



# The Battle Against Global Warming Continues

By Melanie Cabrera

[@MelanieCabreraH](#)

Generally considered one of the most pressing issues of the 21st century, global warming impacts more aspects of life than many realize. Everything from alarming extinction rates, melting ice caps, raging forest fires, and hotter summers attributes to rapid climate change.

Throughout the years, more countries have taken steps to prevent further damage to the world's ecosystems. Technological advancements

There have been several noteworthy events worldwide regarding climate change and the way it's being addressed.

Polluted air is a top concern for many scientists, as it has links to various health problems. Owen Hanley, a retired doctor who practiced pulmonary medicine for over three decades in Fairbanks, Alaska, notes some irreversible damages it causes in the human body.

**"We know with air pollution, there's more dementia in adults, there's more kidney failure and young pregnant women have more miscarriages and preterm births, and little kids don't get full lung development,"** Hanley told the Associated Press.

However, a recent World Health Organization report revealed that around 99% of the planet's population was breathing in bad quality air. A

Wind turbines established by The Lake Turkana Wind Power project in Kenya in efforts to battle climate.



cold environment is more likely to trap polluted air on the ground. Places like Alaska, where the typical pollutants exist, experience some of the worst polluted air in the United States.

Scientists are studying the air pollution in Alaska to improve actions taken by officials to decrease its impact on the local population. Their efforts could also lead to valuable insight into the ways air pollution affects cold climates across continental margins.

**Even areas with low greenhouse emissions feel the brunt of climate change; from worsened food insecurity and farming conditions to financial instability for millions of people, Africa's population**

**has experienced the devastating effects of climate change.**

The implementation of more renewable energy is one of the focal measures taken to combat this. Through initiatives such as the Lake Turkana Wind Power, countries like Kenya are seeing more wind farms. Beyond that, off-grid solar-powered homes in Uganda, solar parks in Egypt and South Africa, and many more projects are underway on the continent.

Global warming has also uprooted many lives in Asia. Natural disasters like hurricanes and floods are increasingly common due to rising sea levels and a more humid environment. This has left countless people displaced, with homes and businesses lost.

of those residing in the capital will be displaced as a result. United Nations' recently released IPCC Sixth Assessment Report on climate change found that

**"Approximately 3.3 to 3.6 billion people live in contexts that are highly vulnerable to climate change."**

Millions of people have already been impacted by global warming and face food insecurity, forced migration, and many other consequences, many of whom live in vulnerable regions of the world, such as Africa, Asia, and South America.

As the report states, "regions and subregions with high levels of poverty, water, food and energy insecurity, vulnerable urban environments..., face many non-climate challenges that inhibit climate resilient development which are further exacerbated by climate change" In cases like Indonesia, there are plans to move the country's capital further inland, with the current one expected to be underwater in the coming years. Many

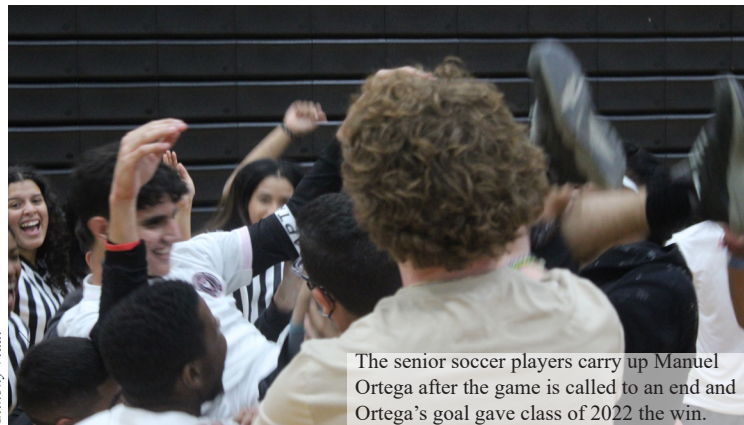
Meanwhile, Bangladesh faces constant migration of people. As climate change forces many to seek refuge, the country's capital faces waves of displaced people from nearby areas.

Finding alternative ways to produce energy has been a key foundation for eco-friendly efforts. The European Union; has goal of reducing carbon emissions in member-states by half by 2030. To reach this, many companies, especially the steel company, will have to implement low-carbon alternatives to their current production process.

**"Carbon capture will play a big role in the counteraction of climate change when it begins to gain traction, as well as major corporations being held liable for their parts in degrading Earth's resources,"** stated Ms. Perez, the AICE Environmental Management instructor at MLEC.

Although climate change is a global problem, regions of the world are handling it differently. Many scientists worry that global warming will reach a point of no return if more isn't done to prevent it. "Not enough has been done to counter the damage that has been sustained," she continued. Yet, gradually, more countries take steps in the right direction towards sustainable approaches to everyday things.

## MLEC's Soccer Jam



The senior soccer players carry up Manuel Ortega after the game is called to an end and Ortega's goal gave class of 2022 the win.

By Anthony Vidal

[@AnthonyVidalR](#)

By Sophia Garcia

[@s\\_sophiv](#)

Jaguars bumping into each other, falling on the floor, the crowd calling "falta" (foul)—this was MLEC from April 6th through 8th as the Soccer Jam took place.

This year, the Hispanic Heritage Club introduced Soccer Jam to MLEC as a new competition for the school's athletic culture. Because soccer is such a popular sport amongst students with Hispanic and Latin heritage, the anticipation for the first game heightened each day.

Juniors v. Seniors kicked off the first match of the competition, with Mr. O'Brien as the referee. The first game riled the auditorium as Jaguars from each respective class cheered on their own team.

Almost all attempts at a goal were blocked by the goalies. So was the case until a couple of minutes before halftime, when senior Alejandro Chavez finally scored the deciding goal.

**"Sincerely speaking, the juniors had the better team. We came in knowing it was going**

*Continue on page A2*

## A Parent-Child Work Day

By Angely Pena-Agramonte

[@angelypena06](#)

Take Your Child to Work Day, the notorious 'stay at home day,' had arrived and gone. A day marked by career planning and seeing what parents do while we as students are away from home. This day gives students a glimpse of life outside school and working through the guidance of their parents.

**When Take Your Child to Work Day first began, it initially took form as "Take Our Daughters to Work," an initiative that aimed to encourage girls to join the workforce.** Its purpose was to provide girls with insight and career opportunities, and insight, inspiring their minds early on.

Many schools and curriculums thought that it was an unfair advantage to not include boys in the activity, and many companies would even allow for both boys and girls to participate.

Take Our Daughters to Work Day then expanded in 2003 to include any child, becoming Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day, an ob-

ervation reserved for the fourth Thursday of April each year.

