our neighborhoods by the often unruly, insensitive and, yes, arrogant behavior of students," the council passed a second resolution calling on the presidents of Harvard, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other local universities to adopt codes of conduct for those enrolled in them.

Dean Clark has, in fact, asked the organization to hold its large parties on campus, but the inn seems disinclined. "What we do on our property is nobody's business as long as we do it considerately and within the bounds of the law," said Mr. Weiss. He said the City Council resolution had "as much binding force as their resolution on Nicaragua."

Marc A. Rodwin, a lawyer representing the neighborhood group free — in part because he lives at 50 Follen St. — said he would like to see Lincoln's Inn sell its house. Four similar properties on Follen Street have recently been sold for \$1 million each — enough, Mr. Rodwin said, to keep Lincoln's Inn in beer for centuries.

Ms. Cook, Senator Chafee's cousin, is more optimistic that some accommodation can be reached.

"I really think they have been shaken up," she said. "But Harvard Law School is a fairly arrogant bunch. If you go to Harvard, you're at the top of the heap. Students from Harvard think they're brighter than the rest of us who live here."

# Harvard Law's Animal House

P1

## Year After Year, It Makes a Strong Case for Incivility

By David Margolick

New York Times Service

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Sheila Cook knows all about the past glory of the Lincoln's Inn Society of Harvard Law School. Decades ago her uncle, the legendary constitutional scholar Zachariah Chafee Jr., belonged to the club; so did her cousin, John H. Chafee, now a U.S. senator from Rhode Island.

But, she says, that was when lawyers, even young ones, behaved themselves like gentlefolk.

Lincoln's Inn, she wrote the Cambridge License Commission last year, has become a "de facto speakeasy." She lives next door.

"In the 15 years I have lived on Follen Street, the members have done nothing but disrupt the neighborhood with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties and their trash," she wrote. "The inn's members care only for themselves. These are the individuals who will be responsible for carrying out our country's laws. It is a frightening thought."

As it always does, summer has brought a measure of tranquility to Follen Street, a block-long alley seven minutes by foot from Harvard Square and three minutes from Harvard Law School. The inn's clubhouse, a structure built in the era of Queen Victoria and in the architectural style of Charles Addams, is largely empty.

The peace is welcome after a year in which simmering neighborhood gripes against the inn mushroomed into outright hostilities, complete with letter-writing campaigns, petition drives,

noise logs and heated sessions before the license commission and the city council.

All focus on one question — whether, when it comes to law students, the best and the brightest can also be the rudest and crudest.

Neighbors complained of years of being all too aware of America's future leading lawyers as they have laughed, shouted, cheered, flirted, cavorted, brawled, staggered and cursed at door-slamming, record-playing, piano-playing, engine-racing, wheel-screaming all-night, all-you-can-drink parties.

Inn members pledged to mend their ways, but "nothing would convince me they won't go back to their old ways," said David Owens, an architect who lives across the street. "For people who are studying the law, they're not very civil."

Neighbors bitterly point out that when the club moved to its current location in 1947, members seeking the zoning variance that is required to put a club in a residential neighborhood assured local officials that the "scholastic demands" on them would keep things quiet.

Mention Lincoln's Inn to its neighbors these days, though, and they are more likely to think of John Belushi and other residents of "National Lampoon's Animal House" than Felix Frankfurter.

"They think they can break the law while everyone else has to obey it," said Norman Vandale,

See HARVARD, Page 5

# HARVARD:

## Legal Animals

(Continued from page 1)

superintendent of the apartment house next door. "And when you say something to them they try to quote the law to you. They're supposed to be lawyers, so they don't listen to nobody."

The inn's officers acknowledge indiscretions, and say they have taken steps to prevent recurrences. They have installed new storm windows, disabled the piano and removed the stereo from the pool room.

The officers maintain that they have been maligned by obsessive, puritanical neighbors and by politicians vying for their votes.

"Harvard Law School, Harvard University and Harvard students make very easy targets," said Adam Samuel Weiss, a third-year law student who is the inn's newly created "governor in charge of neighborhood relations."

Others defending the inn have imported a notion from the law of torts: assumption of risk. They say a little lost sleep is part of the price one pays for living in the shadow of a great university.

"If there is noise, there are simple ways to deal with that," one alumnus told the license commission. "They're earplugs. You buy them at a drugstore."

In fact, residents say earplugs designed for use on pistol ranges have not helped. Neither have complaints to the police, nor letters to various Harvard Law School deans. But Sarah E. Wald, the dean of students, maintained that the school would intervene if problems arose again.

The first 130 or so of Harvard's 1,600 law students willing to pay \$125 a year, plus a sprinkling of students from other departments, belong to Lincoln's Inn; seven live in the building.

