

The Commentator

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“Know Your Own Bone”

To the Editor:

Many of this year's graduates will practice law and be happy with their choice. Many, however, will not be happy with their choice and I wish to reach out to these people.

Despite the Placement Office's obsession to direct students to law firms, five years down the road many of this year's graduates will not be practicing law as their main life career. Over half will be in business or politics.

Many talented people have graduated from law school, not practiced law, and done something worthwhile with their lives. History is full of people who were not trapped between their ears by other people's versions of success. There are people like Studs Terkel, the oral historian, and Henri Matisse, the artist. And

there are others like Robert Edwards, former President of Carleton College and present Educational Director for the Aga Khan; Randall Robinson, founder of TransAfrica (the group that raised the nation's consciousness on South Africa); Rich Trumka, leader of the United Mine Workers; and Daniel Oran, novelist and co-founder of a personnel consulting firm. Even in this year's graduating class there is at least one person who will not be practicing law.

So remember the words of Henry David Thoreau “Pursue, keep up with, circle round and round your life, as a dog does his master's chaise. Do what you love. Know your own bone; gnaw on it, bury it, unearth it and gnaw it still.”

Will H. Docter