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Dumont Press Graphics

To the general public at Dumont:

I object to the changes which were made in this story. I have previously requested that any changes Dumont wants should be discussed with me <sup>in an</sup> attempt to come to an understanding. I was not informed of Dumont's objections to this story, nor the fact that changes were made.

Unfortunately, I did not notice them during layout, so no discussion ever took place.

Here's my objection or argument:

I feel it is perfectly acceptable grammar for the author to refer to the third person as he or she (either/or) depending upon their own sex. Not both.

I feel that inserting he/she, his/her, s/he detracts from the article. It's a sloppy style and I prefer to not use it. This is the exact converse of the Dumont anti-sexist

policy: If a questionable piece appears it is judged in terms of its importance or literary value to the article. I feel that he/she, his/her is not of significant literary value to the article to outweigh the fact that it is clumsy, and repetitive.

I am aware of the fact that this is an implicitly sexist argument, but I did not define literary style. It just evolved that way.

I am aware that women in Engineering suffer a visibility problem that is not helped by writing "he" everywhere, but if my author refers to <sup>an</sup> engineer as "fellow", I consider it to be of literary style, not political fuel or ignorance.

I hope that the people at Dumont can come to a consensus and inform me of your policy regarding this matter.

Sincerely,  
Mike Uecker