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Spanking Fad with Parents, These Teen-Agers Agree

By Sheila John Daly
(Copyright, 1945: The Chicago Tribune)
I'M AN OLD married woman of 21, but I'm the big sister of two high school girls and honorary big sister of about two dozen others, and I'd like to tell you some of their comments on parental practice of spanking.



"So far as I can judge Sheila John Daly from their bull sessions, at least two-thirds of my sisters' contemporaries suffer the indignity of being up-ended across an adult knee and being smacked resoundingly with the back of the hairbrush. And, furthermore, the spanked crew includes the nicest girls with the gentlest, most pleasant dispositions and supposedly the most cultured and refined parents.

"Fads are usually considered to be the prerogative of the bobby-soxers, but as one girl aptly put it, spanking has become a fad among teen-agers' parents. And it has proved as annoying to the bobby-soxers as their fads have proved to their parents."

Probably mothers and dads have been frightened by the wild stories of war time delinquency and they are determined that their little honey chile won't add to the total of delinquency figures by one. But these parents are approaching the problem from the wrong end—most teen-agers are sensitive characters and can learn more from reasoning and good example than they can from all the discipline presumably pounded into them with the flat side of a hairbrush.

The indignity of a spanking is so great that the spankee (hitherto referred to as the girl, character, or honey chile) completely forgets what fault is being punished and the only thing that remains on her mind is the injustice of the punishment. Teen-agers are on the half-way mark between childhood and adulthood, and parents should remember that — for they can never be quite sure when a spanking loses for them the respect and friendship of an adult or when it merely spoils a day for a child.

"For several months I dated a particular boy, and then suddenly his interest waned. It wasn't another girl — I'm not sure just what it was. Three months went by and I didn't have a single date with him, and when I did see him all he said was 'Hello.' When summer time came he began to call me again and we were the best of friends until Christmas. During the holidays I asked him to come to a party and bring one of his boy friends for a girl friend of mine.

"They both promised to come, but one-half hour before the party my friend called to say that his boy friend couldn't come, so he wouldn't come either. Naturally I was angry, and I told him so. Then (it's been over five months since that party), that I know I shouldn't have done it, I asked him to

bring a party my crowd was having. He said he would like to come and three days before that party he called again with the same excuse. I found out later that his friend had been hurt playing basketball."

Find yourself some new character who doesn't insist on doing his dating in pairs. His 'doubles act' with his boy friend would imply that an evening with you alone isn't interesting enough — he has to bring some

one else along for laughs. He's been giving you the slow brush-off for so many months now that he's forgotten what a wonderful gal you really are, so don't waste your time trying to revive an old and dead love. A girl is never at her best when she's depending on memories.

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Madonna of the East

In the Near East, the picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is the favorite Madonna. On the feast, June 27, make a gift of one for ten dollars to a chapel on Corfu Island, completely destroyed by German bombers.

LITTLE TOTS NEED FOOD

All over the Near East children, made homeless by the war, are close to starvation. We are making a special plea for the saddest cases this week. The Lord will love you for your kindness to his little ones.

Four noble sisters, the only survivors of the hundreds on Corfu before the bombings, have buried their orphaned and makeshift dwellings. They must have \$500 at once.

Archbishop Djibril of Kerbuck, Iraq, has gathered three hundred war orphans together. We must send him \$500 at once.

The Sisters of St. Rita, in far off Iran, need a plan for 1000 orphan children, brought there from their beloved homeland. Can you help us to send \$500?

Bishop Girard, the Holy Father's representative for the orphan schools of Egypt, humbly asks \$250 for his poor children.

Down in India, Father Kirichok needs very much \$250 for his little orphans.

In the name of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we beg for these little ones. The robes of that Divine Heart and the prayers of Christ's poor will be yours.

