

# Reville focus was classist

NOW:

We appreciate the recent publicity which NOW gave our book, *Shrink Resistant*, by publishing many excerpts from David Reville's journal (NOW, January 16, February 1.)

However, we are not at all pleased with NOW's exclusive focus on Reville. It gives the reader the erroneous impression that our anthology features or revolves around Reville. Your characterization of Reville's piece as "the centrepiece" of the book reinforces the impression.

Your treatment of *Shrink Resistant* was, frankly, elitist. Seeing Reville centred out this way bothered us because our book is an anthology, a genuinely collective effort in which there are no star performers.

Reville's piece just happens to be the longest and, of course, he is a very good writer, but so are most of the other contributors in our book. You could easily have excerpted material from other first-rate writers such as Margaret Gibson, Irit Shimrat and Nira Fleischman, but obviously you chose not to do so. Perhaps if these writers were also MPPs or MPs or other upper-middle-class males who were prestigious, you would have done so.

This is not the first time we have found NOW classist and sexist. This is to be expected in a traditional paper, but it is disappointing in an alternative paper like NOW.

Bonnie Burstow  
Don Weitz  
Toronto