

THE POLITICALLY CORRECT SCRAPBOOK

by *John and Laura Midgley*
(CAPC, £7.99)

The Christian Union at Hull University was told by Student Union officials that it must allow atheists to help run it, otherwise they would be breaking equal opportunities rules...

The signs on the approach to the Mersey Tunnel in Liverpool were changed from "Manned" and "Unmanned" to "Staffed" and "Unstaffed" in case they upset women...

A senior official at the counselling service "Relate" said that children



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should be encouraged to make “Special Person’s Day” cards instead of “Mother’s Day” and “Father’s Day” cards so as not to upset more “unconventional” families...

These instances of officialdom gone mad would be laughable but for one thing — they are all true. Dozens of similar stories are included in this new book, along with examples of “politically correct nursery rhymes”, a “PC Dictionary” so that, for example, a Christmas tree becomes a “festive tree” and a lollipop lady is a “crossing officer”, and crazy health and safety stories such as the schools that banned games of conkers because they were too dangerous or posed the threat of a nut allergy.

Light-hearted in tone, there are also sections on “The Sad Passing of Common Sense”, “Silly Warnings” (an air freshener carried the instruction “Do not spray onto food”) and a politically correct version of the Battle of Trafalgar. The authors even dare to include one or two jokes about the Scots, the Welsh and the Irish!

John and Laura Midgley are founders of the “Campaign Against Political Correctness”, a movement that deserves the support of all sane and sensible people. This magnificent collection, showing the sheer absurdity of “PC”, is a powerful weapon against the zealots, in all walks of life, who seek to impose their views on others.

(100pp, softback)

S.G.