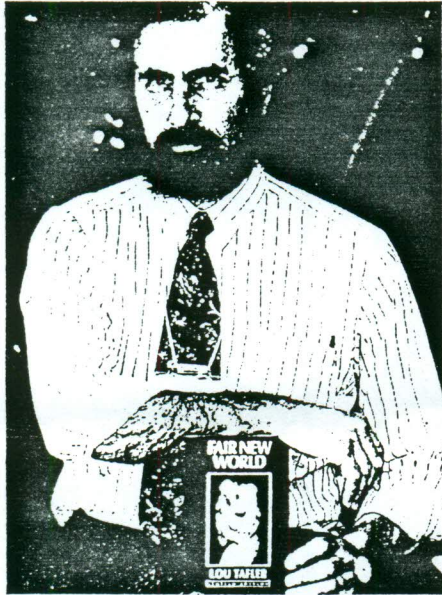


# Louis in Femboland

*A male academic flees campus political correctness*

The organizers of this month's 1994 Learned Societies Conference in Calgary provided Dr. Louis Marinoff with a place to hawk his *Fair New World*, a futuristic satire about gender politics. But less than halfway through the three-week convention, organizers told the researcher from the University of B.C. to pack up.



Prof. Marinoff:  
*Equity is 'retribution' against men.*

The people in charge of the gathering (attended by 8,000 academics and sponsored by Canada's heavily-subsidized publishing industry) blamed the crowd. "They said they needed the space, but the booth they moved me from is still empty," Professor Marinoff said during the show. "But I'd spent all week arguing about affirmative action with people, and frankly, I was just too politically incorrect."

When the professor threatened to take his case to the media, he was moved to a back corner of the gym instead. "It was clear they didn't want any TV cameras," he chuckles. A conference spokesman explained the move by saying Prof. Marinoff's initial site was not an "optimal location" due to a large stack of books at his display.

After completing his doctorate at University College in London three years ago, Prof. Marinoff sought a teaching job in Canada, sending out 60 applications a year. But, he says, feminist orthodoxy rendered his efforts fruitless. In 1991, the

Canadian Philosophical Association passed a motion requiring that 40% of all faculty positions be held by women by the year 2010. Given academia's slow attrition rate, this meant that almost all new jobs go to women.

As a result, Dr. Marinoff, now 42, says he must flee Canada to secure a tenure-track position. This fall the Montreal native assumes a professorship at City College of New York.

He says Marc Lepine's 1989 massacre of women at Montreal's L'Ecole Polytechnique was the pretext for a feminist coup in the hiring policies of every Canadian university in almost every field except the mathematical sciences. "It's retribution," he explains. "To empower women, we punish men. Empowerment corrupts—and absolute empowerment corrupts absolutely."

Writing under the pen name of Lou Tafler, Prof. Marinoff published *Fair New World* through Vancouver-based Backlash Books. The story takes place in the year 2084, when the world is divided up between the Brown Skirts of Feminania, the violent louts of Bruteland, and the philosopher-kings of empathetic Melior. The novel concentrates mainly on Feminania's disastrous efforts to eradicate male and female nature with "linguistic purity."

The book has won favourable reviews among his peers. "He's very clever in his use of language," says retired UBC English professor Kay Stockholder. "Very witty."

But warning, not wit, is Prof. Marinoff's major objective. "Ideological tampering with language is already bringing a new Dark Age," he says. "These days, anyone who criticizes reverse discrimination already stands convicted of sexism and racism." Canadians ought not regard this as mere academic folly, he adds. Universities are funded by governments, whose bureaucracies recruit from academia's propagandized graduates with unhappy results that are already evident.

"Look at the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Section 15.1 says we'll never discriminate against an individual. Then Section 15.2 says we'll discriminate against anyone we like, providing we think it's fair. This sort of arrogance is going to get worse."

Prof. Marinoff won't speculate on whether he'll find more freedom or justice in the U.S. "Let's just say the book is my farewell gift to Canada," he smiles.

—Joe Woodard