

THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX

Spiritual Poverty

Saigon - Before the Fall



Plain Truth readers need to be aware of a significantly diabolical attack on innocent young children in the "new morality" crusade to abolish morality.

Even some child psychologists — liberal as they are — have been shocked at a forthcoming book supposedly on "sex education" for children. But apparently, from advance notices, it will "educate" them in masturbation, boy-girl sex play, and attempts at pre-puberty sexual intercourse, with hints at homosexuality. I will give you more details of this book later.

But actually, it is merely the latest daring step in a spirit-world-inspired conspiracy to destroy human society and ultimately to destroy the human race.

There is a seldom noticed, little believed, and less-headed passage in the Bible which speaks of a real "Satan, which deceiveth the whole world." And another, ignored and little-believed passage states that "we wrestle [contend] not against flesh and blood [humans], but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [wicked spirits] in high places" (Eph. 6:12).

It is little understood or realized, but this whole "new morality" crusade is a spirit-world conspiracy against the human race.

How would believe it possible that the whole world, with its advanced scholarship and higher education, could be deceived. But then, a deceived person does not know he is deceived — she he would not be deceived.

The conspiracy takes advantage of the generations of sex ignorance, repression, and attitudes of viewing sex as degrading, shameful and sinful, leading to the opposite extreme.

How did it all start?

I think few know what is happening to them — even if realized, it is happening to everyone directly or indirectly. It is changing the world. And not for the better, as the "liberal minded" suppose, but from the frying pan into the fire.

It appears to the world as an emergence from the age of "hush." We have come out of the prudish, Victorian extreme. But the world has leaped completely past the real truth concept into the opposite extreme, more deadly by far than the former.

Let me give you a quick, pinpoint synopsis of what has happened. The attitude of "shame" toward sex is actually of great antiquity. It flowed on the tide of the ancient Babylonian mystery religion into the Western Roman world. Into and through the Middle Ages sex was generally regarded as sinful, except for procreation. Although supposedly a Christian teaching, in actual fact it never was. It was neither the teaching of Christ nor the apostles. It is not found in the Bible. The Bible teaches the use of sex in marriage as a natural marital love relationship — not for procreation only. It condemns only fornication, adultery, perversion. The Bible does not condemn sex itself, but the wrong USE of sex. The Western world received this attitude that sex, of itself, is evil from pagan religions.

The fruits of the "sex-is-sinful" teaching were marital unhappiness, frustrations and broken homes.

And in the United States, because sex was revealed as indecent, degrading, shameful and sinful — even in marriage, except for reproduction — the dissemination of knowledge about sex and sex dysfunctions was legally barred from the public. When I was married, in 1917, there was no public instruction available.

Then came World War I. It brought tremendous changes in thinking, in behavior patterns, in social customs, in the double standards — and in morals.

Previously, about 1904, a startling conclusion had been reached by Sigmund Freud, founder of psychoanalysis. His revolutionary opinion had resulted from his researches and clinical experience. Freud had decided that sexual repression, the attitude of shame, and ignorance about sex were the CAUSE of neurosis, nervous and mental disorders.

He and his followers in the newly appearing profession of psychiatry urged knowledge dissemination and sexual freedom as the panacea. Reverse the interpretation of "morality." Emancipate the people — women especially — from restraints and attitudes of guilt. Start a campaign of obsession. Liberate people — women especially — from the chains of repression and ignorance. Define sex as good — any use of sex, in or out of marriage!

In the wake of World War I, the agitation started by Freud and his followers

Personal from...



NEW "SEX EDUCATION" BOOK FOR CHILDREN SHOULD WARN OF DANGEROUS TREND

Italy brought about a toppling of the legal barriers. And the moral barriers began toppling simultaneously.

Immediately an avalanche of literature on the subject of sex, authored primarily by medical doctors and psychoanalysts, descended on a sex-curious public. Yet something was criminally wrong with this set of literature. What I have termed the "missing dimension in knowledge" was emphatically absent. The instruction treated only with the physical and mental aspects. And even so, to my knowledge there had never in the history of mankind been any truly scientific, highly technical research in this delicate field. As a matter of fact, the first such study began as recently as 1955!

And even so, in all the now technical studies, the APPROACH and ATTITUDE is diametrically OPPOSITE to the true one.

As I have mentioned repeatedly, even to heads of state with whom I have meetings around the world, I explain the one root CAUSE of all the world's troubles and evils is the WRONG WAY OF LIFE! There are just two broad, general ways or philosophies of life, and they travel in opposite directions. I simplify it by calling this world's way the way of "our" and the other the way of "never." Or, one might call the world's way LUVY and CAREED, and the right way LOVE. I define "love" as an outgoing concern for

the good and welfare of others equal to one's own SELF-concern. This world's human society is living on the SELF-CENTERED way. It's the way of competition, get the best of the other fellow, GET, TAKE, ACCUMULATE — the way of lust, greed, and vanity — the way of selfishness, jealousy, and envy — the way of hate, destruction, and violence.

Today, in the wake of probably the best "scientific, scholarly, and technical" study of sexual response and causes of sexual dysfunction, by Masters and Johnson in St. Louis, and the Cornell University Program of Sex Therapy in New York, there have sprouted numerous "institutions" or practitioners of sex therapy — some utterly unqualified.

The recent New York jury verdict against Renato Harrogi is an instance of the abuse that usually accompanies some new field of profession springing up. Apparently the question of his competency was not involved, but the doctor was sued for malpractice by a Julie Roy, who won a verdict of \$350,000 damages. As Max Lerner writes in his syndicated newspaper column, it is common knowledge in therapy circles that erotic relations between therapists and patients are on the increase.

Of course, if one should ask a therapist his opinion about erotic relations between patients and therapists, he

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AFTER VIETNAM — NEW ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

After more than 30 years of continuous conflict in Indochina, the guns of war have at last fallen silent. The events of those three decades, however, will leave an indelible mark upon the conduct of world affairs for years to come.

From the beginnings of U.S. involvement in Indochina, American officials defined "winning" as preserving South Vietnamese independence. With the fall of Saigon, therefore, the United States has been defeated in its purpose — thwarted by a third-rate agrarian power. How did the world's most powerful nation manage to get itself entangled in Vietnam — the longest war in American history — and what will be the ramifications of its defeat?

The blood of this tragic epoch first began to flow during World War II when Japanese forces occupied Indochina, supplanting the French who had ruled there since the last half of the 19th century. Ho Chi Minh, leader of the communist Vietminh, resisted the Japanese occupation with support from the United States. Following Japan's surrender in 1945, Ho Chi Minh proclaimed Vietnam's independence.

The French returned, however, seeking to reassert colonial rule, but met determined Vietminh resistance. U.S. involvement began in 1950 with President Truman's decision to aid the French forces. Nevertheless, French military power was shattered in May 1954, with the fall of the key city of Dien Bien Phu to the Vietminh. Vietnam was soon afterward partitioned by a Geneva agreement into a northern portion under Ho Chi Minh's communist regime and a non-communist south under Ngo Dinh Diem.

President Eisenhower pledged economic and military aid to the new South Vietnamese regime. His prime motivation was the "Domino Theory" that all Southeast Asia would fall to the communists should South Vietnam succumb.

The number of U.S. "advisers" gradually increased under President Kennedy. The Johnson years (1963-68) saw a major escalation of troop levels, accompanied by growing anti-war sentiment in the United States.

While de-escalation began during the final Johnson months, it was President Nixon who presided over U.S. troop withdrawals and the "Vietnamization" program, leading to the Paris "peace" agreement of January 1973. Communist pressure continued, however, and a Watergate-crippled presidency was unable to act decisively against blatant communist violations of the cease-fire.

Just before South Vietnam's ill-fated withdrawal from the highlands earlier this year, it had become clear to Saigon that American aid was to be cut still further. The Saigon government concluded, therefore, that it had to retreat to more easily defensible perimeters.

But what Saigon had hoped would be an orderly pullback became instead a total rout.

Then, on April 30, 1975, Saigon surrendered to the Viet Cong following a hasty American evacuation. The final tally: 56,000 Americans and over one million Vietnamese soldiers killed; hundreds of thousands of civilian casualties; and over \$150 billion expended.

Worldwide Domino Effect

London's Daily Telegraph describes Saigon's surrender as "world communism's biggest victory, the free world's biggest defeat."

The victory of North Vietnam, it has been observed, highlights the distinctions between a truly imperialist power and a status quo power. The Soviet Union — despite its continual labeling of the U.S. as "imperialist" — energetically seeks to export its ideology around the world. The United States, on the other hand, appears content with the current limits of its influence. A truly imperialist power has the inherent advantage of momentum and purpose — a fact demonstrated by the unflinching Soviet support of Hanoi in stark contrast with America's reluctance to supply Saigon with additional military aid.

While the Soviet Union knows what it wants, the U.S. today stands divided. After World War II, when America was the world's most powerful nation, there was general unity on foreign policy: communism, at the least, should be contained. But now, that unity has disappeared.

In fact, with the recent congressional assertion in foreign policy, there is no longer even a consensus on whether the U.S. should remain a global superpower on par with the Soviet Union, or even whether it should continue honoring its various treaty obligations.

The effects of this change in American thinking are not lost on the rest of the world. Notably, seeds of doubt have been planted in Western Europe. London's Daily Telegraph asks: "What about European members of NATO? Can they go on as if nothing had happened?" And West Germany's Frankfurter Allgemeine wonders out loud in front-page page editorials about the strength of the U.S. commitment to Europe.

An American lapse into isolationism following on the heels of the Indochina debacle is being viewed both within the U.S. and around the world as a real potentiality. President Ford himself fears just such a reaction, noting recently that he is "reminded precisely of the days of 1920 and 1930, when no one thought we were ever going to war again."

If Mr. Ford is drawing a valid parallel, then a major world conflagration following in the wake of U.S. isolationism becomes a grim possibility. □

EUROPE'S UNITY MOMENTUM DYING OUT



JEAN MONNET, 85, the "Father of Europe" (foreground).

BRUSSELS: "If the governments of Europe don't have the will to build Europe, they should not maintain the illusion that they do."

Calling it the "frank and brutal truth," Robert Marjolin, former European Economic Community Vice-President, told EEC Commission members in an official report that "national economic and monetary policies have over the 25 years been more discordant, more divergent, than they are today."

According to the report's findings, the divergence among the Community's nine member nations has been heightened by the international monetary crisis and the oil crisis, events which ironically underlined the need for just the kind of economic and monetary union Europe claimed to be seeking. Instead, the resultant problems of inflation, unemployment and trade deficits have all been treated as national problems with little intergovernmental coordination.

Marjolin's pessimistic assessment serves as a disappointing theme as Europe marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first step toward continental economic — and hoped-for political — unity.

On May 9, 1950, French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman issued a call for what became the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). The idea was the brainchild of Frenchman Jean Monnet, who intended that the bloc not only revive Europe's war-torn econ-

omy, but also saw it as a means of overcoming the mistrust and hostility between France and Germany.

After the ECSC came the EEC and Euratom, both in 1958. But the forward momentum has stagnated since 1969 with the unsuccessful effort to launch the next planned stage, an economic and monetary Union (EMU), the supposed prelude to political integration.

"Mr. Europe" Retires

Dealing Europe's step-by-step approach to unity a further psychological blow, "Mr. Europe" himself, Jean Monnet, retired from public life May 3, the very anniversary day of the Schuman Plan. The 86-year-old architect of postwar Europe's reconstruction had spent the past twenty years as President of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe, a respected lobby group. That group formally disbanded the same day as Monnet retired — after failing to induce someone of the stature of Edward Heath or Willy Brandt to succeed him. To many Europeans, it seems the disbanding of a dream as well.

Marjolin admitted "with regret" that the step-by-step approach of his mentor, Monnet, will not achieve European union as once hoped. The steps that have already been taken stand as positive achievements, he said, but the actual formation of a full monetary union, or any other major step forward, will now have to be a "radical

and almost instantaneous transformation" accompanied by a "political will to unite," and an appropriate transfer of power from the present nine sovereign members to a supranational authority structure.