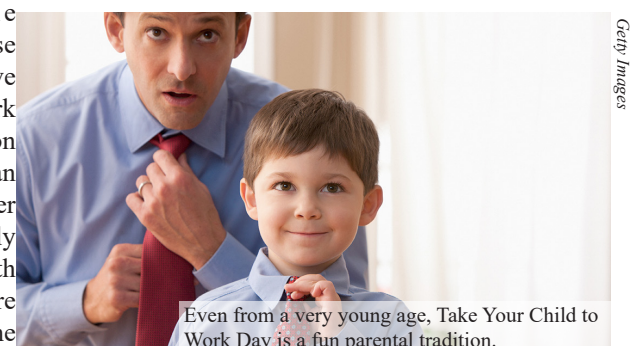
Being that Take Your Child to Work is around the corner, it begs the question as to what is actually done on this day and if it is effective.

On this day, students leave to work with their parents, embarking on a tour of the workforces in their families. Although many will not follow directly in the footsteps of their parents or guardians, it provides them with a scope of what a work day is like. From clocking in to filing paperwork, students are able to learn and experience first hand all the tasks that arise on a working day and in turn will be better prepared for when they enter the workforce themselves.

Some students choose which relative they go to work with based on what guardian has a career more closely related with what they are planning in the

future. If a student has an uncle that is a lawyer and they are interested in the field of law, they would choose to go to work with them.

This then provides not only options as students may be seeing different careers in action, but if they visit a workforce related to what they want to pursue in the future, it grants them the ability to see what it's like after college and what the workload looks like—limiting the doubts when actually stepping into the workforce and creating a sense of clarity for when they choose a career path. For parents who aren't working or are stay at home parents, students are able to learn how to take care of the house and or sibling. Many stay-at-home parents are also teachers to small children, which could



Even from a very young age, Take Your Child to Work Day is a fun parental tradition.



# NEWS

## MLEC's Soccer Jam

Continued from page A1

**to be a difficult match," senior player Manuel Ortega said.**

"But it was thanks to Alejandro and his goal that we won and got to the finals. But we all gave it our best and it was a good match," he continued.

The sophomores and freshmen competed on par with the other during the second segment of Soccer Jam. Extending up to the last block of the day, this match was notably the longest. The first or second half of the game secured no goals, which led to penalty kicks that efficiently cut the draw.

It was on the 14th penalty shot that freshman team captain Brian Herrera scored a goal against the sophomores and won the game. The crowd went wild after having waited way past after lunchtime to see the turnout of this game.

**"It was very exciting, there was a lot of pressure to score," says freshman team captain Brian Herrera.**

"But when

you make the point everyone is celebrating you," shared Herrera.

Friday marked the final game, seniors played versus freshmen. The senior class already had an ongoing grudge against the freshmen since they lost during pep rally's tug of war. During the tug of war freshmen won against the juniors and then beat the seniors without breaking much of a sweat, leaving both classes upset.

This time, there was a new level of fierceness in the seniors to secure their victory. Very early on during the first half of the soccer game, senior Manuel Ortega scored a goal.

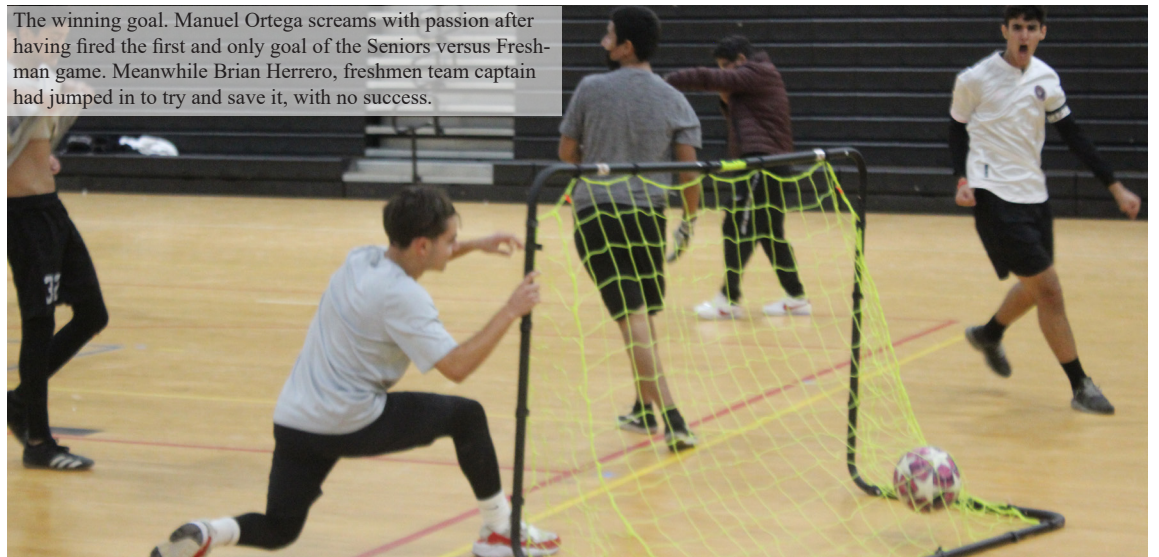
The senior class players remained on the defensive for the rest of the game, trying to stop the freshmen from scoring at all costs. When the clock hit 12:50 past lunch, the game was over and the seniors had won.

After many weeks practicing from Monday through Friday after school, the hard work has finally paid off.

**"From the beginning I felt prepared to win," Manuel Ortega said.**



Brian Herrera, freshmen team captain asks senior Antonio Gutierrez for the soccerball. Meanwhile Gutierrez explains he's supposed to serve.



The winning goal. Manuel Ortega screams with passion after having fired the first and only goal of the Seniors versus Freshman game. Meanwhile Brian Herrera, freshmen team captain had jumped in to try and save it, with no success.

## MAY AP/AICE TESTING CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

- AP College Board
- AICE Cambridge

- AP CHEMISTRY/AICE GENERAL PAPER/AP US GOVERNMENT
- AP PSYCHOLOGY
- AICE US HISTORY/AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A./AP ENGLISH LIT.
- AP HUMAN GEO/AICE PURE MATH/AP MACRO
- AP US HISTORY/AICE US HISTORY
- AP CALCULUS AB & BC/AICE MATH/AP COMPUTER SCIENCE P.
- AP PHYSICS MECH./AP PHYSICS ELECT.
- AP SPANISH/AP BIOLOGY
- AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN/AICE ENGLISH LANG.
- AICE ENGLISH LITERATURE
- AICE ENGLISH LITERATURE/AICE US HISTORY
- AICE MEDIA STUDIES
- AICE US HISTORY/AICE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
- AICE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
- 06/02 AICE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## Daddy Yankee's Goodbye

By Valentina Foglia  
@Vale\_Foglia13

Daddy Yankee says goodbye to his fans, announcing his oncoming retirement from music with an album called Legendaddy and his last tour, "La Última Vuelta."

After years of publishing original reggaeton songs including hits like Gasolina, Hula Hoop, Shakey Shakey, and Despacito.

His success throughout the years has made him one of Latin music's biggest idols and a 484 nomination titleholder. Yankee has received a total of 148 awards; 80 Billboard Latin Music Awards, 28 Latin Grammy Awards, 22 Latin American Music Awards, 15 Billboard Music Awards, 9 American Music Awards, and 4 Grammy Awards.