They are heirs to a distinguished tradition. Past members include former Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr. and his successor, David H. Souter; Governor William F. Weld of Massachusetts, and Representative Patricia Schroeder of Colorado.

If it was in the classrooms of Langdell Hall that they learned to fight legal battles, it was at Lincoln's Inn that they learned to schmooze.

"Many of us entering the daunting temple of intellect known as the Harvard Law School found ourselves dismayed — indeed, overpowered," William A. Truslow, a 1964 alumnus, wrote last fall to the license commission.

"It was to 'the inn' that we would flee to nurse the wounds administered by stern and demanding professors, who lectured with more authority than Zeus and asked questions with about as much kindness as the Marquis de Sade."

International

Herald

Tribune

September 19, 1991

Robert C. Clark  
Dean, Harvard Law School  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dean Clark:

Nearly a year has passed since we brought the Lincoln's Inn nuisance to your attention and the problem is still not resolved.

Six months ago the Cambridge City Council passed a resolution asking that your request that the Harvard law School's Lincoln's Inn Society hold their night time parties on campus. Approximately five months has passed since you complied with this request and wrote to the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn Society. The Lincoln's Inn has not yet bothered to respond to your letter.

In the spring the Lincoln's Inn told us that final exams prevented them from responding immediately. During the Summer I met with the Alumni Board of the Lincoln's Inn and was told that nothing could be done in the summer but that these issues would be addressed as soon as the fall term started. Although the Lincoln's Inn has not officially replied they have told several individuals informally that they still intend to hold parties at the 44 Follen Street premises. We have heard this from so many sources that we find it hard to believe that the law school is not also aware of this. We are troubled that you have taken no action.

If your letter of the previous spring is too mean anything the law school cannot idly sit by and overlook that the Lincoln's Inn is ignoring your request. Nor do we think it appropriate for the law school to accept any half way measure that falls short of the Lincoln's Inn honoring your request.

Last year the Law School assured the neighbors that they would take some responsibility for the conduct of the Lincoln's Inn problem. However, until now it has treated the problem with benign neglect. Already since their return this fall I have received several complaints from neighbors concerning the Lincoln's Inn activities. The Inn has not implemented their so called management plan. We therefore call upon you to take swift and forceful action to resolve this problem. Unless this problem can be resolved within the next couple of weeks we will have no choice but to again before use public forms and point out the failure of the Law School to accept responsibility.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

September 19, 1991

Neil Rudenstein  
President, Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear President Rudenstine:

We hope that you can intervene and help resolve a problem between Harvard Law School students and neighbors that has festered for some time. We take the extraordinary action of calling on you because years of efforts have failed to correct the problem despite concerted efforts by neighbors.

Moreover, the problem already has tarnished the good name of the university as press such as the International Herald Tribune and the New York Times, and the Boston Globe has reported on the matter. Unless the problem is resolved quite soon the matter will be before public forums again and the press and media are likely to pick up the story again. Already several alumni have written to university officials stating that they are withholding financial contributions until the problem is resolved.

The problem could be quite easily addressed with minimal university effort or inconvenience. I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you or one of your assistants to briefly explain the nature of the problem and how it could be resolved.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

enc: copies of letters to Dean Archie Epps, Dean Clark, Dean Sarah Wald, News article from International Herald Tribune and New York Times

September 19, 1991

David Wylie, Esq.  
Wylie, Lipman & Freeman  
31 Milk Street  
Boston, MA 02109-1233

Dear Mr. Wylie:

We are writing to urge that the Lincoln's Inn stop comply with the resolutions passed by the law school and with the request of Harvard Law School Dean Robert Clark and hold all their night time parties at a location away from 44 Follen Street.

The Lincoln's Inn has not even formally replied to Dean Clark but we have been informed that they plan to hold night time parties on Follen Street.

Unless the Lincoln's Inn unequivocally states that it will fully comply with city resolution and law school request we will have to go back to the city council and take other appropriate action to end the Lincoln's Inn nuisance.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear M. Connerston

Councilor Duchay asked that  
I bring you this material to  
distribute in the weekly package  
before the Cambridge City Council.

Marc Redwin

1991 SEP 26 AM 11:42  
CAMBRIDGE MA.

September 23, 1991

Robert C. Clark  
Dean, Harvard Law School  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

By Hand

Dear Dean Clark:

Over the past year Harvard Law School officials have told neighbors of the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn Society that if in the future the Lincoln's Inn either create a nuisance for neighbors or violate norms of decency or law they would support neighbors in their efforts to have their license revoked. Unfortunately it is now time for the law school to take such action.