Most of Europe's leaders acknowledge the need — but few are willing to force their own governments to relinquish more national sovereign powers to European institutions.

On the very same day that the Marjolin report was released and Monnet announced his retirement, West German President Walter Scheel, speaking in Paris, called for a European constitution giving the legal base for a common European economic, foreign and defense policy. But his appeal fell largely on deaf ears.

Thus, the spring of 1975 could go down as an extremely significant time in European history, symbolizing the end of one epoch and the beginning of another. One epoch marked twenty-five years of labor to build a united, prosperous Europe through the painfully slow process of compromise, negotiation, and the ultimate in patience.

The next epoch remains to be formed by other men. Will the "radical and almost instantaneous transformation" Marjolin talked of come about? And what would it take? Would such an abrupt, as yet unforeseen, development materialize at the expense of Europe's democratic institutions?

Realistic Europeans recognize that individually, their nations, stripped of old empires and commonwealths, are too small to exercise much influence in world affairs. But remaining forever suspended halfway along the goal toward a fully united Western Europe, which could exert force and power on the world scene, is an extremely frustrating way to exist.

The Marjolin report itself summarizes: "... European unity... [is] more necessary than ever if the states of Western Europe are going to be able to continue to play a role in world affairs and protect themselves against the dangers which threaten them from all sides. Alone their impotence becomes every day more obvious; only unity can restore to them the influence which they have lost." □

— Henry Sturck

KOREA: The Next Test?

On the heels of the American debate in Indochina came the ominous warning: "There will be another test of U.S. strength very soon... and we'd better be ready." The speaker was former U.S. undersecretary of state, Eugene Roslow, who served in the Lyndon Johnson administration.

Ready or not, Korea appears ripe for the world's next major confrontation.

The recent activity on the part of the North Korean government may signal the beginning of what may be a new Communist offensive. Reports indicate that the Communists are digging infiltration tunnels across the demilitarized zone dividing the two countries. Two tunnels have already been discovered (one as far as 600 yards into South Korean territory), and U.S. military officials believe there may be at least two

at a more inopportune time. American support, though "guaranteed" by the 1953 Mutual Defense Pact, is now more unsure than ever. The U.S. commitment — symbolized by the loss of 31,000 American lives in the 1950-1953 Korean War and the continued presence in South Korea of 38,000 American troops — has come under attack from critics in Washington. They charge that American military and economic aid — over \$11 billion in the last 25 years — only bolsters a corrupt and repressive regime. Their criticisms are similar to earlier charges leveled against pro-American governments in Cambodia and South Vietnam.

Recently, South Korea's Christian clergy, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, have become President Park's most severe critics. They have been outspokenly condemning



ENTRANCE to U.N.-dog intercept tunnel used to detect North Korean infiltrator tunnels across Demilitarized Zone.

them. The Pyongyang regime is also jamming radio and television broadcasts beamed up from the south.

"Downfall of the Imperialists"

South Korean President Park Chung Hee fears that the North Koreans, emboldened by the American collapse in Indochina, may "play with fire" in attempting a new Communist invasion. North Korean premier Kim Il-Sung, having just returned from Peking where he was given an extremely lavish reception, seems to exult in the possibility. "The present developments in Asia more vividly prove that the... downfall of the imperialists and their lackey is a trend in our times, which no force can check."

For the Seoul government the renewed tension couldn't come

the government's efforts to stifle political dissent. Like the former Diem regime in South Vietnam, the Park government stands vulnerable to the charge of religious repression. The criticism has been getting a large hearing in the Western press, and, as a result, moral support for the South Korean government is waning. The charges of corruption are seen by some to be a justification for the U.S. to withdraw support of the Seoul government.

It is estimated that over \$1 billion could be saved from the Defense Department budget by withdrawing from Korea. Such a pullback, however, might openly encourage an attack from North Korea. It would most certainly weaken the Park government, which the U.S. State Department currently sees

(Continued on next page, col. 1)

In or Out of Market ONLY BRITAIN CAN SAVE BRITAIN

LONDON: In Britain, the battle for — or against — Europe is on.

The politicians are stamping the nation telling their respective sides on the emotionally charged issue of continued British membership in the European Economic Community.

It's a confusing situation — one that has tragicomic overtones. Labour Prime Minister Harold Wilson, having successfully "renegotiated" his nation's membership terms with the EEC, is working hard to draw out the "Yes" vote in the upcoming national referendum. Yet opposition to his leadership in the issue is greatest among the ranks of his Labour Party — in some areas 2 to 1 against the Market.

Of course, in the end, it will all be decided by the British public when they go to the polls on June 5 in the first nationwide referendum in Britain's long history. Mr. Wilson, who originally called for the election, says his government will abide by the decision of the electorate.

Currently, the opinion polls show a substantial majority of the British people in favor of continued membership, perhaps as high as 60%. Yet when the result of the referendum is finally known — whether the answer is Yes or No — it very likely won't be based on a knowledgeable assessment by the British people of the wider implications of the current and likely future state of their na-

tion and the world as a whole.

The fact is, mere continued membership in the Community does not, of itself, guarantee relief for Britain of her nagging economic doldrums. In the past six months the overall rate of inflation climbed inexorably to an alarming 25.4% — and this when the rate is falling in all other Western industrial countries except Italy. Wages jumped nearly a third in just 12 months. The pound reached all-time lows on the foreign exchange market.

As a result, Britain's influence inside the Market — where her performance is only slightly better than that of "sick man" Italy — is slipping. It's so sure that two other countries dominate Community life, France and Germany — especially the latter. But leaving the Market could possibly lead to a worse fate. On their own again, the British would find themselves in a vastly different world — that of pre-membership days before 1973. The old trading markets upon which Britain depended are no longer open to her as they once were. The "cheap food" era is over.

Consequently, inside the EEC an economically sick, weak Britain stands to become a vassal of a powerful, vibrant Germany. And outside Europe, the nation stands to become isolated, subjected to a siege economy, and hounded by her international creditors.

It is indeed ironic that at a

time when voices are being raised loudly against Britain surrendering her political sovereignty to the European Commission in Brussels if she remains a member of the European Community, the nation is in danger of forfeiting its economic sovereignty to foreign creditors.

In the final analysis then, the question for the British people is not so much one of continued membership in the EEC as it is of the age-old need for the nation to rediscover the road to real economic and industrial recovery. As Prime Minister Wilson said on the opening day of the parliamentary debate on the Common Market: "I hope that during the great, national debate no one will be carried away, as to forget that, in or out of the Community, Britain survives and prospers in direct correlation to our own efforts in this country."

But sadly, it appears the kind of recovery that the nation so desperately needs is becoming ever more unlikely. As the British magazine *Kanker* puts it: "There is no domestic saviour in sight — nay, not a glimmer of hope." It appears the British people really have lost the will to survive in an increasingly more competitive and hostile world.

Like Ephraim of old, Britain sees her sickness but depends on others to heal her (Hosea 5:13). The nation has become "as a cake not turned" — getting burned, but too listless to turn over — failing to realize the full extent and end result of her national sickness (Hosea 7:8-12).

It will take more than continued membership in the Common Market to heal the old lion. □

— Peter Berber



Worldwatch

by Gene H. Hogberg

Entangling Alliances

The experts say now it is time for the United States to "reappraise" its foreign policy. Perhaps so. But to be completely accurate, the reappraisal should include a good look at some neglected history — and some very vital but forgotten principles on how a nation should conduct itself on the international scene.

The agony of Vietnam, in fact, could have been avoided if Americans had heeded the counsel of the Bible. God originally told the nation of Israel that once they entered the Promised Land they were to have nothing to do with the native peoples living in the region (in fact, they were told to entirely wipe them out, so as to not be influenced by their false traditions and religious practices — Deut. 20:16-17).

However, at one key juncture in their history, the soft-hearted Israelites carelessly violated this principle. The ninth chapter of Joshua records the incident where the Gibeonites, fearing that what had happened to the obliterated cities of Jericho and Ai might also befall them, sought an alliance with Israel. The Israelites consented; they "did not bother to ask the Lord, but went ahead and signed a peace treaty" (Joshua 9:14-15). (All scripture references are to *The Living Bible*.)

To be sure, the account reveals that the crafty Gibeonites tricked the Israelites, promising that they were not natives to the area, but instead came from a "distant land." Still, the Israelites had received adequate warning from God — as Americans did over 3,000 years later from their first President, George Washington — to avoid "entangling alliances."

And with good reason. Very soon after the treaty was made, the Gibeonites found themselves threatened by a band of aggressive neighbors. Panic-stricken, the Gibeonites called to the stronger Israelite power for assistance. "Come and help your servants!" they demanded. "Come quickly and save us! For all the kings of the Amorites who live in the hills are here with their armies" (Joshua 10:6). Israel, true to its word, heeded the call. It was the first time Israel had to come to the rescue of a power "struggling for self-determination."

The "Gibeonite War," furthermore, did not traumatize the Israelites, primarily because they opted for an all-out military victory instead of an agonizingly protracted "no-win" conflict intended to bring the Amorites to the conference table!

The Israelites, to be sure, should never have made a treaty with the Gibeonites. But once having done so, they honored their commitment and God totally backed them up — by example, a rather poignant condemnation of what has taken place in South Vietnam, where the U.S. refused to honor commitments made to its ally two years ago.

The experience with the Gibeonites should have taught Israel's modern descendants the pitfalls of entering into alliances with "the nations." But it also should have taught that once a people commits itself to a course of action and gives its word — it should follow through.

One must now seriously wonder about the depth of America's commitment to the 45 other countries with whom it is linked either in grand alliances such as NATO, SEATO, ANZUS, or the Rio Pact (20 Latin American nations), or in bilateral "mutual defense" treaties with such allies as the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan and South Korea.

The vast majority of these arrangements were made when the United States was in its prime, virtually uncontested in the world — and probably never thought of the day when it would actually have to back up the signature with action under fire. But after Vietnam the Communists may really put the pressure on!

Will the present generation of leaders in Washington — especially in Congress — try to squirm out of, rationalize away, or renege upon solemnly contracted agreements? Will the prophecy of Hosea 10:4 indeed be fulfilled: "They make promises they don't intend to keep"? □

KOREA

(Continued from page 3)

as the hubwark of stability in the area.

The biggest impact upon the collapse of South Korea would be felt in nearby Japan. American troops, under the U.N. banner, fought the 1950-53 Korean War mainly to "contain Communism" at the 38th parallel, to prevent World War Two weakened Japan from falling under Communist influence.

However, if the worst happens in Korea, Japan would be forced to reexamine its own defense arrangements with the United States. Presently shaded by the U.S. "nuclear umbrella," Japan might even feel compelled to "go nuclear." Such a development would greatly destabilize an already shaky world. □



WHAT'S THIS — OUR NEW NATIONAL BIRD? □

Will Review U.S. Ties: Marcos

Shockwaves from recent Communist takeovers in Cambodia and in South Vietnam are being felt throughout the Southeast Asian region — including, notably, the Philippines where American economic and military ties have been strong for decades.

The failure of the U.S. Congress to provide additional aid for Cambodia and South Vietnam "suggests strongly" that America no longer views Southeast Asia as vital to its interests, asserts Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos. As a result of the "new reality," the Philippines will be forced to seek closer ties with "socialist" nations, he concludes. Coincidentally but nevertheless significant, Mr. Marcos' most recent state visitor was Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Our man in Manila, Colin Adair, writes: "The visit of the Communist chief-of-state came at an auspicious time when America's credibility in Southeast Asia had hit a very low point. During a dinner Mr. Ceausescu hosted for President Marcos, Mr. Marcos said that developments in Indochina have 'compelled all leaders, including the political leadership of the Philippines, to review policies on security and development.' The Philippine government, said Mr. Marcos, could not help but be disturbed by 'the emerging view that commitments made by American

presidents are nothing more than statements of intent that do not bind the American people, the Congress, or the Government.'"

Since the beginning of April, three Philippine government agencies have been engaged in a review of the status of the Philippines' defense accords with the United States, especially those covering continued U.S. use of the huge Clark Air Base as well as the Subic Naval Base.