**"This race, which has been a marathon, finally sees the finish line. Now, I am going to enjoy what all of you have given me. People say that I**

**made this genre worldwide, but it was you who gave me the key to open the doors to make it the biggest in the world,"** the singer said in Spanish in a video shared on his social media on Sunday.

**"I must confess that it is the biggest gift that I could have gotten in my career."**

The Puerto Rican star went on to express that he worked hard with a lot of discipline to never fail and inspire all the young kids to be leaders and to dream. He noted that in the barrios where he grew up, many kids wanted to get into drug trafficking. But now, the majority of them want to be singers.

"That, for me, means so much," he said.

"Today, I'm announcing my retirement from music by giving you my best production and concert tour. I will say goodbye celebrating these 32 years of experience with this new collector's item, my album 'Legendaddy.' I'm going to give you all



Daddy Yankee sets out on one final tour of his career after announcing his retirement on Instagram.

the styles that have defined me in one single album," he shared.

Daddy Yankee released his first album, "No Mercy" in 1995, becoming one of reggaeton's most influential figures. His album "Barrio Fino," released in 2004, became the best-selling Latin album of the decade.

In 2019 his collaboration with Luis Fonsi on "Despacito" became the most-watched video on YouTube and broke many other records in its path.

Yankee's first album in ten years is Legendaddy. It was released on March 25, and includes 17 songs from X Última Vez featuring Bad Bunny, Hot featuring Pitbull, Zona Del Perreo featuring Natti Natti Natasha and Becky G, La Ola, Rumbaton, Impares, Remix, Agua, Tranquilo, and El Abusador Del Abusador.

**"Legendaddy — it's a fight, it's party, it's war, it's romance,"** Daddy Yankee said in his farewell message on Instagram.

The Puerto Rican rapper's seventh and final studio album will be played throughout Yankee's La Última Vez world tour, where he will kick off in Portland Oregon on August 10th and wrap up in Mexico City four months afterwards. Tickets began selling on March 30th.

Yankee has yet to reveal the reason behind his retirement. However, he did mention that when he was inducted into the Billboard Latin Hall of Fame, all the time and the hard work invested into his career since the age of 15 has brought him to where he is now.

"One of my biggest goals as an artist is to unify nations, generations, languages, and different nationalities. And I did it in my native language, Spanish. I always had this vision. I never wavered," said Yankee during his Billboard induction to the Latin Hall Of Fame speech.



# FEATURE

## How to Attend Undergrad Debt Free

By Carlineissa Jean Francois  
 @CarlineissaJ

Every year, students at MLEC get accepted into the schools of their dreams but are hesitant to attend due to financial instability. Their biggest concern is that they will end up in debt.

The type of jobs and salaries available are all dependent on degree, performance, and display of leadership. No one is guaranteed money fresh out of college.

Fortunately, there are other options which make it easier to save money as a college student.

Here are three ways that students can attend an undergraduate institution debt-free:

### Dual Enrollment

Dual Enrollment is a program that allows students to take college classes during their high school years. The courses taken, including course material, are covered through the program, allowing students to knock out undergraduate degree prerequisites which will save them money in college.

The requirements for

dual enrollment include a 3.0 unweighted GPA and passing scores on the placement exam. Dual enrollment courses can be taken through a community college or one that has a partnership with the high school, just as Miami-Dade College has with MLEC.

### Scholarships

A scholarship is a type of financial aid, one that is not always provided by the college but through different programs. Colleges offer scholarships for certain students either based on need or academics. There are also larger-scale scholarships that are provided through programs like Questbridge or Posse.

There is a common misconception that students can not apply for more than one scholarship. That ideology is false, however. Students can apply for multiple scholarships as long as they are eligible.

Smaller scholarships are awarded for all types of criteria. This includes sports, writing, and community service. To obtain a scholarship students need to meet all the requirements set by the program. It is a good opportunity to hone talents and skills for benefits.

### Attend a community college

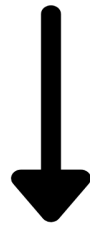
For a lot of students, a community college is not what they hoped for themselves. They always thought that they would attend the big schools and universities but tend to forget that big universities are expensive. Depending on how much financial aid packages the school decides to provide the final amount may still be unaffordable.

Attending a community college gives students an opportunity to explore their different fields and majors while saving money. If a student wants to attend a university a more viable option would be to attend a community college for two years and then transfer to a larger university. This saves a significant amount of money, especially for first-year students.

Saving money in col-

Attending college free of debt does not need to be difficult. More often than not, it just requires planning ahead of time.

### FINANCIAL AID SCHOLARSHIPS



### DUAL ENROLLMENT

### COMMUNITY COLLEGES



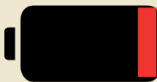
Fabrizia Fortuque

lege will be beneficial to those who may attend graduate school or earn a doctorate in the future. College doesn't have to be ex-

pensive, when having a plan and utilizing these methods could save students thousands and prevent them from debt.

## Self-Caring Before Exam Day

If you don't like when this happens to your phone, don't let it happen to you either.



**Eat Well**  
avoid caffeine crashes



**Tune Down**  
watch some television



**Refresh Mind**  
take a walk outside



**Don't Cram**  
get 8 hours of sleep

## Best Flowering Plants To Plant This Spring

By Melanie Cabrera  
 @MelanieCabreraH

The birds are chirping, the wind is whistling, the flowers are blossoming. Spring is in the air. Florida's flora are waking up after the long winter, and it's the perfect time for new additions to the garden.

Gardening isn't just about having a colorful backyard. A 2016 study published in Preventive Medicine Reports observed that gardening can reduce depression and anxiety symptoms, stress, mood disturbance, and BMI, while also increasing quality of life, sense of community, physical activity levels, and cognitive function. With the testing season in full swing, many students could use the stress-reliever. "Indeed, the positive association with gardening was observed for a wide range of health outcomes," Masashi Soga, Kevin J. Gaston, Yuichi Yamaura, the leading researchers of the study, stated.



With spring fast approaching, many people are looking to bring life back into their gardens. What are you waiting for? It's time to find some gloves and a shovel.

Although they're often brushed aside, Florida has one of the largest collections of unique and interesting flora in the U.S., both native and imported. Even common flowers have a lot to offer — there's over 20,000 species of daisies (Asteraceae) in the world. From passion flowers to wildflowers, here are four interesting native flowers to plant this spring.

### Passion Flower

The passion flower (Passiflora incarnata) is a dazzling flower. Although there are variations, the flower's common light yellow, white, and purple intertwine to form a distinct shape and pattern. Other species of passiflora also seem to have a flare for the dramatics.

The plant can survive in hot conditions and should be placed in reach of the sun, such as on a fence, according to the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS). Passion flowers should be watered regularly but are quite resistant to dry conditions.

