

Letter from the Editors

Dear Readers,

Open any newspaper or online blog, and news about the 2016 Presidential Election is bound to be there. Because this election is regarded by many as one of the most monumental of all time, we wanted to have our own take on it here at *The Tavern*. While this election will obviously determine who holds office for the next four years, its effect will be timeless. This election serves to give citizens power and hope and to articulate issues that matter.

The ever more powerful Chinese economy, a far right swing across Europe, and crushing national debt: now, more than ever before, America demands its greatest. It is our job as citizens to use our voices and influence to ensure that our next leader best reflects the needs of America. Because we are millennials, one of the most underrepresented groups in American democracy, it is suitably appropriate that the readers and writers of *The Tavern* focus on this election for our second issue. After all, it is on the back of millennial support that Bernie Sanders influenced the current Democratic platform, and only with the support of millennials may third party candidates like Gary Johnson and Jill Stein have a shot at the Oval Office.

At our institutions, we students are often told that we are the future leaders of the world. Some of us will become diplomats, presidents, and senators, so it is no surprise that many of our campuses are already politically charged. Among the ten schools that have come together for *The Tavern*, some students harbor more conservative values, and others liberal: either way, it is apparent that the political attitude of this election affects our everyday lives. Massachusetts is interesting in the way that, though the state itself is more liberal, Donald Trump, arguably the most extreme conservative, won over the state during the Republican primaries. Massachusetts represents a state in which political attitudes are quickly escalating to extremes on both ends. As students learning in this state, we are growing and forming ideas in a time in which we are in political turmoil. Amidst all this, most of us do not yet have the power to vote—so we sit and absorb.

This issue of *The Tavern* will give you an insight on the political conversations currently held in many Massachusetts boarding schools. Even though many of us cannot vote, we can be heard through this issue. Unlike many news outlets and social media sites that absorb our everyday lives, *The Tavern* does not have a political agenda. Instead, as we always intend, we are bringing light to issues that concern our everyday lives. We encourage you to read through our

thoughtpieces and engage in the topics we are putting forth through the newly added comments section. We do caution, however, that as we are in public domain to be respectful and open minded when engaging in conversation. Some say there are three things not to talk about in prep school: religion, politics, and money—well we have already broken this rule, but that doesn't mean we can't still engage in discourse peacefully. Moreover, if you come across an article that particularly sparks your interest, please don't hesitate to send in a response to editors@the-tavern.net, *The Tavern's* official mailbox. We are eager to engage with our readers and initiate productive chains of dialogue.

Since our September release, most Editors have established panels of ten students in their respective schools. As of now, sixty-five students across our ten schools have officially committed to this thoughtpaper, and by extending our membership, we hope *The Tavern* will become a 100-person operation by our next issue. *The Tavern* is an ever-growing operation, and we are inordinately excited to see where this project takes us. We hope you enjoy our 2016 Presidential Election Issue, and, as always, we hope you enjoy your stay.

Sincerely,
The 1st Editorial Board