The Philippines has three military agreements with the U.S. — a mutual defense pact, a military assistance treaty, and an agreement on military bases.

President Marcos reportedly asked the American panel during a recent meeting of the Joint Mutual Defense Board to inform the Philippine government how useful the bases were to the United States and how long Washington would retain them.

U.S. Ambassador William Sullivan had expressed the view that the United States "supports" a reassessment of Philippine foreign policy toward all countries and that his country is ready to discuss any readjustments in agreements between the Philippines and the U.S. regarding the military bases.

He hoped however that the Philippines, after weighing all alternatives and options, would come to the conclusion that "her best friend is still the United States." □

ART BUCHWALD

Détente with Vietnam

WASHINGTON: Will the United States survive the loss of Indochina? If past experience is any proof, the answer is "yes!" For a year or two, or maybe three, there will be much soul-searching as to why Cambodia and South Vietnam went down the drain and a lot of finger pointing by everyone. But then, after a period of bitter silence, this is what will probably happen.

The People's Republic of Vietnam will start a ping-pong team. A small item about the team beating the People's Republic of China will appear in a newspaper in College Park, Md. This will give the University of Maryland a brilliant idea. Why not invite the People's Republic of Vietnam's ping-pong team to play against the best ping-pong team the Americans can muster?

The State Department is furious about the idea and reminds the students that we have no diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of Vietnam. But secretly they're intrigued with the idea. The secretary of state suggests the American cultural attaché in Paris feel out

United States." As far as the importance of the Philippines security arrangements with the U.S., Valencia said, "I am convinced that most Filipinos know that the United States would not defend the Philippines in any case except to protect their own bases. And Filipinos don't want that kind of defense either. We certainly are no longer relying on American military, naval or aerial protection."

Valencia closed his remarks with some particularly strong phrasology, no doubt reflecting a growing mood in his country: "The only way we can get some nice things said of us in the American press is for us to be an enemy."

"Notice the warm words of praise they have for Red China and the Soviet Union, America's hates are reserved for her friends and allies."

"Our worst mistake is in trying to explain things to the Americans. They only get the impression that we're friends. That's when we get it."

Not comfortable words. But Americans need to know what's being written about them in other parts of the world. □

the PRVN about a match. The answer comes back that the PRVN will not send a team to the United States but is willing to play the Americans in Hanoi.

A mixed team consisting of half American students and half CIA agents is sent to Hanoi and ferociously tounded by the Vietnamese. This gives the Americans an opportunity to invite the PRVN to the United States. When they arrive in Maryland with their team consisting of half Viet Cong students and half political commissars, a secret meeting is arranged between the secretary of state and the coach of the ping-pong team who is really deputy secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party.

The coach suggests that the secretary of state make a secret trip to Hanoi and visit with Gen. Giap, the president of the country. The secretary agrees and flies to Pakistan where he announces that he has a bad stomach and will be out of action for a few days.

But instead he boards a plane and flies into Hanoi where he is given a state dinner of hot Vietnamese food and toasts the friendship of the American people and the People's Republic of Vietnam.

The secretary then flies directly back to Washington to report to the President that Gen. Giap would like him and his lovely wife to visit their country, something no American President has dared do since Thieu was driven from the mainland.

The U.S. President, who needs some way of distracting the people from domestic problems at home, considers the idea a bold stroke of diplomacy and one which will make him the leading statesman in the world.

He accepts the invitation and in four months the American people watch on satellite TV a grand banquet in the Haiphong Hall of Heroes where the U.S. President and the PRVN president pledge friendship and peace and sign a trade and cultural pact.

This makes both the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union furious, which is what the secretary of state had in mind in the first place.

In no time at all every newspaperman worth his salt visits the PRVN and writes back glowing reports on how clean the streets are, how hard the Vietnamese people work and the fact that there is no tipping in the country.

The PRVN sends us the famous Ho Chi Minh Ballet Theater and we send them Shirley MacLaine. Pepsi-Cola announces that it has made a deal to sell Pepsi in Vietnam, and

Vietnam Retreat Parallels Napoleon's

The Great American Retreat from Indochina has been described by guerrilla warfare strategist, Sir Robert Thompson, as "the greatest retreat the world has seen since Napoleon himself retreated from Moscow."

Napoleon's withdrawal, of course, was the beginning of the end of his empire. When he reached Moscow, he had extended his jurisdiction to its farthest historical limits. The collapse of his empire followed fairly quickly — within four years of his ill-fated withdrawal from Russian soil.

The outspoken Thompson, who is generally credited with saving Malaysia from Communism, notes that Southeast Asia was as far "west" as Western political dominance ever extended. With the anguished appraisals of U.S. defense ties on the part of America's Asian allies there is the very real possibility that American influence around the world may soon launch into headlong retreat.

"We are about to see the strategic surrenders of the United States," Thompson predicts. "The whole world is going to be littered with corpses, as was the route from Moscow to Germany."

The British anti-guerrilla expert warns that the effects of America abandoning South Vietnam "will shake the U.S. to the roots. If you are going to indulge in the luxury of incredulity, you are going to have to meet the costs. You will have to take political and military risks to reestablish your credibility that will make some of the crises we have been through look like Sunday afternoon picnics." □

Sharp Words for America from Filipino Journalist

The United States received a stinging rebuke at the hand of columnist Teodoro F. Valencia in the April 14 edition of the *Business Today*, one of the three main Manila dailies. Valencia is one of the Philippines' most respected columnists. His views are thought to coincide with much of official Filipino thinking.

Since the institution of martial law in the Philippines in 1972 — an action much misunderstood in the United States — the U.S. Senate, said Valencia, has been "reassessing" the Philippine situation. Now, with U.S. reverses in Asia, he said, it was time for Filipinos to do some assessing of their own.

"The Americans have detest-

edships. They abhor martial law," Valencia writes. "Yet, the Americans are making their biggest mistake in the Philippines. We are the only Asians who could qualify for genuine friendship with them. We share their ideals, their ideology. Despite martial law, the love for parliamentary democracy as embodied in the American Constitution remains high — higher, perhaps, than before martial law. But if the Americans want to treat us like they have treated Cambodia, South Vietnam, Taiwan, South Korea and Laos, then they're dead wrong. We won't stand for it. We will be treated as equals or we will prefer whatever is in store for the non-friends of the

IBM announces it will soon start repairing all the computers that broke down right after the war.

Then President Giap will be invited to Washington and there will be Vietnamese flags all along Pennsylvania Avenue and flying from the White House.

Eventually there will be few people who will remember that we were once at war in Indochina. The only time it will ever come up is when a former president of South Vietnam dies in Switzerland, and the President decides to send Agricultural Secretary Earl Butz to his funeral. □

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THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX

This is the first of a series of articles taken from the editor-in-chief's book by the same name. The book, originally on "The New Morality," was first published in 1964, with a first press run of 250,000 copies. Seven subsequent printings added 208,500 more copies. The current edition was published in 1971, with press runs totaling 402,500.

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Part I

The world has emerged from the age of lush, in the last half-century a moral revolution has swept over the world. The professional "authorities" — the psychoanalysts and the medical doctors — decided moral standards were in need of revision. They have been revised, radically, under the catchphrase "the new morality."

There is of course general awareness, if not yet total acceptance, of the change. Yet few realize the facts of the true origin of the "sex-is-shameful" attitude, or of the impetus behind the moral revolution. The facts are stranger than fiction!

You live today in a mixed-up world that has lost its way, especially in the area of sex and marriage. And there is a very significant reason!

The Most Vital Dimension Missing

The world, since World War I, has been deluged with books, pamphlets, and articles in magazines and newspapers about sex. Still, the most necessary dimension, in knowledge of the subject has been missing — unpublished until now!

Today protest fills the air. Revolt is everywhere, against almost everything! And in no grievance is revolt so widespread as that against the repressive moral codes of traditional Christianity. The revolvers reject the authority of the church. They have embraced what they term "the new morality."

Just what are the generally unknown facts? What was the real origin of the traditional Christian morality? Did it come from Christ — from the original apostles — from the Bible?

And what triggered the moral revolution and finally plunged the world into the sexual "freedoms" of today?

Origin of the "Old" Morality

Christianity, following its first generation, absorbed the pagan dualism of Greece and passed the label "sinful" on sex. Through the centuries since, the moral standards of the Western world were regulated by the Roman Catholic Church.

Does that mean, then, that Christ introduced and taught this attitude that sex of itself is shameful and evil? Emphatically it does not! Jesus never represented sex as anything other than that

which our Maker created, and all that he had created he pronounced "very good."

Jesus taught against wrong uses of sex. He forgave a repentant woman caught in the act of adultery, with the admonition, "Go, and sin no more."

The original apostles never deviated from this teaching. The biblical teaching throughout is the same.

What, then, was the real source of this attitude of shame? It flowed on the tide of the Babylonian mystery religion into the Roman world. And how did this concept come to be accepted as Christian? The facts, I repeat, are stranger than fiction.

Emphatically it was not the teaching of Hebraism, nor of Jesus, nor of the original church of God. It reached the Roman world by way of Greece, but it flowed, at an earlier date, into Greece from Egypt. Yet it stems from a still earlier source, to be revealed in the following chapter.

In the first and second centuries the Roman world was dotted by pagan schools, on the curricular model established by the Grecian Plato. Plato had received this dualistic attitude toward sex from his teacher, the philosopher Socrates, himself a sex pervert. This dualistic teaching had become the basic hypothesis of all Grecian thought, writing, and religion.

Sex was regarded as low and degrading, an act in which man descended to the level of the beast.

This was the underlying attitude in the teaching of the pagan schools throughout the Roman Empire. There were no Christian schools. To establish such schools would have been impossible. Textbooks had to be printed laboriously, by hand, one at a time. The printing press was not to be invented for centuries. All textbooks were pagan.

Second- and third-generation Christians were reared and educated from childhood in these pagan schools. By the beginning of the fifth century this dualistic concept toward sex was firmly rooted in Western Christianity. It is still the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. Protestants in general have passively followed Catholic teaching on sex, but have tended to be more lax in practicing it. In rapidly increasing numbers, Protestants now are forsaking this tradi-

tional teaching and accepting the "new morality."

Knowledge Legally Withheld

And because sex was viewed as indecent, degrading, shameful and sinful — even in marriage, except for procreation — the dissemination of knowledge about sex was freely withheld from the public.

Even as the United States entered World War I in 1917, it was still unlawful in America to publish, sell, or distribute any knowledge about sex or instruction in its use. Certainly married people sorely needed proper instruction. But all teaching was legally banned.

Parents taught their children nothing. They themselves knew nothing. Their parents had never taught them. And, besides, it would have been too embarrassing! The commonly accepted attitude was: "Keep our children innocent and pure through ignorance until marriage — and then instinct will tell them what to do."

But instinct did not teach them. Humans, unlike animals, do not come equipped with instinct. Blindly, with a smattering of "gutter-acquired" mis-knowledge, the newly married blundered their way into disillusionment, shattered dreams, bitter resentments, frustrations — and, too often, the divorce courts and broken homes.

True, a very large percentage of girls and wives were kept "pure." The girl, as late as 1917, who lost her virginity unmarried had also "lost her honor." Some even decided they could never face "decent" people again and ran off to enter houses of prostitution. Of course a double standard had developed. Every man wanted a virgin for a wife, but a majesty were less careful about their own male virtue. The girl who had "gone the limit" was "damaged goods."

The commonly accepted Victorian attitude was, "Keep our children innocent and pure through ignorance until marriage — and then instinct will tell them what to do."

The Fruits of Profruity

But what were the real fruits of this dualistic concept of virtue? Some 50% of marriages were rendered unhappy — many utterly miserable and unbearable — because of false attitudes and sex ignorance. Many a wife was virtually raped on her wedding night. The stupid husband didn't mean to injure his wife. He was just plain stupid! He needed instruction that had been denied him.

Many wives called their husbands "skunks." They simply were ignorant of the fact that bees, guided by instinct, are not guilty of such things. Husbands said their wives were "frigid" and too

often began to visit prostitutes.