### Spiderwort

This three-petaled perennial known as Tradescantia

ohiensis could seemingly pop out of nowhere in a garden and grow up to three feet tall. The plant can come in different colors, including white, purple, and pink. The flowers themselves are short-lived, but the plant can continue to produce them for weeks at a time. Although some gardeners see the plant as a hassle due to its quick growth and adaptability, others go out of their way to plant and grow it because of the little attention it requires.

### Powderpuff Mimosa

From a distance, Mimosa strigillosa could be mistaken for a round, pink ball. The bright flower will certainly liven up any garden. The flower grows and spreads quickly, though not overwhelmingly, and can be drought resistant once planted and well-established. The UF/IFAS mentions that the powderpuff mimosa blooms for most of the year, aside from winter, and could even slow down or prevent erosion. The plant can also be intermixed with

other plants to add that bright, colorful flare to any garden. For Next Spring

Most people could recognize Florida's state flower as the orange blossom, but fewer people know about the state's official wildflower. Coreopsis, a species of daisies, was declared the state's wildflower in 1991 and has stayed strong since then. Like many daisies, the flower is primarily bright yellow with a splash of dark red edging around the center.

The plant should be sowed sometime between summer and winter so that it's ready to bloom by spring. One in place, the plant can grow year long and resist droughts. Florida's unique climate offers a range of options in terms of gardening and these are only some of the countless possibilities out there in terms of plants. The dozens of variations of these fascinating plants are sure to keep any gardener busy for the coming spring and summer.





## Meet Omo I, Your Oldest Relative

By Sophia Garcia  
@s\_sophiv

About 80 years ago, some of the oldest remains of Homo sapiens were found in southwest Ethiopia. Initially, these remains were thought to be around 200,000 years old, but new research shows that these bone and skull fragments may prove to be older than previously estimated.

The remains belong to one “Omo I,” whose remains were found in the Omo-Kibish Formation. The specific area in which the remains were unearthed were concluded to have remains of a major eruption of the O’a Caldera volcano, also known as the Shala volcano, located in the Main Ethiopian Rift. This eruption predates the estimate scientists had previously made regarding Omo I.

A team of scientists led a research project to date all of the major volcanic eruptions in the Main Ethiopian Rift. Céline M. Vidal, head of the research and volcanologist from the University

of Cambridge, said that her team was able to determine the age of the eruption through analysis of the deposition of the eruptions.

**“Each eruption has a unique geochemical composition, a kind of fingerprint which we can use to try to figure out exactly which eruption on the Ethiopian Rift would have created a layer of volcanic ash,” Vidal said.**

This ‘fingerprint’ helps researchers identify the time period by comparing fellow geochemical compositions that have been identified. In essence, the collection and comparison of this ash is what allows researchers to designate different fossils to their respective time periods. **“We found a match for the ash layer that covers the fossils, so we know which eruption produced that ash and the age of that eruption,” Vidal continued.**

Analysis indicates that Omo I, buried under the volcanic ash, would be around the same age as that eruption. The actual ash of which Omo I was buried under was too fine and best re-

garded as ‘flour-like,’ meaning that Vidal and her team were unable to use their regular methods for dating the sediment. Instead, the team sampled rocks closer to the volcanic sources and compared findings with the sediments collected with Omo I. More accurate estimates to the date of this eruption will ultimately lead to a more accurate dating of Omo I’s remains. Though there is some evidence

pointing to Homo sapien-like specimens before Omo I, the new date estimate and certainty that Omo I’s remains are truly those of a Homo sapien’s place the fossils as the oldest known human to walk the planet Earth. “[T]he challenge still remains to provide a cap, a maximum age, for their emergence, which is widely believed to have taken place in this region,” Christine Lane, geochronologist at Cambridge and co-author to Vidal’s study and article, said.

Dating Omo I accurately is important because it could reveal invaluable information on evolution, helping scientists understand when the species of Homo sapiens first emerged. **These findings can also give insight into how the world’s first humans survived in the fast changing environment of East Africa at the time.** Correctly identifying the qualities of a Homo sapien— a large and rounded braincase, a

chin, and a narrow pelvis— can make the difference between many dozens of years of the first emergence of the species. **“It’s possible that new finds and new studies may extend the age of our species even further back in time,” Lane said.** Until the time comes when scientists designate a maximum age for Homo sapiens emergence, Omo I will stand as the human’s oldest living relative.



Dating fossils accurately is important because it could reveal invaluable information on evolution, helping scientists understand when the species of Homo sapiens first emerged.

## The Cuban Crisis

By Anthony Vidal  
@AnthonyVidalR

“Imagine, a packet of cookies with cream that was never close to 20 pesos is now being sold in the street for 200,” Magalis Maidique,

a retired Cuban teacher said.

One of Magalis’ sons migrated to the United States, while the other one stayed with her in Cuba and took care of her.

Maidique has been reminiscing on the rising prices she has seen all around the

country. Chicken has tripled in price and buying groceries overall has increased cost twelvefold in the last five years.

**“Now, here, one can no longer eat breakfast. There’s no milk and barely bread at the bakeries,” said Maidique.**

The Cuban economy has always been very unstable but was hit especially hard by the pandemic. As the pandemic worsened in the country, it became more difficult for the country’s people to get food and medical attention. These conditions eventually led to unprecedented days of protesting all around the country with a movement called **“SOS Cuba”**.

The country dispersed its military forces to bring down the protests and quietly bring about arrests and pacify the population.

“There’s a lot of young men that are in jail because they protested. Some because they broke into stores to steal everything there was. They are giving them 6 to 20 and more years in prison,” Maidique said.

These conditions, along with the ever-worsening economy of the country, have led to mass migration from the country— the likes of which have not been seen since the 1980 Mariel boatlift.

