

Monday, October 16. 2006

What really happened at the anti-Minuteman protest at Columbia University?

The National Lawyers Guild claims that videotape coverage of the early October 2006 anti-Minuteman protest at Columbia University "shows that the students standing with banners were not responsible for that evening's violence, rather they were attacked and kicked by the Minutemen when they engaged in peaceful protest." The rest of the Guild's information release is [here](#). I disagree with vocally drowning out invited speakers, no matter how abhorrent their message. I continue believing that the wisest response to abhorrent speech is counter-speech. At the same time, I also disagree with universities' disciplining students for drowning out invited speakers. On a related note, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education's website gives a poor rating to Columbia for academic freedom, as detailed [here](#). Jon Katz.

Posted by Jon Katz in Jon's news & views at 00:00