



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MIKE OTTO

ADULT LIFE IN THE 20TH CENTURY A study has shown that blowing out more candles doesn't equate to adulthood.

We're taking longer to grow up

A study has shown that the social and economic situations 30-year-old Canadians face today are equal to those that 25-year-olds from the 1970s had

DAN LEMAY
The Manitoban

WINNIPEG (CUP)—According to a recent study, Canadians take longer to “grow up” than they did 30 years ago. The study, published in *Canadian Social Trends* magazine, is based on census data collected between 1971 and 2001, and compared the ages at which Canadians have finished school, moved out on their own, married, and had children. An increase across the board was found in the average age for all of these key life transitions. In short, the study suggests that a 30-year-old in 2001 was roughly equivalent in terms of life transitions to a 25-year-old in the 1970s. In 1971,

around half of 22-year-olds in Canada were married, and one quarter of them already had children. In 2001, less than one in eleven 22-year-olds had children, and only a fifth lived with a partner. The numbers of both men and women in Canadian universities has also increased since 1971. Only seven per cent of women and 13 per cent of men in the 1970s completed postsecondary education; by 2001, these figures had risen to 29 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. But Rita Bruce, a third-year University of Manitoba science student, didn't find the conclusions surprising. “As university is becoming the new educational standard, more people in

general are going to university,” she said. The study also showed a jump in the numbers of young adults living with their parents. In 1971, only 22 per cent of men and 11 per cent of women were living at home when they turned 25. In 2001, the numbers of young adults still living with their families had increased to 40 per cent for men and 27 per cent for women. The study speculates that the reasons behind more young adults choosing to live at home longer are primarily economic. Since the 1970s, the labour market's demand for those with a university degree has doubled, while at the same time shrinking for those with a high school diploma or less.

Tolerance event organizers saddened to find racist graffiti on their posters

ALLYSON MCCORMACK
The Aquinian

FREDERICTON (CUP)—Posters advertising an event about tolerance at Fredericton's St Thomas University were defaced with racist graffiti on 30 September. The posters featuring the event's host, Andrew Saa Gbongbor—a Sierra Leonean student—were vandalized along with other posters on campus featuring visible minorities. Paul Cormier, the program director of SHOUT (Students Helping Others Understand Tolerance), was contacted after posters with Gbongbor's picture on them were found defaced. “The next day, we found posters for other groups with Africans on them defaced as well, so it was across-the-board targeting,” Cormier said. “I felt complete and utter disgust,” he added. “I can't say that I was shocked. I know racism exists in every community across Canada and across the world, really. So there wasn't shock,

but there was just disgust; sickness to the stomach.” “This is in no way tolerated at St Thomas,” said Jeffrey Carleton, the University's director of communications and media relations. **“This is where I was destined to come after Africa, and I'm going to live here no matter what difficulties I'm facing.”** **ANDREW SAA GBONGBOR**
SIERRA LEONEAN STUDENT “We want to shine as much light on the situation as possible, to get under it, and make sure it never happens again,” he said. Carleton said that it was the first incident of its kind that has been reported on the St Thomas campus of

which he is aware. Saa Gbongbor noted he was also shaken when a friend told him about the posters. “I'm annoyed,” he said. “I didn't expect anyone to do this—I'm just trying to get my word out there.” But the incident hasn't discouraged Saa Gbongbor, who is in his third year of study. “It does nothing to me—I don't even feel racism,” he said. “If you are racist with me, I am always just smiling at you because you're not going to hurt me; I don't care. I have tons of friends from the university, and from the community—it's fine. “This is where I was destined to come after Africa and I'm going to live here no matter what difficulties I'm facing,” he added. Chow Wang, a 40-year-old resident, has been arrested in connection with the incident. Police credited campus security cameras for helping to lead them to an arrest.

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