What Price Ignorance?

Then came World War I. It brought tremendous changes in thinking, in behavior patterns, in social customs, and in the double standard. Women won the vote in America. Wives began entering employment and becoming financially independent.

The Freudian Conclusion

Previously, about 1904, a startling conclusion had been reached by Sigmund Freud, founder of psychoanalysis. This revolutionary opinion had resulted

If man is merely the highest of the animal kingdom, when in his evolutionary development did marriage, home and family life start — and why?

from his clinical experience and researches. Freud had decided that sexual repression, the attitude of shame and ignorance about sex were the causes of neuroses and many mental disorders.

He and his followers in the newly appearing profession of psychiatry urged knowledge dissemination and sexual freedom as the panacea. If repression and self-denial caused the neurotic disquiet, why not reverse the interpretation of morality? Emancipate the people from restraints. Put a new definition on sex. Define it as coitus, not degrading, shameful and evil — any use of sex, in or out of marriage. In the wake of World War I the agitation resulting from Freud's revolutionary conclusions finally brought about the toppling of the legal barriers. And the moral barriers began breaking down simultaneously.

With the removal of legal restraints against sex instruction, medical doctors, and psychoanalysts began grinding out volume after volume imparting heretofore banned instruction about sex.

Previously, the publication of knowledge in other fields had been accelerating. But in the delicate area of knowledge about sex the medical and associated professions had held a monopoly. Now sex information was hurled at the public from all directions. Even today almost every magazine one might pick up off a newsstand will contain at least one article on the subject of sex.

The "New Morality" Appears

Yet something has been criminally wrong with this avalanche of sex literature. There has been missing the most vital dimension.

The world began throwing off the restraints. The revolt was on, against prudery, repression and ignorance. The new sexual knowledge — with its most-needed dimension missing — quickly began to be gulped in by curiosity-hungry

minds. World War II shot morals into the gutter. And now they have plunged all the way into the cesspool.

Permissiveness is the current fad.

Today, it is actually becoming popular in more and more colleges and universities to allow students to visit the dorm rooms of those of opposite sex at any or all hours around the clock — and sleep with them if desired. Some have introduced the new system of "co-ed dorms" — both men's rooms and girls' in opposite wings on the same floor, no restrictions whatsoever.

Today pornography is rampant on school and college grounds, and smut has become a multi-million-dollar industry in the United States.

Today we have "progressed" completely past "topless" bars and restaurants. When they became no longer shocking, "bottomless" followed, and finally, the supreme jolt as a shocker — and in several places — to entertain a lust-gripped audience, actual live sexual intercourse performed in the nude on stage. Not simulated. "FOR REAL!"

Along with this trend has come the hippies, "rock-festival" orgies attended by thousands, fast-growing drug addiction, hundreds of thousands literally "blowing their minds."

I mentioned, above, that the revolution has rejected the authority of the church. But where is the authority for a right moral code?

Do Humans Really Know Right From Wrong?

After all, what is right — and what is wrong? What is really just for each individual? It is generally assumed that every sane person "knows the difference between right and wrong."

But do they?

Millions of Christians still think any act of sex outside of marriage is sin — and therefore wrong. Perhaps other non-Christian millions still believe the same thing. On the other hand, millions now believe in the "new morality." They believe in complete sexual freedom. They believe denial and repression are wrong.

There are other views in between.

What is the TRUTH?

The TRUTH is that the most tragically needed dimension in sex knowledge has been MISSING!

Now Even Marriage Being Questioned

In the modern rebellion against just about everything — including puritanical taboos — the world is tending to reject any and all authority and is turning more and more to impulse and unbridled desire.

Now some psychiatrists are questioning the institution of marriage. Who started the marriage custom, anyway? And whose? If man is merely the highest of the animal kingdom, when, in the evolutionary development from lower animal into man, did marriage with home and family life start — and why? Animals do not marry. They have no "home life." Yet all animals reproduce. Marriage is not necessary for reproduction.

Do we really need any AUTHORITY for what is right or wrong about sex — about marriage? Is sexual freedom by mutual consent really harmful to any-

Personal FROM...

Hubert A. Armstrong

(Continued from page 1)

would become very professional and emphatically disapprove. I will say, for the Masters and Johnson's Institute, they maintain an iron-clad policy of refusing to treat one patient alone — they treat only husband and wife together, and never with a single therapist — always with a male and female therapy team.

However, I feel constrained to mention that, in this world keyed to the uncentered way, the tendency is to approach the whole subject from that philosophy. They teach husbands and wives to think selfishly of what each gets out of the relation, rather than the approach of outgoing concern and expression of true love for the mate.

New books have very recently appeared in bookstores dealing with the newer knowledge now emerging from the more scientific studies on sexual response and dysfunctions. But meanwhile, following World War I, many books were published authored by medical doctors, psychologists, marriage counselors, and self-styled sexologists. In all, as stated above, there was a glaring absence of the "missing dimension in knowledge." In 1964, I tried to fill in this essential gap with publication of a book then titled *God Speaks Out on the New Morality* and a second revised edition titled *The Missing Dimension in Sex*, in 1971. Nearly one million copies have been mailed out, gratis to those requesting them.

These books have been explicit, frank and forthright, with all essential details, yet revealing the heretofore unrealized real meaning of marriage and presenting sex as our Maker intended sex to be used in an abundant happy life.

Meanwhile, since the legal bars against sex education were removed after World War I, the educational campaign to "liberate" the Western world from all repression and attitudes of prudery continued apace. Younger generations coming along absorbed the new attitude.

Articles and stories about sex in newspapers and articles in magazines have made the Western public extremely sex conscious. Advertisements and TV commercials utilized the sex appeal continuously. Sex is flying into the face, before

body? Is the game, becoming prevalent, of husband and wife swapping wrong? Is it harming the participants or is it beneficial?

Let's see what MODERN SCIENCE — and the SCIENTIFIC METHOD has contributed.

What NEW KNOWLEDGE awaits the reader. □

(To be continued next issue)

the eyes, and into the ears of the public constantly. The public attitude has been revolutionized.

In the last decade or so, in many cities, "topless" restaurants began to appear. When the shock of female breasts no longer shocked, the "bottomless" signs began to appear. Newspaper stories appeared of performers in bars performing actual sexual intercourse nude in public on stage. Stories of "swinging" couples brought shocks to newspaper readers — that is, two or more couples meeting and swapping husbands and wives.

Group sex parties were reported. Sex became a popular subject of conversation, especially among teen-agers. Actual promiscuous behavior has followed, but not as rapidly as the propaganda and relaxing attitudes.

On college and university campuses of co-ed institutions, it is now reported that the large majority in the United States are coming to "Co-ed Dorms" — dormitory buildings, where both sexes are housed in the same building. In many cases, girls are assigned rooms in one wing, men in another wing on the same floor — with open access back and forth.

Meanwhile, marriage is being cheapened in the public eye. A prominent theologian and churchman in England has publicly talked of "healthy adultery" being good, and even in some cases saving the marriage.

The modern conspiracy, inspired by an invisible demon world believed by the educated deceived not to exist, has done a sensational job of leading the Western adult world on the course to spiritual and moral destruction. And now, it is influencing the unsuspecting adult "educated" to turn the diabolic attack on young children.

It is done subtly, even as the cigarette industry cleverly lured women into the cigarette habit. Up until the twenties about the only women who smoked were prostitutes. The psychologists in the industry knew that, once a woman developed the cigarette habit it would be far more difficult for her to break the habit than for men.

So by the mid-twenties, we began to see big billboards and full-page and double-page advertising pictures of a man smoking, but now cleverly and subtly they began to place a beautiful young woman beside him, smilingly enjoying inhaling in the man's smoke secondhand. Then, later, they began showing a woman asking the man beside her if she might not enjoy one puff on his cigarette. This was followed by boldly showing beautiful young women themselves smoking. And soon the tobacco industry had doubled their market for more profit.

And so now the first book subtly reaching young children is to be published in its English language edition.

Intended for children, it is replete with photographs, apparently of super-

rior photographic quality, which blink at nothing. The book, authored by a German woman, Dr. Helga Fleischhauer-Hardt, is said to have already created an uproar in Germany. There, the Ministry of Communication in the government is said to have labeled it pornography. This, of course, multiplied book sales.

The English version is due for release in May 1975, at \$12.95 per copy. The book, titled *Show Me*, is highly photographic. It starts with photographs of naked children, in semi-chaste manner, hand-covered, who turn devilish eyes at each other, saying "aw, come on, show me." Of course, they show. The sharply focused photographs continue showing mutual boy-girl fondling through many love-making techniques.

The release of the book in America probably will be followed, as it was in Germany, by loud outcries of indignant protest. Still, Dr. Fleischhauer-Hardt maintains that looking at these pictures can in no manner harm a child. Apparently others disagree. The text follows masturbation with several versions of intercourse, and even "a hint" of homosexuality.

The director of education for the Sex Information and Education Council from the United States (SIECUS), Doctor Derek Burleson, refused to endorse the book.

Nevertheless, as long as it remains legal to distribute and sell such a book, thousands will buy it.

Apparently, at the start, the book will be placed on sale in bookstores on the East and West Coasts, but not yet in the Middle West or South.

This "new morality" movement has made phenomenal progress since World War II. It has seriously changed America's way of life.

Aware of this clever, subtle, satanic campaign to destroy society's morals, destroy the sanctity of marriage, and, ultimately to destroy all humanity, I began to wonder, "What can I do about it?"

Well, perhaps little. But I could, and have, written this article in the hopes of forewarning many of our millions of readers. And I can, and do, offer once again to you who have not already received a copy, your own free copy of my own book, *The Missing Dimension in Sex*. It is the ONLY book that I know of which presents sex as our Maker intended — as clean, wholesome, beautiful of itself, and intended to be used in MARRIAGE not only for reproduction, but for the expression of a wholesome love between husband and wife, joined in holy matrimony by the ETERNAL and glorious God. It is clear-minded and wholesome, yet it is frank in presenting all needed details. It does cost money to publish and mail out a book of this size — 235 pages. Nevertheless, this book has been helpful and a real eye-opener to many thousands, and I cannot make a charge for it. We have nothing to sell. □



SAIGON—Before the Fall

by Arthur A. Fardig

Only six weeks before South Vietnam's unconditional surrender to the North, I was in Saigon with fellow *Plain Truth* staff member Roger Lippross. It was our first trip to Southeast Asia, and our South Vietnam leg of the journey was especially impressionable.

I guess we expected to find a worthless patch of real estate — fetid swamps and tangled jungles scarred by bombs, scorched by napalm and stained by generations of human blood. (Pardon my ignorance, but I'm a 12-year veteran of a TV war.) We expected to find grandfather, father and son (if still alive) weary, sick at heart and immobilized by war. I'm sure many Americans felt this way.

After just a few days in and around Saigon, however, it didn't take a mental giant to realize what a beautiful and bountiful land the North Vietnamese were after. South Vietnam is a rich agricultural land, well cultivated and even capable of exporting rice. Driving along the roads, we were reminded of the Philippines, or even Hawaii. The fields were abundant with tropical crops, such as sweet potatoes, peanuts and sugar cane. Little villages and towns

each had their own markets, nestled among palm and rubber tree groves.

Hanoi has an obligation to feed millions of hungry mouths, and South Vietnam contains some of the richest agricultural lands in Southeast Asia. In the South, crops grow with ease; in the North they don't. Farmers around Saigon enjoy fine harvests with relatively little hard labor, compared to farming the rugged terrain in the North. The South is the breadbasket of Vietnam — well worth fighting for. The land is rich, green, productive and beautiful. The food is good, and there is plenty of it.

Farmers in the South's outlying provinces, however, were admittedly suffering a morale problem. Their harvests were being taxed by both the Saigon administration and the Viet Cong. Failure to supply grain to the VC means having their fields burned and their families threatened. Some farmers under this duress were giving up and moving to the crowded cities.