**During the month of March, 32,000 Cuban immigrants were taken in at the U.S. Mexican border**

**according to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).**

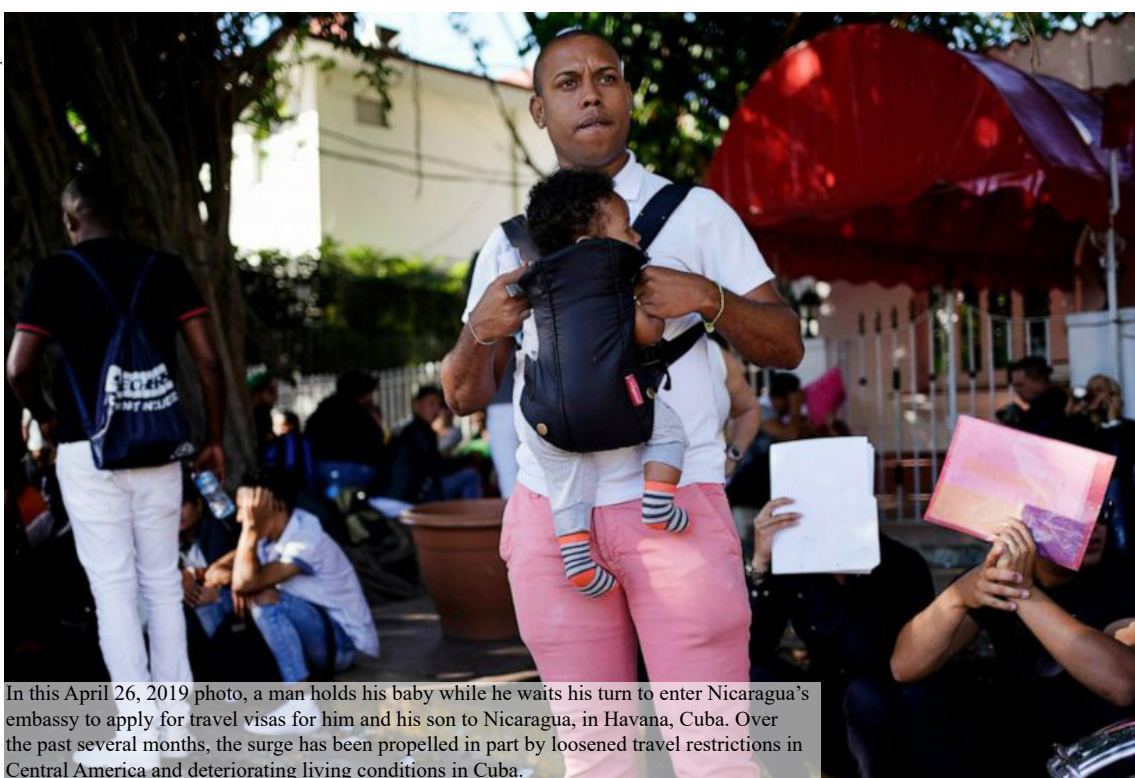
Amongst the Cuban migrants are Saday Saigon, a junior at Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School, and her mother. Saigon arrived in the United States on February 9th, 2022 at 8:00 pm after crossing the borders of Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico.

Saday Saigon says she went most of the way by bus, during which she would spend her nights in motels that she said were “not very hygienic places.”

“We spent like 12 hours [on the boat] and it was nothing good. We were going from one part of Mexico to the other on that boat, [...] it was raining and the wind was making the waters tremble and a lot of it was getting in,” said Saigon.

Saday Saigon and her mother came here searching for a better future, and running away from all the economic problems the country was facing.

“I don’t recall that we ever lived very good in Cuba, but never as bad as we are now,” Saday said.



In this April 26, 2019 photo, a man holds his baby while he waits his turn to enter Nicaragua’s embassy to apply for travel visas for him and his son to Nicaragua, in Havana, Cuba. Over the past several months, the surge has been propelled in part by loosened travel restrictions in Central America and deteriorating living conditions in Cuba.





Confirmed on April 7th, Ketanji Jackson is the first Black woman to sit on the highest court of the nation.

Kevin Lamargue/AFP/Getty Images

## Ketanji Brown Jackson: First Black Woman Confirmed to Supreme Court

By Kymani Hughes  
 @KymaniHughes

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, the nation's first Black woman to break the glass ceiling of race and gender on the Supreme Court, is paving the way for progress and inspiring others, particularly African-American women who aspire to walk in her shoes one day.

President Biden introduced Jackson as a distinguished nominee who would "help write the next chapter in the history of America's journey" when he announced her nomination in February. On Thursday, April 7, 2022, the Senate confirmed Judge Jackson to the Supreme Court.

The 51-year-old judge was confirmed by a vote of 53-47, bringing a six-week confirmation process to a close. Jackson, who has steadily risen

through America's upper-echelon legal ranks, will be the first Black woman and only the eighth non-White man to sit on the court.

She will succeed Associate Justice Stephen Breyer, for whom she clerked from 1999 to 2000, in late June or early July. Judge Jackson's clerkship experience provided her with an insider's view of the court's operations as well as a comprehensive understanding of Justice Breyer's consensus-building approach to the role of justice.

Republicans questioned her critically during confirmation hearings, accusing her of being soft on crime and too lenient in sentencing child pornography cases. They attempted to portray her as a left-wing radical who had aided criminals and terrorists, only for three Republican senators to reject those charges and vote in favor of her confirmation.

Jackson pushed back on the allegations, emphasizing her concern for public safety and the rule of law. She went on to say that she approaches her work professionally and that personal opinions do not come into play.

Jackson previously served on the District of Columbia Circuit Court, widely regarded as the country's second-most important court. Jackson, a Miami native who graduated from Miami Palmetto Senior High School and later attended Harvard Law School, has used her judicial power to emphasize her concern for public safety and the rule of law. She would also be the first and only Supreme Court justice to have served as a public defender.

Judge Jackson stated in her acceptance speech that the responsibility of being a judge entails maintaining the foundation of this government, the

rule of law, and doing the work to promote equality and justice.

"We are now charged with the responsibility... of doing the work that is necessary to protect the rule of law and to promote equality and justice for all," she said.

During her post-confirmation speech on Friday, she mentioned her historical background as the first Black female justice.

"I am the dream and the hope of the slave," Jackson said, quoting late poet Maya Angelou.

Jackson also claimed that she helped every Black woman in America break past the glass ceiling, and she praised the country's achievements.

"It has taken 232 years and 115 prior appointments for a Black woman to be selected to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States. But we've made it. We've made it.

All of us.... I am just the very lucky first inheritor of the dream of liberty and justice for all."

Despite being one of the nation's most powerful voting blocs, Black women's absence from the halls of political power is probably the most glaring. Only two Black women have ever served in the United States Senate. Carol Moseley Braun was the first to be elected in 1993. She held her position for six years. The second resigned to become vice president.

Ketanji Jackson's victory has given Black women and girls across the country visibility and representation, inspiring the next generation of lawyers, congresswomen, CEOs, and Supreme Court justices.

As a now-confirmed justice, Jackson will continue to communicate the powerful message that every individual belongs.

## In With The New, Out With The Old?

By Valentina Foglia  
 @Vale\_Foglia13

Smorgasburg, an open-air food market has landed in Miami and it may be taking a toll on original food and retail markets like Market for Makers.

Smorgasburg Miami is one of Smorgasburg's three permanent locations throughout the United States after New York City and Los Angeles.

Gaston Cohen Becherano, former Smorgasburg vendor and the founder of Smorgasburg Miami, has introduced a 50,000-square foot park located at Wynwood Walls. **Open every Saturday from 11 a.m to 6 p.m hosting about 60 food vendors and 10 retail vendors.**

Vendors like Nadas, The SisterYard, and Pizzella are positioned around a dining area for easy access and a nice flowing crowd of about 20,000 people following retail vendors like Favani, Authentic Colombia, and Dumela Crafts.

"At its core, Smorgasburg allows vendors to launch their own successful food concept

without having to take the risk and undergo the headaches associated with opening up a brick and mortar," said Becherano.

However, after only being around for six Saturdays, issues arise. Smorgasburg Miami has only two warnings left before being taken down. After causing obstruction to traffic during the vendor's loadouts, cops have been involved and have taken action.