On September 14, the Lincoln's Inn held a open house party in direct violation of the License Commission ruling last spring that explicitly prevented them from using the 44 Follen Street premises for social gatherings until the Commission issues them a certificate of occupancy stating the number of people that can safely make use of the first floor. The License Commission has not yet issued that permit. The Lincoln's Inn has again flouted the law.

It is my understanding that representative of the Inn also misrepresented their status to Dean Sarah Wald claiming that they had received License Commission approval. They certainly misrepresented the facts to me when I made enquiries.

There seems to be no way that the Inn could have inadvertently make an error in this matter. The requirements have been explained to them by the License Commission, by neighbors, and by their own legal counsel, Mr. David Wylie. They have an alumni committee that made up of Boston attorney that they can also call upon if they help in understanding basic legal documents.

Moreover, this party was conducted in a way that appears to have violated the Inn's own so called management plan. That plan states that the Inn will permit invited guests only, make special provisions for ensuring that alcohol is not served to minors, that guests will not loiter in the streets drinking alcohol, and that an alumni board member is present. Our information is that none of these conditions were met.

In addition, since their return I have received several complaints from neighbors. The Lincoln's Inn has caused late night noise at 2, a.m, and failed to upkeep their grounds. The Inn has not even bothered to respond to your letter and the Cambridge City Council resolution asking that they hold their parties on campus.

We think that the law school should now write to the Cambridge License Commission and request an immediate hearing to determine whether or not the Lincoln's Inn should have their license revoked for these violations. We would hope that you to attend the hearing or send Vice-Dean David Smith to speak in favor of revoking the license.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

✓ cc: Cambridge City Council

September 23, 1991

By Hand

Sarah Wald  
Dean of Students  
Harvard Law School  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dean Wald:

We understand that the Law School has submitted its long-standing Principles of Conduct to the Cambridge City Council as its way of complying with the April 1, 1991 resolution asking for the universities to prepare codes of conduct.

As you know, the issue arose because of the nuisance caused by Harvard Law School students at the Harvard Law School Lincoln's Inn Society. These problems arose in spite of the existence of the long-standing Principles of Responsibility. We think that it was clear to all who attend the April 1 meeting that the intent of the resolution was that the law school and other schools of higher education develop new codes of conduct to deal with problems such as the Lincoln's Inn nuisance. We are therefore dismayed to find that the law school has done nothing in this regard.

I am particularly troubled for what this indicates about the law school's way of addressing community relations. When we discussed the Lincoln's Inn issue this past year the law school assured the neighbors that they would use their resources to see that such problems never arose again. Marilyn O'Connell told me that she had no objection to the resolution except that more than a month would be needed to develop such rules. In our continuing discussions no one ever stated that the Law School would ignore the request to develop new rules of conduct.

Furthermore, no one bothered to inform the neighbors when the university submitted their response to the Cambridge City Council. In our discussions with the law school and Department of Community Affairs in the past Marilyn O'Connell and you have urged us to communicate any complaints to you and to keep lines of communication open. But such communication must be a two way street. The university does not help promote good relations with its neighbors when it acts in the way it has.

We hope that the law school will now develop new codes of conduct that can address the problem and submit them to neighbors for their comment before they adopt them in final form.

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

✓ cc: Cambridge City Council

September 23, 1991

Richard Scali  
Executive Director  
Cambridge License Commission  
831 Mass. Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

By Hand

Dear Mr. Scali:

I write to inform you that the Harvard Law School Lincoln's Inn Society has violated the conditions set forth last spring by the License Commission.

At that time the License Commission stated that the Lincoln's Inn could not use the first floor of its premises until they have received a certificate of occupancy. As I understand from our telephone conversation on Friday September 20th, the certificate of Occupancy has not been granted yet and the License Commission has not approved the Inn's their license pending this event. I also understood you to tell me that holding any social gathering on the first floor until this occurred would directly violate the License Commission ruling.

However, the Lincoln's Inn has already used its first floor premises to hold a "open house" party on Saturday September 14, 1991. They did so after falsely telling law school Dean of Students Sarah Wald that they had a certificate of occupancy and license Commission approval.

There were alcoholic beverages served at the party. It was attended by over a hundred people, some of which then loitered in the streets drinking beer. Our investigation suggests that the party was not limited to invited guests in violation of the Inn's so called management plan. It also appears that no effort was made to limit the party to invited guests and there was no one at the door to check people identification and determine whether they were under the legal drinking age. The so called management plan was also supposed to prevent this from occurring.

In addition, I have received numerous complaints from neighbors about Lincoln's Inn activities. Some have been disturbed by noise such as door slamming and yelling at 2, a.m. Others have been disturbed by their failure to maintain the premises. The management plan was also supposed to prevent this from occurring.