We also heard reports that certain Saigon merchants were buying foodstuffs from the farmers and blackmarking them to the VC for a tidy profit. War breeds corruption

— anything for a price, even to the point of selling out your own people, their food, clothing and military equipment. (The latter, of course, provided the biggest blackmarket bonanza.)

I was told that you couldn't leave the country — except for a price — and also that you must "buy" a job, a government position, or a military commission.

In spite of such economic hardships, Saigon was alive with a flurry of activity. Vibrant and alert people were going about the normal tasks of living. I would venture to guess that fully half the population was in perpetual transit during the daylight hours — jamming the streets on roaring Hondas (sometimes laboring under the weight of 4 or 5 people), riding bicycles of every size and description, driving automobiles of new and ancient vintage, and, of course, walking.

Gasoline was at a premium — often blackmarketed in coke bottles along the side of the road — but in spite of such shortages, the wheels of Saigon kept turning. The clamor, dust and exhaust fumes only ceased as curfew approached, and then the next day was a repeat of what went

before. I wondered what the activity had been like prior to the U.S. troop pullout — bordering on chaos, I assume.

The more I talked with the citizens of Saigon, the more I realized that competition for the U.S. dollar seemed to overshadow any concern about the military threat from the North — and this was in late March of 1975!

The almighty dollar was public concern Number One. At the prospect of money, pimps, prostitutes, beggars and sidewalk salesmen crawled out of the woodwork en masse.

All were anxious to extend a friendly hand for a greenback. With the GIs gone, street services weren't so much in demand, so the competition was brisk and annoying. Money was their number one concern, and there just wasn't enough to go around.

The biggest complaint on the street was registered not with the communists but with the corrupt politicians — those whose greasy palms demanded continual greasing, those with already bulging bank accounts who continued to greedily line their pockets with dollars and



plasters at the expense of others. There was growing antagonism in the streets against corruption in high places. It was OK to be corrupt when times were good and everyone got their fair share, but these were hard times!

There was open hostility and disgust directed toward the Thieu government. There was more talk about internal political corruption than of battles to the North. There was, in fact, a feeling of apathy so far as the war was concerned. The communist strategists, they said, were concentrating on crushing Cambodia. Saigon expected no major spring offensive from the North — not this year anyway.

The war was "way off somewhere." The most pressing concern was how to get a share of what the fat cats were skimming off the top. And if it meant shaking the Thieu government to the ground for "economic" reasons, so be it. This was the street talk — at least when it was safe to voice one's opinion. The "business of war" was viewed more and more as an economic enterprise that made the rich richer and the poor poorer. Patience of the less fortunate was wearing thin. They too

had a greedy appetite, but it wasn't being satisfied.

As much as the South Vietnamese hated communism and the prospects of living under its rule, they were obviously wondering if the Saigon government with its "politics of corruption" was worth fighting and dying for. I can't help but think that this was a major reason for the sudden collapse of morale, the military desertions among the officers and enlisted men, and the panic.

After the U.S. pullout, South Vietnam was actually a house of cards, a hollow shell, a plum ripe for picking. Had the arms been available, of course, there would still be a determination to fight the communists — war, after all, was the accepted way of life for generations — but I don't think there was much desire to fight for the preservation of what had become a totally corrupt political and economic regime.

Without a constant supply of U.S. arms, the inevitable defeat would have happened sooner or later, but South Vietnam, even with U.S. aid, would have eventually decayed from within. The entire economic and political system was in the process of destroying itself. □

THE MANY FACES OF SOUTH VIETNAM

LEFT: Saigon is a bustling, commercially active city, with traffic which varies in the extreme. The few shiny new American or European cars were made to look clumsy amid the swarms of small motorbikes which made driving difficult, if not dangerous. It was not unusual to see four or five people on one two-wheeled machine. TOP RIGHT: Two girls dressed in their "ao-dai" stop to ponder the fine quality hand-made shoes, a specialty in Saigon. CENTER: The markets were well-stocked with food, which the merchants sold with patient determination! BOTTOM: A refugee camp near Da Nang, before its fall, symbolizes Vietnam's agony over a war that exhausted three generations of Vietnamese. The anxious expression in the children's eyes anticipates the culmination of events that soon took place.

Promiscuity's Latest Penalty

by Donald D. Schroeder

Ten years ago, it was thought to be a rare disease, but today there is new concern among public health officials about the venereal disease known as Herpes Simplex Virus Type 2, "HSV-2," is now widespread throughout the population, infecting all ages, social classes and both sexes.

Official alarm is well warranted. Not only is the blister-like disease frequently painful, debilitating and acutely disruptive to personal life, but the newly discovered epidemic has a condition mankind fears most in a disease: it is incurable—at least so far.

Unlike syphilis and gonorrhea, which are caused by bacteria, HSV-2, like nearly all viral diseases, is immune to all presently known antibiotics and medicines that can be safely given. Therefore, once the victim contracts the virus, he has it for life. He may frequently have his living patterns upset by active outbreaks of the disease. Medical treatment only reduces symptoms or duration of outbreaks; it does not destroy the virus.

More disturbing to health officials, however, is the fact that a significant correlation exists between the presence of HSV-2 in the genitals and cancer in the pubic region has been observed by a battery of disease specialists. There is growing suspicion, not yet absolutely confirmed, that HSV-2 frequently leads to cancer of the cervix or prostate in adults.

Two Types of Herpes Virus

Whether HSV-2 is experiencing a phenomenal increase or is only at last being recognized by better-informed doctors in a frequency that has always more or less existed is a debated point among health officials.

A decade ago it was thought ulcerative sores in the genital area were caused by the same virus producing similar sores above the waist, or by some other non-specified virus. Only in 1966 was it discovered that two separate herpes simplex viruses were involved in human infections.

Type 1 (Herpes Simplex Virus Type 1) typically causes common cold sores and fever blisters above the waist, particularly on the mouth or face. It is usually passed on to others through similar area contact during active infections. The Type 2 variety frequently causes painful blister-like or ulcerative sores in the genital area and is almost always acquired through sexual contact.

Recently, however, Type 1 and Type 2 are being more frequently found in reverse areas, due, in the vast majority of cases, to the increase in oral-genital sex practices. Either herpes virus can thus cause a genital herpes infection. In fact, ten percent of genital herpes cases are Type 1.

Competitor to Gonorrhea?

Already, genital herpes infections far surpass new syphilis infections in many treatment centers across the nation and

are even a strong competitor to gonorrhea.

"Ten years ago it was an uncommon event to see a patient with genital herpes," said a dermatologist in the San Francisco area. "Today, there are days when I see up to ten patients a day with it."

A conservative estimate of 300,000 genital herpes infections are being treated annually in the U.S. Genital herpes is now recognized as the second most prevalent venereal disease in the nation. (Gonorrhea is still first and is, after AIDS, also the nation's number one communicable disease, with around 2.7 million new infections annually.)

During active stages of infection there are often no noticeable symptoms among the sex partners who pass it on. The result is a constantly expanding reservoir of infection.

The Innocent Suffer

The innocent victims of the genital herpes epidemic are babies of unknowingly infected pregnant mothers. Such mothers have a miscarriage rate of more than three times that of the general population. Some officials estimate half of the babies born from mothers with an active genital infection will contract the disease, and one quarter of them will die or be seriously damaged. Both Type 1 and Type 2 can cause dangerous consequences to such an infant, but Type 2 appears to predominate in seriousness.

A child born through a gonococcus-infected birth canal is endangered with the possibility of blindness; but delivery

through a herpes infected birth canal exposes the infant to a high chance of painful death or irreversible brain damage. Dr. Marvin S. Amstey of the University of Rochester School of Medicine says if organs other than the infant's skin are affected, the fatality rate spirals to 75% or more.

Disease of the New Morality

The cause of the genital herpes epidemic is the same cause behind the spiraling climb of other venereal diseases. Medical officials directly indict sexual promiscuity as the cause of the venereal herpes epidemic. Marcus A. Conant, M.D., of the University of California Medical Center, blames the newly found epidemic on "changing sexual mores and practices rather than the development of a more aggressive virus."

"It's the venereal disease of the new morality," says another specialist dealing with the genital herpes epidemic.

Many health officials attribute the upsurge of Type 1 infections in genital areas to the increasing practice of oral-genital sex. Movies such as *Deep Throat* and a host of other pornography films have popularized these and other non-conventional sex practices.

In one study of 101 patients with a herpes infection in the genitals, it was discovered 92 practiced oral-genital sex. Tests on these patients indicated half of them had the Type 1 virus (oral herpes).

These practices also are the major reason Type 2 infections are cropping up more frequently in lip and mouth infections, health officials report. Since the herpes virus is very infectious, any intimate contact with a potentially infected person is obviously a great risk.

World VD Crisis

Venereal diseases—particularly gonorrhea—are being out of control in

most countries. The World Health Organization estimates, "The annual incidence of gonorrhea in many countries affects one to five percent of people in the age group 15 to 30 and may go as high as six to ten percent."

Medical researchers admit much has yet to be learned about the pathology of venereal diseases. The genital herpes crisis is testimony to this fact. Recent research has discovered that many more men than previously believed are asymptomatic (i.e., without any early symptoms) carriers of gonorrhea. And women on the Pill have proven to be much more susceptible to VD infections due to changes in genital chemistry.

Promiscuity, homosexuality and a seemingly endless parade of new and bizarre sex activities are more and more widely glamorized by various media as the "ultimate thrill." Gullible millions are lost in our modern "sexual wilderness," but the "prophets of permissiveness"—from whatever the source—obviously just aren't really telling the whole story of promiscuity's ugly side effects.

The "silent epidemic" of VD is not silent in its effects—ruined health, dead or irreparably damaged babies, acute physical pain, severe mental anguish and destroyed sex lives—but, ignorance and careless attitudes concerning VD still abound.

Mankind today is strapping mounting tragedy because it has become chic and popular to scorn, ridicule and reject God's laws on sex, marriage and personal hygiene. In the end, God's laws cannot be mocked or ignored. True biblical morality would still make VD disastrous virtually nonexistent and, at the same time, preserve and protect the safety, beauty and dignity of sex within marriage.

Real Preventatives Ignored

Medical science and health authorities are still struggling to find new and better weapons against the old killer, syphilis, as well as the ever-changing, crippling, gonorrhea. Now they are engaged in a frantic new search to find ever-more exotic drugs and/or vaccines to halt the venereal herpes crisis.

How much better it would be to choose a life-style that avoids VD infection—over if that means running against the tide of permissiveness! It would mean simply avoiding all promiscuous and perverted sex activities.

The plain and simple truth is that venereal disease is virtually nonexistent to contact within the confines of a faithful marriage of two sexually pure partners. An infected "third party" is necessary for the introduction of venereal disease. Marital (and premarital) fidelity in both partners is the only prevention for venereal disease.

As never before, VD must not be relegated to a hash-bush status. Every responsible person, young and old, needs to inform himself or herself about the growing VD crisis. For further helpful background on VD history, myths, and symptoms, as well as other vital information, write for our free publication, "The Silent Epidemic."

It explains the full scope and cause of this growing worldwide scourge. □

Herpes Simplex Pathology

HSV-1 (facial herpes) and HSV-2 (genital herpes) have overlapping symptoms in many phases. Only medical tests can tell which strain is which. While each strain predominantly infects its respective area, they both can infect any part of the body if unusual intimacies are involved. Above the waist, Type 1 infections typically disappear in 10 days and are not generally dangerous. Type 1 symptoms recur frequently in some individuals, but not at all in others.

Herpes infections of both types first develop symptoms two to twenty days after contact with an infected person. The first symptoms of genital herpes (90% are Type 2) may be minor rashes or itching in the genital area. These symptoms then commonly develop into a cluster of painful blister-like, fluid-filled lesions or ulcerations, often accompanied by flu-like symptoms: fever, aching muscles and general malaise.

Even without treatment, the first herpes sores dry up within about a month, but the disease has not disappeared. In following months, up to several years, there may be frequent sporadic recurrences lasting a week or two.

The herpes virus, particularly Type 2, is a significant cause of female genital infections which can cause blisters-like sores, fatigue, swelling in the leg, and, in advanced cases, severe ulceration of the reproductive organs.