Additionally, during opening day, Smorgasburg Miami experienced high winds of 25 mph causing tents to blow over crowds and decorations to tumble, leaving the question of whether or not Smorgasburg Miami will last in Miami.

Unlike Smorgasburg Miami, Markets for Makers has been around since 2015. The market features many different types of boutiques, hand-made items, and other unique items that can't be bought in stores, their website mentioned.

The crafts organization only comes to Wynwood, Miami Design District, once every month from Saturday to Sunday.

**However, with Smor-**

**gasburg Miami around, there have been issues with the Market for Makers dates.**

Both markets were open last month. Crowds of young adults flooded the doors of Smorgasburg Miami, while very few people attended Market for Makers. What usually is a crowd of thousands of people

at Market for Makers turned to 10-20 people every hour, leaving vendors at a loss for words.

"One of our friends we met at Aventura Gardens Market recommended Smorgasburg Miami. As a company we were doubtful because it is a food market, but after two hours we were already at double of what we

usually sell and make for mental health awareness," Favani, an all natural candle company, said.

As per their most recent visit this month, Miami Design District has become like any other small marketing neighborhood around Miami. While Smorgasburg Miami is at a rapid growth to become the next big hit.



In a 50,000 square foot park located at Wynwood Walls, the market hosts up to 70 vendors every Saturday.

Smorgasburg



## SPORTS

## NFL Offseason Major Trades and Outlook

By Zahir Stevens  
@ZahirS24

In the last few weeks, a multitude of star players have either been released, traded, resigned, or settled into retirement. A mix of headlines including draft prospect injuries and rule changes have transpired. This NFL offseason may be the most complicated one yet — even as it has only just begun.

One of the first moves of this offseason was free-agent linebacker Von Miller signing a 6 year \$120 million deal with the Buffalo Bills. Von Miller was a crucial part in both of his Super-Bowl wins including the nail-biting 23-20 win against the Cincinnati Bengals. He has the potential of a future hall of famer and will definitely contribute to the Bills.

**After the Bills made a major upgrade to their defense, the Los Angeles Chargers made two.** The Chargers traded for pass rusher Khalil Mack and lockdown corner JC Jackson. The Chargers' defense is now one of the strongest in the league on top of having safety Derwin James and pass rusher Joey Bosa.

The Cleveland Browns went on to trade with the Dallas Cowboys for star receiver and Miami native, Amari Cooper.

They also traded for quarterback Deshaun Watson, who had legal trouble and did not play last season. With the Browns picking up Deshaun Watson they have verbally parted ways with quarterback Baker Mayfield meaning he is still a part of the team but is prepared to be traded.

Baker Mayfield is promising as a decent fit for the Atlanta Falcons, a team that traded their veteran quarterback, Matt Ryan, to the Indianapolis Colts. The Falcons would have to improve their receiving core, with Calvin Ridley being suspended for the 2022-2023 season for gambling on NFL games.

**A turning point counts for the greatest player of all time, Tom Brady, who had announced on Instagram that he was unretiring just 40 days after leaving the Bucs.**

"We are thrilled that Tom has decided to come back this season. We said we would leave all options open for him should he reconsider his retirement and today's announcement is something we have been preparing for in recent days," the Buc's General Manager, Jason Licht, said.

Even though he returned to the team the head coach Bruce Arians retired from coaching

and is seeking a spot in the Buccaneers' front office while passing his reigns to Todd Bowles.

**"In my opinion, I feel like Tom Brady should've just stuck to retiring football." Amyah Philips, senior at MLEC and also someone who despises Tom Brady, said.**

Among major events, two major wide receiver trades occurred. Greenbay Packers traded Devante Adams to the Los Vegas Raiders after Aaron Rodgers resigned to the Packers. He will play alongside his former college quarterback, Derek Carr.

The Miami Dolphins acquired speed demon Tyreek Hill in the next major trade. The Dolphins signed a number of free agents but have shipped off Devante Parker for draft picks.

**"Tyreek Hill with Jaylen Waddle would be overpowered in madden if Tua [Tagaviola] can get them the ball," Gerard Marshall,**



This NFL Offseason has a promising future; though, it may just be the most complicated one yet.

**a junior at MLEC, said.**

The last bit that has happened this offseason is that the Seattle Seahawks traded their former franchise quarterback, Russel Wilson, to the Denver Broncos for quarterback Drew Luck and draft picks.

During Michigan University's Pro Day, furthermore, first-round draft pick David Ojabore tore his achilles tendon while doing a practice drill. Even though he may lose his first-round draft pick status when healthy he looks like a promising player.

**One of the game-changing decisions made so far this offseason is the NFL implementing new overtime rules for the playoffs.**

Controversy over the NFL overtime rules NFL guided a new rule for only the playoffs that requires both teams to possess the ball in overtime. With these new rules teams in the playoff now have a fair shot at a playoff victory.

The next season of NFL football looks promising from tradeoffs and new talents entering the league.

## Upcoming Spanish Star: Carlos Alcaraz

By Sofia Palomino  
@Sofia\_p4

Spanish teen, Carlos Alcaraz, has made his way to the top of the world in the matter of weeks with his resilience and outstanding ability on the court.

While the big three, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, and Rafael Nadal, have been reigning the court for many years, the 18 year old, Alcaraz is now stepping into the spotlight of the game and has proven himself in the

recent Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Masters 1,000 tournament— The Miami Open.

He arrived at Miami just after being defeated by his idol, Nadal, in the semifinals at Indian Wells. Even though reaching the semifinals was an accomplishment in itself, he delivered an amazing performance in a match that lasted three sets.

**This setback did not slow him down, instead he got right back on his feet to prepare for one of the most vi-**

**brant tournaments on tour.**

In Miami he started out on the family court of Butch Buchholz and then moved on up to the grandstand where he faced the world number three player, Stefanos Tsitsipas, in an intense match of only two sets.

There were a variety of shots including overhead smashes, lobs, and drop shots, but there was a specific point that perfectly described the tensions of the match where both players managed to hit a tween-

er and the point was finished off by the young star Alcaraz.

His route to the finals consisted of many tie breakers and excellent rallies that ended up pitting him against the Norwegian player, Casper Ruud, who is currently number seven in the world.

Alcaraz and Ruud were competing for their first major title but Alcaraz was able to seal the match in an outstanding two sets, 7-5 and 6-4. He started off down 0-3 but quickly turned the game around with his powerful

erves and line-clipping shots.

Alcaraz has a very solid style of play as he uses his speed to outplay his opponent, whether it is with his powerful forehand or backhand.

One of his signature moves throughout the tournament was a deadly drop shot that would diffuse the tension of the point. The talented player seemed to execute these flawlessly and with ease, even with hundreds of eyes on him.

Located in Miami's Hard Rock Stadium, there were 16,000 people in attendance ranging from the large hispanic community here in South Florida to visitors from all around South America.