YOU CAN

Why not become a member of the S.N.E.W.A.? You gain 33 indulgences throughout the year. One dollar yearly, twenty perpetually. Five dollar scrolls the family for the year. We put this money in our STRING-LESS GIFT FUND, to help our neediest cases.

PEACE

The name of St. Vincent, Near East saint, honored on June 28, means "peace." Now that peace has come in Europe, don't forget those boys who died for us there. Our Memorial Chapel of Our Lady, Comfortress of the Afflicted in the Near East, will be their shrine. Please help us to gather the remaining \$900 needed.

COMING

During July, month of the Precious Blood, you can make gifts of Eucharistic devotion to poor Near East chapels. Chalice, ciborium, monstrance and tabernacle can be given for \$5. Write for "HOW CAN I HELP?"

DYING

Before June ends we are hoping to receive enough to build the Little Chapel of the Sacred Heart at Chabba, on the northern border of the Holy Land. Can you give \$750 for this holy purpose. Chabba's wretchedly poor people will not forget you.

PLACARD

A blind beggar of the Near East held this sign: "It is spring. All is lovely, but I cannot see." Seven blind people are tenderly cared for by the aged Father Peter, the Carmelite, in Baghdad. They need urgently \$100. Can you help a little?

WHY?

We often wonder why appeals for schools receive little response. Sad, indeed, is the parish without a school for its children. One costs \$500 in the Near East. If you cannot give so much, membership in THE BAZILLIAN, our School Club, for a dollar monthly, will do much.

PITIFUL

Forty-six years after Father Damien, leper priest, died at Molokai, his lepers wept pitifully for they were taking his body home to Belgium. A \$10 gift to the "DAMIAN LEPER FUND" will bring tears of joy to the dimming eyes of our out-cast lepers.

PROMISE

Our Lady promised St. Margaret Mary: "I will give priests devoted to My Sacred Heart power to touch the most hardened hearts." Help us to train such priests in the Near East. One hundred dollars, little enough, will educate one for a year. A dollar a month makes you one of the THE CHRYSOSTOM, our Student Support Club.

APOSTLES

June 29, Feast of St. Peter and Paul, is a fitting day to read our new pamphlet "WHAT'S IN A POPE'S NAME?" We send this to all who make a deposit in "Mary's Bank," from which we help poor sisters of the Near East.

MUST

For Holy Mass there must be an every altar a crucifix and candlesticks. You can give them in a Near East chapel for only seventeen dollars.

Send all communications to

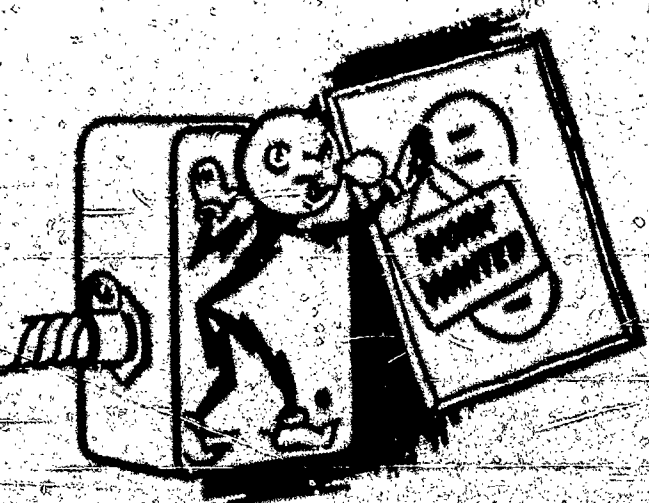
Catholic Near East Welfare Association
400 Lexington Ave. at 40th St. New York 17, N. Y.

Truman Honored By Georgetown

Washington — (NC) — An honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was awarded to President Harry S. Truman by Georgetown University at its 146th commencement exercises, marking the first time in the annals of the historic university that a degree was conferred upon a President of the United States while in office.

President Truman was unable to attend the exercises and the honor was accepted in his behalf by Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, who is a Georgetown alumnus.

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