The herpes virus is peculiar in that hormone changes (due to monthly cycles, drugs, birth control pills, etc.) or stress of any type (emotional upset, a long walk, sunlight, or even sexual intercourse) can precipitate a relapse.

Between relapses, it is very difficult to test for the virus, as it seems to bury itself deeply in tissues. However, improved blood and pap tests are discovering more infections.

While no single drug therapy is effective in destroying the herpes virus, various medical therapies (some of them controversial as regards to safety) may shorten duration or symptoms of outbreaks.

Because of the nature of most promiscuous sex practices, there are no foolproof precautions promiscuous individuals can take to avoid the danger of the disease—or any venereal disease for that matter.

A Swing Away From Swinging

by Carole Risor

Mate-swapping, group sex, "open marriage," and kinkier forms of experimentation may have just caught on in some back-water areas. But many old-time swingers who led the way during the sixties sex revolution have dropped out, opting instead for a more stable, "meaningful relationship" based on mutual respect and affection.

What happened to Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice? Assistant professor of sociology Denise Denfield of the University of Connecticut did a study and found that a lot of free spirits found they didn't enjoy their erotic hedonism as much as they thought they would. Old-fashioned hangups like guilt, disgust, and jealousy took their toll. They had trouble with boredom, got too involved with non-spouses, or found their mates couldn't handle it emotionally.

The hard-sell approach used by swinging enthusiasts did get recruits for the cause, but most dropped out after a few months. Dr. Robert C. Kolodny, director of endocrine research at the Reproductive Biology Research Foundation in St. Louis, found that most swingers he studied lasted a year and a half at the outside. The fatigue and strain of constantly finding new part-

ners, plus the hurt and psychological damage caused by lack of any real emotional stability made their frantic lifestyles short-lived.

Kolodny partially blames the economy for this downturn, saying that "in times of economic hardship people tend to revert to more conservative behavior." Gilbert Baricell, coauthor of *Group Sex*, concurs: "These are depressed and unsettled times. There's a more somber feeling among people, a retreat from sexual frivolity."

Or perhaps jaded swingers have discovered the hard way that the Seventh Commandment is really where it's at after all. □

VD — A Worldwide Epidemic

by E. K. Sturcke

At least 70 million people worldwide are expected to contract gonorrhea this year. According to the World Health Organization, this epidemic is a considerable source of worry in just about every country in the world, with the exception of Red China.

These startling statistics, among many others, were brought out recently in a cover story of the German news weekly, *Der Spiegel*. Two decades after the "vic-

tory" over venereal diseases through penicillin, the classic disease of the genitals and many new ones are again riding the crest of a wave of sexual promiscuity. Doctors put the blame on the three P's, says *Der Spiegel*: promiscuity, permissiveness and the pill. The pill is named as one of the villains not only because it loosens moral restraints, but also for physiological reasons. Through taking the pill, the chemical balance of the vagina is altered, making it more susceptible to the growth of the micro-organisms which cause venereal diseases.

Not only are the "old-fashioned" genital diseases on the upswing again, but also a vast host of venereal newcomers trouble today's liberal loversmakers. (See the accompanying article, "New Penalties for Promiscuity.") Even hepatitis is now suspected as being transmittable through sexual contact.

Der Spiegel also cited a study made by the World Health Organization in Scandinavia which found that education and health instruction do not necessarily decrease the rate of venereal disease. Knowledge is of so value, they found, if "faithfulness is only an empty word to them."

It may take two to tango, but it takes three for VD. As the articles on page 10 explain, a "third party" is necessary before venereal disease could attack an otherwise faithful married couple. Faithfulness is the only possible preventative to the worldwide scourge of VD. □

The Silent Epidemic

Over a fifth of infant deaths — that's five or six each day in Britain and over sixty daily in the U.S. — are from "unknown causes," "respiratory failure," or "anoxia." This tragedy has become known as "cot death" in England or "crib death" in the U.S.

Most of these tragedies need not occur, according to new medical research. The Nuffield Centre for Medical Research confirms what many doctors have long suspected: Cot death is almost certainly a reaction to dietary proteins.

Exposure to foreign proteins (animal milk, cereals, eggs) before a baby is ready for them may sooner or later induce some degree of allergic reaction. This varies from simple digestive disturbance, skin rashes, asthma, and heart damage to severe or fatal shock.

There may be, of course, yet undiscovered factors. But indubitably cot death is extremely rare among babies who are breast-fed — without supplements — for some months.

For the vast majority of babies, then, there is a simple and obvious protection. Each mother ought to breast-feed her baby from birth. Most countries have women's organizations established to advise new mothers, such as *La Leche League* or Britain's *National Childbirth Trust*. □

Without sex, you wouldn't be around to read this. Sex has been stigmatized and sensationalized, yet today's sexual revolution has not brought human happiness and well-being. Now you can understand the reason why.

Here's a 64-page booklet titled *Is Sex Sin?* It reveals the God-ordained purpose of sex. The booklet is not pornographic and it isn't a sex manual. Instead, it is a frank discussion on what the Bible says about sex and marriage. No young adult or married couple should be without this knowledge.

It is written for adult minds but is a handy reference tool for parents when discussing the subject with their children. It shows how you can achieve a balanced viewpoint and counter wrong values. You can receive a free copy by returning the accompanying coupon. There's no charge or obligation.

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You're on your way home from the grocery store. The man in the elevator gets off on the same floor in your apartment building. You realize he is following you. Your heart racing, you hurry to get inside your door. You're a second too late. He's behind you, forcing his way in . . .

Incidents like this are numerous across the country. According to the 1974 Uniform Crime Reports released by the FBI, 58,000 females were the victims of rape, a nine percent increase over 1973, and a doubling since 1967. The 58,000 cases reported in 1974 means that on the average of every nine minutes a woman or girl in America was raped! Even these astounding figures do not tell the whole story since experts estimate that only about one fifth of the rapes that occur are reported.

Any female may be a victim of rape. Lack of sexual attraction is no protection. Very young children, women in advanced pregnancy, and elderly women in their 70's and 80's have been victims of sexual attack.

Rape can and does take place almost anywhere, anytime, any day of the week.

The crime of rape is unique among violent crimes: Its victims are female. Its physical, social and mental ramifications are often severe and long-lasting. There is the possibility of venereal disease or pregnancy, coupled with embarrassment and the fear of rejection by husband, family or friends.

Most unique of all is the legal structure surrounding rape — a structure largely based on a framework of societal attitudes and assumptions in which the pivotal question is that of the victim's innocence. It is the only crime in which the criminal factor is not the crime itself — but whether or not the victim was forced to participate. The fact of crime hinges on the element of consent.

This attitude of skepticism toward the credibility of women who claim they were raped exacerbates women's liberation leaders and rape victims, who feel it reflects a pervasive masculine attitude of suspicion toward women, as well as tolerance of a certain degree of male sexual aggression.

A reevaluation of our attitudes, as a society, toward rape necessitates exploring the prevailing myths about rape, its victims and its perpetrators. Take a frank look at some of the facts and some of the myths about the crime women fear most.

Myth #1: Women Secretly "Want It"

There is a persistent myth that many women secretly want to be raped. They "ask for it."

This myth persists among men; we women know better!

"Rape can neither admit nor express the fact that they are a menace to society," writes Dr. James Selkin. "... Even convicted rapists serving long prison terms deny their culpability. They tensively insist women encourage and enjoy sexual assault!" (*Psychology Today*, January 1975).

It would seem that this attitude of the convicted rapist has permeated our society as well as our courts. In a court of



THE CRY OF RAPE

Muffled by Myth

by Amy Bowman

law, quite an issue is made of what is termed "victim precipitated rape" and "assumption of risk." These are concepts used by the legal defense to transfer responsibility for the crime from the rapist to the victim. By focusing the blame on her, they thereby hope to lessen the guilt of the assailant.

If, for instance, the victim accepted a drink from the man, her accusation of rape is weakened "since by drinking she took a chance, made herself vulnerable, and also introduced an element of stimulation for the male." So states sociologist Menachem Amir in his study *Patterns of Forceful Rape*. Or, if she allowed him to come to her home, she was either indicating willingness to have sexual intercourse or was showing her readiness to "assume the risk" of being attacked.

What the victim actually did is held as less significant than how the assailant interpreted her actions.

However, a study made in Philadelphia showed that over 85 percent of reported rape cases involved some form of violence — roughness, beating, or choking. It is difficult to conclude from this that these rapists were misled as to the desires of their victims.

A hazard of this "victim precipitation/assumption of risk" analysis is that a woman could not be held legally blameless unless she lived in constant fear that every man is a potential rapist (this includes friends and relatives since they are responsible for 29% of all reported rapes). If any of her actions conflicted with the traditional expectations

of "appropriate female behavior," this could be used as incriminating evidence against her in a court of law. Even such a simple freedom as taking a walk alone in the park, especially in the evening, could be interpreted as saying, "I'm a sexually available female," or "I will assume the risk of being attacked."

The purpose of our laws and courts is to deal with the offender. He is the one who aggressively and violently acted out his thoughts and feelings against an available subject. Even if the victim unconsciously or innocently made herself vulnerable to sexual attack, the fact remains that she is the victim.

Hopefully, future laws will focus on a woman's physical integrity, peace of mind, and freedom of movement without fear of sexual attack as fundamental rights to be protected by the law.

This dubious doctrine of "victim precipitation/assumption of risk" contributes to the fact that 80% of accused rapists walk out of court as free men. Such an amazing fact makes you wonder just who our rape laws really protect! This brings us to a second pervasive myth.

Myth #2: Innocent Men Convicted

Another prevalent misconception is that innocent men are often unjustly imprisoned due to false accusations of rape brought by malicious women who are afflicted with sexual and emotional problems.

It would be unfair to claim that innocent men have never been unjustly

accused and convicted of rape, but it is equally invalid to promote it as a major concern when there is very little supporting evidence.

The unfortunate ambiguity of the term, "unfounded complaint," has without doubt contributed to the myth that women make many false rape complaints.

Most complaints determined to be "unfounded" by preliminary police interrogation involve at least one of the following factors: (1) evidence that the victim was intoxicated; (2) delay in reporting by the victim; (3) lack of physical condition supporting the allegation; (4) refusal to submit to a medical examination; (5) the previous relationship of the victim and the offender; (6) the use of a weapon without accompanying battery.

Most of these factors are not relevant to whether or not a rape has actually been committed. They are, however, relevant to the chances of having a case taken to court and obtaining a conviction. The investigating police officers, in effect, have absolute discretion as to whether or not any further action is taken to prosecute the case in court. The chances of an invalid claim surviving such a thorough police examination and reaching the courts would be quite low.

Furthermore, in view of the statistics (stated earlier) that 80% of accused rapists walk out of court as free men, it is obvious that very few men — whether innocent or guilty — are ever convicted!

Myth #3: Rapists — Helpless Victims of Desire

Another popular myth (among males) is that men have "uncontrollable sex drives." Therefore, men who rape are not responsible for their acts since they are victims of unexplainable urges, fierce desires, and passions which can be impossible to control once they have been aroused. Once accused, the belief goes, rape is the natural result, if the woman is not willing to satisfy the appetite she has created.

The fact is that few rapes are spontaneous. As Professor Amir reveals in *Patterns of Forceful Rape*, over 80% of the reported rapes were either entirely or partially planned. Rapists look for women who are vulnerable to attack — the handicapped, the aged, the sleeping, the intoxicated, or those who are vulnerable by their environment (isolated, alone, or in an easily entered residence). Women who are characteristically friendly and of service-oriented occupations (nurses, waitresses, teacher, etc.) are often the victims of rape. They are too willing to respond to the ploy of a cry for help or aid from a stranger.

The element of premeditated rape is also evident in the fact that nearly half of all rapes are committed by acquaintances of the victims — an estranged husband, a spurned boyfriend, a relative or close friend, a neighbor, or just a casual acquaintance.

