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7-2008

The Window

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Recommended Citation

Milosavljevic, Filip, "The Window" (2008). *Lake Union Herald*. 556.
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs/556>

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The Window

BY FILIP MILOSAVLJEVIC

Sometimes we do things that are wrong and get caught in the act. Well, in the world we live in we seem to think we get away with so much. When we cheat on homework, have impure thoughts about the opposite sex, gossip about our friends when they are not around or even neglect to do the right thing, we don't think anyone is watching or even cares to watch.

People see everything we do and hear all we say, just like being on surveillance. That is not even the worst thing. When we see or hear something "wrong" we act like it never happened and look the other way. We make excuses for what we saw, and we say, "It's none of my business."

In the end we are only cheating ourselves and God. The horrible thing is that it doesn't even bother us. We go on living our lives. We don't really see the effects of cheating, lust, gossip, lying, backstabbing, and we certainly don't hold one another accountable to what we might say, do or even think! So, we keep on living and "minding our own business."

Are we really just looking through a window like it seems, and watching the world around us pass by? Or, can we interact with one another and hopefully guide one another to better choices? Do we really have to just look the other way when we see a sheep is going astray? How far do we let them go till we look for them? Have we become too politically correct to step out and make hard black and white calls?

We need to stop looking through windows and start walking outside with each other. We need to start calling each other out on the things we know are just plain wrong.

*I sat outside your window,
Looking into the world you live in.
I saw what you are really like.
You're not as friendly as I thought,
You're not as loving as you seemed,
You're not as Christ-like as you said you were.*

*Who are you anyways?
No really, who are you?
Who do you think you are in the big picture?*

*I sat outside your window,
And saw who you really are.
I sat outside your window.*

— Filip Milosavljevic

A good slap in the face once in a while from a friend is not as bad as it is from a stranger. My friends in a band in Seattle sing about this very thing in a song called "Accountability Movements." It says:

"If you have a friend who tells you 'you got something wrong'

You got spinach in your teeth and tissues on your heals

*A wound is better from a friend
Than a kiss from the worst of enemies
Don't let go, don't let go of them*

They're the best of friends."

A friend says awkward things like that, but that's what friends do. More importantly, a friend fights for a friend; we actually are our brother's keepers. There are forces out there fighting against us.

Let's not fight against each other by our indifference. Let's make a difference, starting with ourselves, and then moving from the windows to holding one another accountable. Let's make the hard calls; a little pain now is not as bad as the pain of not seeing them there one day, if you know what I mean.

Filip Milosavljevic is a sophomore theology major at Andrews University. He lives in Mesquite, Texas.

"Accountability Movements" is on the album, *Let Those Who Have Ears Hear*, by Garage Voice (www.garagevoice.com), released April 2007. Lyrics reprinted with permission. Listen to "Accountability Movements" at www.myspace.com/garagevoice or iTunes.