

## Parade incident cannot be tolerated

### TO THE EDITORS:

I was appalled by your report of the racist and sexist incidents during the Oct. 6, Manheim Farm Show parade.

To read that some spectators threw stones at ethnically diverse members of the band from William Penn Senior High School in York, sprayed them with soda, yelled racial epithets and made derogatory comments to the girls is despicable and shaming.

Such hateful racist and sexist incidents are not to be tolerated. As a community we must vehemently express our abhorrence of this behavior.

Our mission at YWCA Lancaster is dedicated to the elimination of racism and the empowerment of women. Sadly, we are only too well aware that racism and sexism exist here because we constantly receive calls about

such incidents together with requests for help in responding to them.

We have a number of racial justice and anti-gender bias training and initiatives available. We will work with any school, business or organization to help break the cycle of racism and sexism that continues to pervade the society we live in. For details visit [www.ywcalancaster.org](http://www.ywcalancaster.org) or call me at 393-1735.

**Maureen Powers**  
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