"Neighbors and acquaintances are the most potentially dangerous people as far as brutal rape is concerned," states Professor Amir. They are more prone to carry out acts of sexual humiliation that seem to involve personal vindictiveness against the victim.

This reveals that rape is not always the product of the uncontrollable sex urges alone. The sole aim of many rapes is not forced sexual gratification by a psychotic or sex maniac, but rather subjugation and humiliation of known victims by "normal men."

Demystifying Rape Laws

In summary, available statistics provide tremendous proof that, contrary to popular belief, rapes are usually planned, generally involve physical force, and are often committed by basically normal men who know their victims, and that there are few false charges which result in innocent men being convicted of rape.

Yet, on the other hand, there exists a network of laws based on the assumption that just the opposite is true. Fear of the maniac in contrast with fear of convicting innocent men has resulted in a legal paradox: Rape laws are structured so as to frighten would-be rapists by potentially heavy sentences (15 and 20 years or, in some cases, life imprisonment). But at the same time they prevent convictions when the judge and jury cannot reconcile the degree of the offense with such harsh penalties.

Potentially high sentences probably serve more to deter jurors from convicting than they serve to deter rapists from raping. The National Commission on Reform of Federal Criminal Law has proposed a federal law which would divide rape into three different sexual offenses: Class A - would include serious bodily injury, victim under age 10, etc.; Class B - would consider victim precipitation/assumption of risk factors, etc.; Class C - would consider minimal factors, such as submission due to mental incompetence, threat with a weapon, or incest.

Other reforms are being made, such as the bill introduced by U.S. Senator Charles McMathias. The bill would establish a National Center for the Prevention and Control of Rape. The Center would be a headquarters for research into the cause and effects of the crime, as well as ways to prevent rape. They would "analyze laws on rape and develop a new model state law."

More women on the police forces would also be helpful. Female officers should be assigned to sex investigation units to give frightened and embarrassed victims the opportunity to be questioned and interviewed by another woman.

Women themselves are organizing against rape through such services as the Rape Crisis Center in Washington, D.C. The Center provides information, services, and emotional support to rape victims. It also works to educate the community on the problems of rape.

Crisis centers and legislative reforms are helpful in alleviating current atrocities, but they are temporary. Such measures are not the ultimate solution for the suspicion, distrust, and bias toward the rape victim, nor for the sick and twisted mind of a psychological misfit. The best solution, of course, would be to effectuate a change in the lust, avarice, and greed within our human nature. But for the time being, it appears the legal reforms will have to do. □

orchids & onions

letters

Orchids: New and Used

Enclosed is my opinion of the new format of *Plain Truth*. If times are tough, you could very well have used cheaper paper, even newsprint, and reverted to black and white photos, but changing to a tabloid as you did has put you in the same class as *Midnight* and *The National Enquirer*. ... Enclosed - One Grade A oxen.

Alex Hunter,
Fairley, Ontario
CANADA

The life-after-death question (by Robert Kahn, Volume 40, Number 5) obviously frustrates many people at this time. If our reads of the "documented" cases, in magazines such as the *National Enquirer*, of people who have supposedly "experienced" a life after death upon the operating table, in a car accident, or other manner, one wonders whether their experiences are true and sincere ones. Does *Plain Truth* hold firm to the belief that "out-of-body experiences" are based similarly on irrationality and illogicality instead of earnest reasoning procedures?

To be sure, many sincere people would like to read a clear-cut answer to these questions in *Orchids* and *Onions*. Many of us may be wondering if our reasoning procedures can reproduce the experiences of other people.

Lowell McGee,
Seattle, WA

Editor's Note: Interested readers should do as Dr. Kahn advised in his article - write for our free brochure, After Death - Than What? The subject is too complex to cover here, but, to be brief, biblical revelation would not support such reports of "life after death" while on the operating table, or near other claims of "out-of-body experiences."

I want to clear the air on a statement that I wrote in your magazine last month. The statement was "Plain Truth: the unknown teaching the unwilling to do the unnecessary." It was not my own pet statement; I got it off the bathroom wall at school, so I only quoted some other fool's pet statement. My wife is a member of your church and she and some of the other members who have a weak conscience and get off-leashed real may get upset over it. ...

Hopefully you will print this letter so that those who write in a conscientiousness will realize that they are gainingay graffiti and not David Lane.

David Lane,
Oklahoma City, OK

This is to inform you that we wish to have the Eastern Mennonite College Library dropped from your *Plain Truth* mailing list. We never intended to be put on in the first place. The request came from Gary Hartman, and his letter appeared in your March 22 issue.

There is to such pursue as Gary Hartman. The letter was written as a practical joke by several college students along the

pseudonym and my title. The E.M.C. Administration, however, failed to see the humor of this. ...

Jim Bishop,
Media Relations,
Eastern Mennonite College
Harrisonburg, VA

On the fifth page of the March *Plain Truth*, I see Peter Butler seems to think we in Rhodesia are dispensable.

Some of us have spent the major part of our lives in Rhodesia. Many are even fourth generation Rhodesians. When do we go?

Let me say that if we go under, South Africa goes, and eventually all the Western peoples.

In case it's forgotten, neither Mr. Vorster nor any Black African will decide our fate. We are in God's hands.

Russ Brick,
Bulawayo, Rhodesia

A Bouquet of Orchids

Thank you very much for your articles. They all are very informative and very helpful.

I am a writer and am doing a great deal of research in ancient history. I am under the impression that you have done some very in-depth research on biblical ancient history. Your articles have the impact of a bulldozer, but the profound gentleness of a large shady oak tree.

I look forward to receiving your data. It is excellent food for thought.

Peggy Waldman,
Thousand Oaks, CA

The new *Plain Truth* is great, and the articles are hard-hitting. There is so much to read it takes me a week to go through it. Even though the past *Plain Truth* was very good and beautiful, I like this new form even better. And the article by Mr. David Hill was one of challenge and interest. One of his suggestions about the next time someone gives you an insult, give them back a big smile and say, "Thanks, I needed that," was very funny; I really broke up. But it is a very good idea.

Thank you for printing *Plain Truth*. It's very necessary in the times in which we live. Hope to be seeing it around for a long time.

Mr. Donald Bates,
Puyon, AR

I wish to commend Mr. Gene H. Hoberg for the article, "Prize Time Crime" in the *Plain Truth*.

We need lots more like him to speak up. Our governor recently said that people do not realize the extent of organized crime here. Such violent acts have every day. Killings and robberies.

I get so upset over the crime pictures on TV. I do not look at them, but have seen enough to know what they are. It is too bad for our young folks to be exposed to such violent pictures.

We need more articles such as Mr. Hoberg's, and less crime pictures. Also stronger laws of punishment for crime.

Mrs. Frank Kemper,
Phoenix, AZ

Your article in *Plain Truth*, April 5 edition, entitled "Our Degrading Debt - Putting Down the Free" was the best article I've read yet in the P.T. Keep up the good work. I hope to see more like it.

Chris Dasker,
Warminster, PA

Calendar's Mixed Reviews

To J. G. Calender: After reading and chuckling over your article, "A Modest Proposal for a Dictatorship in Italy" a few minutes ago, I find it necessary to compliment you on your anecdotal account of the scene in Italy. It was comical, clever, and so very true.

I could appreciate every line after having lived in Rome for 20 months during 1964-65. You are the only one who has completely captured the flavor of the Italian scene so cleverly.

For a country which has contributed so much in the field of science, art, music, and literature, it never ceases to amaze me that the same country could be so backward in everyday living.

I was always torn between defending my Italian heritage and violently criticizing the gross inefficiency which caused so much anguish in my daily life in Rome, the center of Italian culture.

My Roman days were lived over again through your article.

You are to be congratulated for your clever account of the Italian scene, and your reference to the "super-sociological" needed to rule the land. I actually roared at that one.

There aren't too many writers capable of approaching the subject so cleverly.

Angela Lui,
Niles, IL

It is unfortunate that a paper that deals with the big issues of today's news - and the world is full of them - can find space for personal harangues.

The article by J. G. Calender in the April 19, 1975 issue was an obvious display of prejudiced hate and disgust toward toward Italians.

How else could a man taking a short trip into Italy and finding one train to be less, and finding too that he couldn't communicate with the officials (because he couldn't speak their language), come to the conclusion that a dictatorship would be the only thing that could ever Italy. That's a "red Christian" attitude for you!

Has the writer ever heard about the red type of dictatorship? How could such a ripe even be considered for *Plain Truth*? Is it perhaps becoming open season for people about whom some don't even wish to consider in a positive way?

(On three different occasions I have traveled in Italy, from north to south, by 2nd class train and the accommodations have always been adequate or better. Complain? - U.S. Amtrak!)

Frank P. Inglima,
Pasadena, CA

I was intrigued by your "Modest Proposal" in the April 19th *Plain Truth*. Although your proposal was indeed much more modest than the original "Modest Proposal" of Jonathan Swift, I'm sure you won't be too surprised if you receive the same sort of reaction he did. (It seems that many of those who read his essay thought he really was proposing that the babies of the Irish poor be fed to the rich. Indignant mothers were heard to mutter, "I always had my suspicions about Swift, but this time he's really gone too far!")

Edel Thomasse,
Brussels, Belgium



Garner Ted Armstrong SPEAKS OUT!

Spiritual Poverty

The account is empty. The hollow prayer is a rubber check. Gestures of religion are counterfeit currency. Red ink is everywhere; the checkbook is fake. The church is in the hands of the receivers. The professional auctioneers might try to salvage the candleabra, the holy water, or the choir robes. Religion is bankrupt.

The United States of America is spiritually sick. You don't believe it? Then take a look at the shocking downward plunge of strong morality, the alarming rise in crime, the destruction of home and family, the shifting trends of youth's values, the almost unbelievable defeat in the global geopolitical arena, the lack of true patriotism, the emptiness of hollow religious ceremony.

It's about time we took a close look at our spiritual bank account; about time we checked the personal records with those kept above; about time we surveyed in detail the moral and social precepts upon which our entire cultural system is based.

Startling changes have been occurring to us at an incredible pace.

Living a clean "moral" life is no longer thought to be valid or meaningful in today's chaotic world of defeatism and frenzied search for fulfillment. While America's youth, broadly speaking, believed in living a clean moral life (77% did prior to the agonies of the 60's), that percentage dropped from 77% to 57% by 1973 among non-college youths. In the colleges and universities, where "education" is disseminated (along with powerful doses of evolution, cynicism, nihilism and hopelessness), the percentage dropped from 45% down to 34%. That's right, only 34% of tomorrow's leaders believe in the values of "living a clean moral life."

Believe that hard work always pays off? Then you're becoming more and more a rare specimen, for non-college youths surveyed proved only 58% presently accept that principle, and for their fellows in college

classes it was only 44%. What about casual premarital sexual relations? Are they morally wrong? Until the violent 60's virtually destroyed America's youth with its runaway beat, hippie, nowhere-ville scene, complete with wild rock festivals and the growing drug culture, a fairly strong 57% still believed such relationships were definitely wrong. Today, among non-college youths it is only 34%. Those in college, supposedly more educated, dropped from 34% to only 22% today. So much for America's future homes and families.

In this time of tremendous disequilibrium abroad and search for new assessments of America's meaning in the whole world, what about the basic feelings of "patriotism," of deep love of country, our Constitution and precious freedoms, our American way of life, and our flag? It has plunged from 80% to 40% among non-college youths, and ebbed away to a mere 19% of today's college generation who place any value whatsoever on "patriotism." Sick.

Religion? It too is ebbing away — though surprisingly not quite so fast as patriotism (perhaps many parents think of their hide-bound religious traditions as more important than patriotic notions). Religion as an important moral force declined from 84% to 42% among non-college youths, and from 38% to 28% among those in higher education.

Strangely, though, the same group of youths surveyed illustrated a definite desire to find relief from stress on "material goals."

Is there any obvious picture here? A stark shift in attitudes toward sex, morality, family, the work ethic, and religion — yet at the same time a definite desire to find meaning to life, to find goals above those of a predominantly materialistic world.