In conclusion the Lincoln's Inn has violated the resolutions passed by License Commission thus ignoring its authority. Furthermore, they violated standards by which they promised to abide and upon which the Commission assume they would follow when

it provisionally granted the Inn a license. Finally they have already engaged in noisy conduct that disturbed neighbors. We therefore think that the License Commission should hold a hearing as soon as possible to determine whether the Inn's License should be revoked or otherwise subject to conditions.

Pending the resolution of the hearing we would hope that the Commission not issue the Lincoln's Inn a license even if they submit all the necessary papers to obtain a certificate of occupancy. The Inn has openly and directly flouted the License Commission's authority and disturbed neighbors. The Commission should not allow business as usual to continue since they have stated in the past that there would be an immediate hearing upon the filing of legitimate complaints.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors of the  
Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

50 Follen Street # 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

cc: David Wylie, Esq.  
Dean Robert C. Clark

enc: memorandum from Bob Schoenberg  
letter from Jane Reed

36 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

29 August, 1991

Ms. Sarah Wald  
Dean of Students  
Harvard Law School  
ILS #308  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Sarah,

This summer brings only two new complaints against Lincoln's Inn, both regarding trash disposal; and one on-going complaint, that about the appearance of the grounds.

The first trash problem was in July and I suspect was the result of an accumulation of garbage bags left by out-going students and inherited by the in-coming group. At any rate, when I stopped by to request the bags be placed on the street for pick-up, the students kindly did so. Then a couple of weeks ago I noticed a few bags accumulated in the same place. I called the summer manager, Lucy, (the Inn's main telephone is disconnected) to ask that the trash be put out for yesterday's pick-up. She informed me that it wasn't their trash, "they never put trash out there." Suggesting we "start the year off right" I could only reply "well the bags are out there." She said "we'll see what we can do, Mrs. Reed." Nothing has been done.

The incident may seem a small one, but it is the attitude. I do not know who Lucy is, but I hope her approach to the neighborhood does not reflect the attitude of the Lincoln's Inn members.

Regarding the grounds, one only has to look. Weeds, broken branches and twigs, trash, torn plastic covering, dead plants and shrubs are all about. The promise by last years governing board to hire someone to attend to the grounds has not been kept. What is to be done? Our generosity and patience are running out.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Warm regards,

cc: President, Lincoln's Inn Society

9/22/91

To: Marc Rodwin  
Re: Update on Lincoln's Inn Sept. 1991

On Saturday, Sept. 14, 1991 Lincoln's Inn held its annual Open House. There were hundreds of people in attendance and there was an ample supply of alcoholic beverages. I and several other residents of 50 Follen St. observed several people leaving Lincoln's Inn, walking on Follen Street with plastic containers of beverages. One woman was heard to say to another, "I've had so much to drink I can't even walk straight. There was no Harvard security present. The event took place throughout the afternoon and fortunately ended early evening.

The two weeks prior to this event there was of a number of irritating disturbances consisting of door slamming and loud conversations taking place as late as 2:00 am. Two people from Lincoln's Inn, (presumably guests) were having a conversation in the driveway of 50 Follen St. between the dumpsters. Their conversation ended approximately 2:00 am.

Friday night, Sept. 19, 1991, there was a series of door slamming (it is always the side door of Lincoln's Inn, adjacent to our driveway and building). At 1:40 am. I heard someone slamming the door to Lincoln's Inn. (I know the sound). A woman on the 3rd floor also heard the door slamming, despite the fact that she had her windows closed and had a "white noise machine" in operation - a device that filters out noise. This ought to give you some indication as to the loudness of the door slamming.

I have also received complaints from other neighbors, including Sheila Cook, whose complaint concerned trash and debris (I don't have all the details). She managed to get it resolved through persistence.

Although these incidences are nothing compared to what took place last year, I fear it is only a matter of time before they escalate and once again pose a problem to the neighborhood.

Despite Lincoln's Inn so called "Management Plan", it appears that some of their members and/or residents still have no regard for their neighbors, based upon their behavior.

I certainly hope that the members of Lincoln's Inn do not continue to disturb the peace and become a public nuisance as they were last year. Such action almost cost them their lodging license.

Bob Schoenberg - 50 Follen St.

CONSENT COMMUNICATION # 1

5-1048

Communication received from Marc A. Rodwin, Esq., 50 Follen Street, regarding the festering of the problems at the Lincoln Inn.

In City Council,

Sept. 30, 1991

Referred to the  
License Commission  
for a report  
Comm sent to License  
Commission 10/2/91 @