Throughout the tournament there were hundreds of fans supporting him as the crowds would uproar with chants and passionately wave Spanish flags.

**"I felt like I was home from the first minute I began playing," Alcaraz said.**

Alcaraz became the first Spaniard to win The Miami Open and the youngest, at 18 years old, to receive the title as well.

Many tennis enthusiasts have acknowledged the talent of Alcaraz and predict that he will accomplish great things on the court.

"I think he is an aspiring player of our generation who will continue to pave the way for the future of tennis," said Salome Maya, ball girl at the Miami Open.

Carlos Alcaraz has emerged as one of the top-ranked players on the ATP Tour, closing in on the top 10, as he is currently ranked number 11 in the world and is set to continue his dominant course in the remainder of the tour.



Erin S. Lesser/EPA

Carlos Alcaraz has risen to the top of the ranks after winning his first ATP Masters 1,000 tournament at the Miami Open.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Sony's Attempt at Another Superhero Film: *Morbius*

By Sofia Palomino

🐦 @Sofia\_p4

The Spiderman adversary made its debut in theaters on April 1st and it brought life to another one of the comic characters, Morbius, the living vampire.

The character is brought about through scientific means and it is the second one in the Sony universe.

Sony has attempted to produce a hit superhero film in recent years and in part it accomplished that with *Venom* but it still has a long way to go with *Morbius*.

Originally, the film was supposed to be released in July 2020 but it had to be rescheduled because of the pandemic.

**While the concept of the character was clearly portrayed in the comics the translation into the world of film failed to capture the essence of Morbius.**

The story consists of Dr. Micheal Morbius who suffered from a rare blood disease and spent his entire medical career searching for a cure. After experimenting with bats,

he creates a serum and uses it on himself to cure his disease, however the experiment goes wrong and he ends up with vampire-like superhuman abilities.

Dr. Micheal Morbius was played by Jared Leto and his childhood best friend, Milo, was played by Matt Smith, who were pitted against each other and provided the dynamic of protagonist and antagonist. The portrayal of these characters occasionally showed the connec-

tion and tension between them, but it was missing more substantial scenes that would cut deeper into their life long relationship.

Character development was another essential aspect of the film that was lacking, since Dr. Micheal Morbius had the alternate vampire persona that was driven by the natural instinct of hunting.

**There was little time dedicated to showing his struggles and the movie moves along its events without developing**

**Morbius' full personality.**

These details resulted in bad reviews from critics but it was also partly due to the film's focus on the origin story of the character rather than its complete story.

Considering the film only had a budget of \$75 million, its box office results reflected a decent \$39 million domestically on its opening weekend while it received \$44.9 million internationally, amounting to a global total of \$84 million.

The film is categorized in the respective genres of horror, thriller, and action but its narrative doesn't play into these genres. While there are elements of the genres incorporated in the movie it is not enough to make it a dark and thrilling film.

The character of Morbius had the potential to produce a well-rounded film but this rendition was too stagnant and was missing the bulk of the character's essence.

Morbius features yet another marvel comics character that is the latest antihero in the Sony universe.



## *Kotaro Lives Alone* Anime Review

By Juliet Vargas

🐦 @JulietVargas001

*Kotaro Lives Alone* is originally a manga series that turned into an anime show that

came out on March 10th, 2022, on Netflix and has gotten a lot of notice from the anime community.

The show revolves around a four-year-old boy named Kotaro who lives by him-

self in an apartment community. With progression, he makes new friendships and meets family who support him. Now, Kotaro is no ordinary four-year-old boy; he is an independent who has high values on what is right and wrong.

*Kotaro Lives Alone* is much more than a regular filler show. In the animated version, the tiny protagonist is mature, polite, and kind to others in spite of his own struggles.

Most fillers tend to be funny, uplifting, and brief. *Kotaro Lives Alone* is evidently different from the rest, diving into family problems like child neglect, starvation, and abuse.

**Although a comedy at face value, the depth and seriousness**

**of potentially triggering topics are what makes the show refreshing and enticing.**

The first episode alone crafted a net of intrigue, immediately weaving a connection to fidelity and realism as the main character journeys through problems that prevail in society today. From this connection comes the lesson that it is okay to cry and rely on others, and that there is nothing wrong with rejecting attractive incentives that do not bear genuine intentions.

**These lessons hold insight on things that the average teenagers can relate to and take into account now in everyday life.**

Not only is the anime relatable, but Kotaro's funny personality highlights his ability to make good out of things— to find diamonds in dirt.

The Japanese manga series has a rating of 8.4 on MyAnimeList, a popular social network that evaluates anime and manga, and as well a 99% approval rating from Google users.

Ultimately binge-worthy, the production consists only of ten, wholesome, episodes that range up to 27-minutes in duration. Beneath the cute exterior centered around a pint-sized protagonist is a tragic interior face to the plot.

*Kotaro Lives Alone* became a highly recommended work that has yet to confirm a second season renewal on Netflix, despite hitting the streaming site's top ten list in five different countries. As the story leaves open ends, it is safe to assume that more pages of the multi-seasoned manga awaits an animated turn.



Four-year-old Kotaro takes on the hardships of being neglected and abused, finding love in his chosen family and himself with the help of neighborhood friends that he made along his journey.

## Main Street Curfew Should Be Scaled Back

By Kevin Perez

🐦 @kevin3p

A strict curfew stands in place for minors, listed by the Main Street Code of Conduct, which then applied to the nearby CMX Cinemas.

Individuals under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult 21 or older with proper identification from 8 PM to 6 AM. Under this policy, one adult may be responsible for up to three minors, including their own children. For the theater, minors cannot purchase tickets for any show past the deadline time if an adult is not present with them. If they happen to be in the theater past 8 PM there are also restrictions. "Minors who are inside the cinemas before 8 p.m. and are not

with an adult will be required to remain inside the theater where their movie is being shown and will not be allowed to visit concessions," Nelson Fernandez, general manager of the CMX Cinemas, told the Miami Laker.

The history of the curfew goes back to 2011 when a shooting took place at the outdoor suburb, prompting police from nine agencies to respond to the violence and a declaration of a "countywide emergency." On that Christmas night, thousands gathered at Main Street after a social media push to attend the mall that night and at around 10:30 pm, a fight broke out and gunshots soon followed. Efforts to mitigate future incidences immediately went underway.

The curfew materialized

into a preventative policy for the police to actively enforce just five days following the incident.

A decade later, the curfew remains in effect for both the mall and the theater affecting nights out throughout the week for all. With an increase in police presence and early store closing times coupled with lingering COVID-19 regulations, many are still questioning the curfew as it affects even those who act with good thought.

**"I don't think that Main Street should have such an early and strict curfew. Teenagers are the ones that give life to Main Street. There are plenty of places for adults to meet but Main Street has always been a Miami Lakes teenagers hub," said junior Tatiana Gon-**

**zalez, a junior at MLEC who frequently visits Main Street.**

As the main attraction at Main Street, this curfew limits its attraction to CMX Cinemas as the most populated movie times begin after the curfew, including theater works that start before 8 PM and end long after.