Why? Simple. The strongest possible form of education is the totality of all that is most widely "accepted" in society itself. With the growing

trend of public nudity (topless and bottomless bars, nudity on the stage, increasing nudity and explicit material even in "R" rated movies), larger and larger percentages of the population gradually find it acceptable.

With the sensationalized cases of "transsexual" operations, bisexuality, homosexuality (with the "gay liberation movement" much in the news, along with "gay churches" no less), and transvestism, the public gradually loses its ability for outrage. No matter how much you might protest, it seems the frenzied mob mood prevails. Says Dr. Charles Socinides, a New York psy-

chiatrist, "They're selling a phony sexual utopia in which the kingdom of the orgasm will supposedly replace the house of the ego." The public laughs at the continual stream of blatantly homosexual overtones in major network TV entertainment (including Johnny Carson and his guests, Dean Martin, Flip Wilson, and others), and gradually finds what used to be called "queer" (everyone but me and thee, Martha, and sometimes I find myself wondering even about thee) something others are "in" to.

With hollow sermons echoing the poetry of deceased clerics, or the carefully phrased, sanctimoniously said, metaphorically mouthed nonsense of the "inner you," the pulpit has lost its power.

With the U.S. Supreme Court afraid, unwilling, or unable to determine just what is and is not "dirty," an avalanche of prurient, explicit material has flooded the newsstands and the entirety of the entertainment media. It gradually changes the moral standards of a whole culture.

Watergate — the sensational divulgement almost daily of the bribes, kickbacks, payoffs, and the large sums made subsequently when those so convicted sell either speeches or memoirs about how they did it also takes its toll. Disillusionment, no, almost total distrust toward government is rampant. With America's white collar embezzlers, thieves, con-artists, petty cheats, and larcenists making the professionals look like pikers by comparison; with the movies showing huge bank heists as a fantastically funny "heist" where everyone

gets away with it and laughs forever after, it's no wonder values on "hard work" and "fair play" and "honesty" are sliding into ignominy. With hollow sermons echoing the poetry of deceased clerics, or the carefully phrased, sanctimoniously said, metaphorically mouthed nonsense of the "inner you," the pulpit has lost its power. Not many pastors DARE, in today's context, to stand up and THUNDER at their congregations about sin. Factually, thousands don't even know what sin is!

Make no mistake about it. We are SPIRITUALLY impoverished.

God's Word says, "Your whole head is sick, your whole heart is diseased; from the sole of the foot to the head, no part is sound; nothing but bruises and sores, and raw, bleeding wounds..." (Isa. 1:5, 6, Moffatt).

What will save America is NOT more super carriers, not the "reassessment" of our foreign policy; it is the building of our basic institutions which needs immediate construction, and the reassessment of our SPIRITUAL VALUES which needs our most critical attention! A Congress on its knees could do more in fifteen minutes of heartfelt prayer for our country than the next 20 sessions of a Congress trying to fight its way through party and personal interests.

Our country is spiritually sick. It isn't too late to find a cure — but, unless we do, the disease could be terminal. ☐

The Multiple Tragedies of Ethiopia

By Liam Nolan

The author, a noted Irish radio commentator and news analyst, just returned from Ethiopia. His current book on Ethiopia is entitled *The Forgotten Famine*.

It came as no real surprise to me when the first cracks began to appear in the structure of the new regime in Ethiopia. Like so many others, I was appalled by the executions of over 60 former high officials, but I also realized that Ethiopia had undergone a fearful famine which had killed thousands of times that number.

About 100,000 of Ethiopia's people had died miserably from famine or famine-related causes. In the province of Wollo and Tigre, north of the capital Addis Ababa, feeder roads are nonexistent. There is just one main transport artery that stretches from Amara in the north to Addis. It twists, climbs and dips its tortuous way through the mountains and across the flat, arid plains.



In Brief

by Stanley R. Rader

Cairo, April 22:

This morning's Cairo newspapers announced that President Thieu had resigned and, breaking his almost stoic silence, placed the blame for the agency of his countrymen squarely on the United States. He charged the U.S. had been "deaf and blind" to his appeals concerning the North Vietnamese buildup in flagrant violation of the Paris Peace Accord — violations dating from January 1973.

Yesterday, we flew over Saigon as we headed for Cairo after departing Manila. Captain Black, our pilot and former Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, called our attention to Saigon below and mentioned that we almost surely would not be passing that way again in the foreseeable future (we are not granted clearance over North Korea, North Vietnam, the U.S.S.R., the People's Republic of China and Cambodia). Captain Black later informed me that the air controllers were unusually solicitous and almost "wistful" as they wished us a good trip to yet another globe-trotting spot on this all too troubled globe.

It is hard for us not to feel particularly concerned about the fate of President Thieu and many of the government, education and cultural leaders whom we

knew, as well as the millions of ordinary men, women and children of South Vietnam — an area we visited frequently as we planned educational projects for the future.

It has been of some relief to learn today that President Ford has been empowered by the Congress to send Marines and to use air power to evacuate some Vietnamese as well as Americans.

Many of the world's political leaders are now astutely concerned about the debacle in Cambodia and South Vietnam and the disequilibrium or vacuum that may result from a diminished U.S. presence in the Far East, as well as the reliability of the United States in the future.

President Marcos of the Philippines is one such concerned leader. On our arrival last week in Manila, we were able to hear his address at the University of the Philippines. He called for an urgent and intensive examination of the prospects for the security of the area as a whole and the individual nations which comprise the region from Japan to Australia. He referred to the developments as grave and unexpected and stressed that they raised policy questions of utmost importance to the world as a whole.

Will the U.S. maintain the presence necessary to offset the growing power of

the U.S.S.R. and China? Can a positive response to aggression be expected from a nation leaning more toward isolationism and concerned more about its economic problems at home? Will the U.S. live up to its existing treaty obligations? Will Congress try to limit the power of future presidents in other areas as it did in August 1973 in Indochina? Will future presidents, and Mr. Ford, choose to exercise their powers under the Constitution or under an existing treaty in the face of an election or a hostile Congress? How would the U.S. act, for example, if the Philippines were suddenly confronted by a major foreign inspired and supported effort to overthrow the government of the Philippines? These are the questions that President Marcos has raised, despite repeated assurances from President Ford and Mr. Kissinger.

But do these concerns not seem legitimate when President Ford has just called for a "new agenda for the future..." and stated that "... we can and should help others to help themselves, but the fate of responsible men and women everywhere in the final decision rests in their own hands"? The U.S. has not abandoned the world nor has it lost its place in the world as a result of the success of the Communists in Indochina. Furthermore, the nations of the Far East have been immeasurably strengthened during the past two decades and are much better prepared to resist internal pressures as a result of economic and social reform. In fact, it seems that perhaps too much emphasis has been placed on the recent developments in Indochina by our own government and media when one realizes that many informed leaders throughout the world had written off South Vietnam and

Cambodia long ago and were more concerned with our preoccupation with South Vietnam and its effect on our own social fabric.

Realists for the most part recognize that the January 1973 Paris Accord signaled the inevitable ceding of the area. Furthermore, no informed person ever doubted that we could have achieved a military victory at any time (even now) but for self-imposed political restraint. But for Mr. Kissinger's hand wringing and declarations of despair over the failure of his work in the area coupled with a similar failure in the Middle East, the situation over all would be seen more clearly.

Last evening in Cairo, Mr. Armstrong, however, continued his efforts to show the way to world peace. Speaking before a distinguished group of government, educational and community leaders, including the former deputy prime minister, four judges of the Supreme Court, members of the various national councils, ministers and former ministers of the government, and a group of outstanding university students, Mr. Armstrong inspired his audience and showed them how there will be world peace — a world peace that must come before man is permitted to destroy himself. As the April 23rd editorial of the *Egyptian Gazette* stated: "Even if there is a renewal of momentum, if indeed there ever has been any momentum, it would have to be on a different basis from the abortive Kissinger mission for there to be any prospect of success. It could therefore be in no sense a continuation of the mission. Not only did its failure end a chapter. It really ended a book since any new development will need an entirely changed approach." □

The starving people came toward that road from the remote areas. Many never reached it; they died of starvation and disease on the way. Many who did reach it lay down beside it and died. Others poked into the villages and perished in squalid conditions. Some drowned in the streets when the rain came because they were unable to lift themselves from the flooding pavements.

I went to Ethiopia and saw hundreds of wretched fellow human beings in "camps" which were so horrifying as to defy description. Part of the ground on which I stood was just a shallow covering for pits in which the ghostly emaciated corpses had been piled in haphazard fashion, unknown, unidentified. I saw places where graves of children had been ripped open by ravenous hyenas who tore the cloth covering off the bodies and picked the carcasses clean.

I saw men, women and children stripped of every vestige of human dignity and self-respect — and I cried at my inability to do anything meaningful about it. After the grief came the nightmares.

The terrible thing is that, from all the evidence, the deaths need never have taken place on the scale that they did. Let us not debate ourselves. Famine happens, and famine takes a frightful toll. But in the case of Ethiopia, there were warning signs which went un-

heeded at the top. Outside help could and should have been sought sooner.

Inside Ethiopia, some of those who could see the approaching disaster alerted officials who could have done something to diminish the scale of the tragedy. But carelessness, neglect, and, inevitably, some degree of cupidity saw to it that the warnings were ignored so that when at last help was sought, it was too late. Add to that the fact that the main response was too late in coming.

So the people and the animals died by the tens of thousands. The vultures became so satiated that they grew fat and choosy, and corpses and carcasses lay where they fell and rotted so that the stench filled the air.

Certainly heroic volunteers tried their best as they worked under the most demoralizing difficulties and living conditions. But the tide of disease and death swept through the land in the north and central areas — and in Addis Ababa for a long time the wealthy were untouched and unmoved.

The efforts of the then government under Emperor Haile Selassie were no doubt well meant. But they, too, were pathetically late and pathetically inadequate. Finally came the evidence of the so-called creeping coup.

For a few months it seemed to many of us that a modern miracle might be about to happen in Ethiopia — a bloodless revolution in which necessary

changes would be effected without the needless taking of life.

Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia, had said in 1965 that the "inability of those in power to still the voices of their own consciences is the great force leading to desired changes." One had hope of the miracle happening in Ethiopia.

But then came the executions, the merciless slayings that once again shocked thinking people the world over.

What took place, and the reasons, can be viewed and interpreted in many ways. My own conviction is that no matter how well-meaning the original architects of the overthrow may have been, they suddenly found themselves in possession of a power they did not know how to use — political power.

They were military personnel, unschooled in the craft and art of politics, untutored in political morality, and naive in their plans for restructuring the political machinery needed to steer the affairs of a nation.

There was a nation in awful travail, its problems were deep-rooted, highly complex and widely diversified. Bickering, frustration, impatience and ineptitude exacted their price. Personal ambition, the need for revenge, the simplistic idea that force of arms and terror tactics could force through solutions compounded and quickened the deterioration of an already desperate situation. And the idea that the Eritrean "prob-

lem" could be rapidly and finally solved by guns, bombs, bullets, tanks, aircraft, strafings and bombings merely showed up the salve of some of the country's new rulers.

So now Ethiopia is a land of multiple misery. It is a vast backward country the bulk of whose 26 million population (most of whom are illiterate) live in conditions little changed from the times of the Middle Ages. The people are suffering the convulsions of revolution and famine brought together in a terrible twinning. The rulers are impatient to halt the one (which they themselves brought about) and alleviate the other (which is due to nature, ignorance, poverty and neglect).

But though we who now look from the outside may attempt to analyze what went wrong on the inside, we ought not point the accusing finger of blame.

Rather, we ought to encourage those who are now in positions of leadership in Ethiopia to achieve workable and humanitarian solutions to their difficult internal problems. They have a fresh opportunity to help heal the wounds inflicted by famine and war.

The world is watching and hoping — and we trust, willing to lend a helping hand. We cannot and should not attempt to get out from under our collective responsibility — not, that is, if we are ever to demonstrate our concern for the brotherhood of man. □

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THE MISSING DIMENSION IN SEX

Spiritual Poverty

Saigon - Before the Fall



David Hunt - Plain Truth