With most stores already closed and closing by the evening, an increase in police and security guard presence would be a more suitable option to maintain the security of the community hotspot and allow all people to enjoy their nights out.

As the world settled into normalcy following a year after the spike of a pandemic,

more people have resumed their night out routines, trips to theaters, and visitations in restaurants. The curfew has maintained its strictness to this day, morphing into an obstacle toward a regular night out. The density on Main Street roads can only surge. It is only a matter of time until the notably out-dated restrictions ultimately lose value and purpose.



With an increase in police presence and early store closing times coupled with lingering COVID-19 regulations, many are still questioning the curfew...

Image Source: loop/Ven.com



# EDITORIAL

## It's High Time to Respect Lesbians

By Sophia Garcia  
 @s\_sophiv

For many people, when they hear the word “lesbian,” they think of one thing: porn.

Over the years, the term has been regarded to as an inherently sexual thing. This connection has led to an extremely high production of this type of adult content, but also to the sexualization of lesbians— of all ages.

The word lesbian is not just a genre for adult content. The word lesbian is not a word to be flung as an insult to more masculine women. The word lesbian cannot contain the depth of what the identity truly means.

Every year since 2003, Lesbian Visibility Week has been celebrated starting April 26th to May 1st in the United States to show solidarity with lesbians and sapphic women. Even with this yearly acknowledgement and celebration of lesbians, the lesbian community is continuously disrespected.

This lack of respect and discourtesy starts with the treatment of lesbians as something alien. The word ‘lesbian’ itself has



Historically, lesbians have stood strong against the lesbiphobia they face. The word ‘lesbian’ is not bad—it’s a way to connect the community.

a negative connotation and many will opt out from using the word.

Countless books with lesbian characters will not use their an identity as a descriptor even while using terms such as “gay,” “trans,” and “bisexual.”

The media that does embrace the word ‘lesbian’ usually sexualizes them.

In original and fan created content, characters labeled as lesbians have a higher probability

to be put in a sexual situation— no matter the age. While this specialization is seen throughout the LGBTQ+ community, it’s especially prevalent for lesbians. “Queer” and “sapphic” are seen more often when regarding lesbians. While lesbians and sapphic women are part of a venn diagram of identities, it is not an overlapping circle.

**Lesbians have their own history and their own expe-**

**riences. This can be tied back to the Gay Liberation Movement of the 1960s to the 1980s.** This movement was exclusive of lesbians due to both sexism and stigma surrounding the lesbian identity— one that is present to this day.

Because lesbians were largely excluded from the Gay Liberation Movement, they created their own community: the “L”. This new community was labeled as not inclusive,

but there is truth behind the statement. **Lesbians have never been, and will continue not to be, inclusive of disrespect and disregard. Even in the face of this exclusion, lesbians were the only group to consistently help out their brothers and sisters in arms.** During the AIDS crisis, lesbians were the ones tending to sick, gay men who were destined to die in their hospital beds.

It was only after this act of kindness that the L was added to the community now known as the LGBTQ+ community.

Lesbians make up the first letter of the LGBTQ+ community, yet are some of the most disrespected. Countless lesbians can recall hearing remarks along the lines of “you just haven’t met the right guy” or that men could “change their minds.” Countless lesbians are invalidated of their own identity for not looking or “dressing like a lesbian.”

With Lesbian Visibility Week under way, it’s time for non-lesbians to wake up and realize the problems they cause,

## Dangers of Sex Work: Onlyfans and Underage Workers

By Kymani Hughes  
 @KymaniHughes

OnlyFans has taken the internet by storm; what was once a website designed to provide a platform for content creators has evolved into a sex-worker paradise, except for most of the participants, it isn’t all it’s cracked up to be.

Although some female creators with large followings may find success on this platform, the majority of sex workers are either broke, harassed, or violated in their off-screen lives – and, to make matters worse, OnlyFans is being promoted to young girls across the country before they reach the age of 18.

Pornography, sex work, and prostitution have been around for a long time. However, platforms, such as OnlyFans, are conditioning women into a lifestyle that does more harm than good. One of these harmful characteristics is the grooming of girls into selling pornographic images of their bodies.

Bhad Bhabie — legally known as Danielle Bregoli and formerly known as the ‘Cash Me Outside’ girl — announced in February that she would open an OnlyFans account when she turned 18, the minimum age for joining the website. She fulfilled her promise on April 1st, five days after her 18th birthday.

Those who had been waiting for Bhad Bhabie to reach legal age flocked to her account, prompting her to post a screengrab of her earnings, revealing that she’d made \$1,030,703.43 in just six hours.

A slew of other girls

— usually those who gained internet fame for their appearance — have followed in her footsteps and created an OnlyFans account at the tender age of eighteen.

What’s more concerning are the millions of men who were eagerly awaiting access to pornographic images of women who were just underage 24 hours prior. This is not surprising given that marketing has successfully promoted sex work as easy money for young girls all over the world.

This linguistic shift had a significant impact on shifting global perceptions of sex labor toward a labor framework. Using the term “sex work” only serves to obscure what should be at the forefront of people’s reactions to the transaction: the inherent sexual abuse.

The rationale underlying legalized prostitution regimes is the idea that being paid to perform sex acts should be recognized as a type of service work. Many people argue that what happens in strip clubs, porn sets, and brothels is fine as long as it is between two consenting adults, but they overlook an important point: consent cannot be bought.

The entire objective of the sex industry is to provide males with the opportunity to purchase sexual access from women who do not want to have sex with them — otherwise, they would not have to pay.

Perhaps the most effective technique so far has been to spread the fallacy that consent can be commodified.

Advocators for “sex work” preach that consent should be the foundation of healthy sexual relationships and a requirement for any sexual activity, which is

correct. But, if that’s the case, how can something like consent be so easily bought and sold?

The majority of women and girls who engage in pornography, prostitution, and other forms of sex work are abused, trafficked, or do so out of financial necessity. Is it a consensual act if a woman is forced to give “consent” in order to not starve to death?

If a person is revolted by someone touching them, terrified of what they could do, or degraded and humiliated by the sexual activities, the fact that they will be compensated for keeping the end of the bargain won’t make a difference.

The truth is that “sex work” and platforms like OnlyFans, which have been promoted as a quick way to make money, are nothing of the sort. Remember, those women who flaunt their brand new house and car, which they paid for with OnlyFans money, are being paid even more to promote the platform and sexual services to girls. The top earners are those who already had a large following.

The average OnlyFans creator earns a minuscule fraction of the work they put in to produce content, and the number of humiliating requests, verbal abuse, and sexual harassment women face from predatory males is not worth it.







Other indiscriminate sexual activities, such as prostitution or pornography, have even worse consequences. The glamorization of “sex work” and the notion that consent can be bought, which has proliferated in this new age of liberal feminism, will only benefit men and harm girls in the long run.

## THE HARBINGER

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