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Overemphasis of Sex Discussed In Article by Monsignor Sheen

Loss of belief in God is the principal reason for widespread modern-day "sex delinquency," the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen points out in his latest book, "Peace of Soul," to be published soon.

"How moderns have overemphasized diversions of the flesh, misusing passions to make them ends in themselves, is discussed by the noted author and orator of the Catholic University of America faculty in an article, "Sex and Love of God," in the current issue of Collier's, a national weekly magazine. The article is a portion of the Monsignor's new book.

"PEACE OF SOUL" is Monsignor Sheen's answer to Rabbi Joshua Leibman's current best seller, "Peace of Mind," which criticizes sex tries to find the solution of man's spiritual restlessness without introducing God.

In Man's never-ending search for perfection, Monsignor Sheen notes, "there is no surer formula for discontent than to try to satisfy our cravings for the ocean of Infinite Love from the tepid of finite satisfactions."

To satisfy his longings and regain his paradise lost, the author states, man will find this emptiness can be filled only with the love of God.

"SEX HAS become one of the most discussed subjects of modern times," Monsignor Sheen writes. "The Victorians pretended it did not exist; the moderns pretend that nothing else exists."

"Once men lose God," he continues, "they lose the purpose of life and when the purpose of living is forgotten, the universe becomes meaningless. Man then tries to forget his emptiness in the intensity of momentary experience..."



MONSIGNOR SHEEN

"Nothing material, physical or carnal can ever satisfy man completely; he has an immortal soul which needs an Eternal Love. Man's need for Divine Love, once perverted, impels him to go on seeking Infinite Love in finite beings never finding it, yet not able to end the search despite his disappointments. They follow cynicism, boredom, ennui and finally despair."

BESIDES LOSS of belief in God, the author lists three other reasons for sex over-emphasis: the desire to escape from the responsibility of living and from the unbearable weight of an uneasy conscience; the modern denial of immortality; the denial of the rational soul.

Discussing the nature and personality of man, Monsignor Sheen assails the fallacy that

"repression of errant and unlawful sex impulses" is the cause of mental abnormalities. Christianity is not so narrow-minded, he states, as to make sex the most important instinct of life, nor to attribute mental disorders exclusively to its repression.

"Not being able to find peace within ourselves," he asserts, "we seek to atone for our limitations by extending ourselves in one of three directions: the mind, the body or through things..."

"Christianity traces not one, but several roots of mental disorders in the nonphysical and moral realm. There is sex. To be sure; but there are also six other possible causes: pride, covetousness, anger, envy, gluttony and sloth."

MONSIGNOR SHEEN describes as "towering nonsense" the idea that the Church is opposed to sex, and calls attention to the difference between "use" and "abuse." Because the Church condemns the abuse of nature he says, sex fanatics think that the Church condemns nature itself.

"This is untrue," the priest writes. "Far from slighting the value of the human body, the Church dignifies it. It is surely nobler to say, with the Christian, that the body is a Temple of God, than to say, with some modern minds, that man is merely a beast."

Pointing out that "sins do not become virtues by being widely practiced" Monsignor Sheen declares "Some have contended that sex aberrations are as common as the common cold, but nobody has so far asked us to consider the cold normal and desirable." Both human and Divine love he states, "will fly from him who thinks it is merely physiological; only he can live nobly who lives a noble life."

Fr. Gillis Says:

Reds Employ Misuse of Words To Smear Cardinal Mindszenty

Much has been written and spoken about Communist technique. But not enough has been said about the slickest, most devilish element in that technique — the misuse of words.

The latest example of this is the charge of "espionage" and "treason" against Cardinal Mindszenty. The Reds in Hungary, confronted with the need of making — or rather faking — some sort of charge against their pre-elected victim, gave a quick look through their dictionary of epithets, and selected two words which they decided would best serve their purpose.

To give the devil the due, they hit upon a couple that could hardly have been better chosen. There is something sinister about the very sound of "espionage." The word cannot be pronounced without hissing. The spy, the spy, is not only an enemy, a loathsome enemy, but a sneak. He simulates friendship as a disguise for enmity. Under the appearance of a commendatory slap on the back, he sticks a knife into his victim. Yes, "spy" "espion" "espionage" is a good and a perfect word for its purpose.

"Treason" or "treachery" comes from the Latin traditor. A traditor is one who "hands over." In early Christian days a traditor or traitor handed over the Sacred Scriptures to the pagans. He handed over not only documents but people — the people with whom he had worshipped in secret. In England and Ireland in the days of Elizabethan and Cromwellian persecution, he was called an "informer." He attended Mass, received the sacraments, fraternized with the brethren and then sold them out.

The stigma attached to the word "informer" three hundred years ago and again in the "days of the troubles" before and after 1916, when heroes and patriots were "on the run" has never been erased. It's a black mark to this day. You might better inflict upon an Irishman of 1948 the "imputation of canine maternity" than tell him that his daddy was an "informer" that is to say a betrayer a traitor, more important than the freedom or the fate of a whole people. Yes, a skillful manipulator can do wonders with words and the Reds in all lands are skillful manipulators.

Perhaps, however, "skillful" is not the most precise adjective. "Skill" is not really necessary. The word "brazen" might be better or "reckless" or "shameless." The sneer need not be applied delicately as with the slender brush in the hand of a painter of miniatures. Just take a broom and slash the muck on with wide, bold, careless swipes. That was the kind of smearing advocated by Hitler but the Red Fascists have outdone the Brown in that slashdash form of the smear.

Should there be some truth, some little grain of truth, some slight verisimilitude, some slight suggestion of probability — as the French say, a soupçon of truth — in the words used as weapons? Not necessarily. Once you go in for libel it is best to go whole hog.

THE HUNGARIAN Communist Government could just as well have accused the Cardinal of manslaughter or murder or rape or arson, or mayhem, or sodomy. Perhaps they will.



Fr. Gillis

Federal Help To Scholars

Any help the federal government feels needed by the States in the field of education, is needed by all the pupils of the States. There can be no reason for confining it to public school pupils only. To do this would be definitely to exclude from these educational benefits a large group of pupils, whose welfare is just as much the concern of the government as are their companions registered in our public schools.

The welfare of the rising generation is the concern of our federal government in any grant it gives to help education. All of the rising generation should be included in the benefits, that the coming adult generation of the years ahead may all be the improved product present grants in aid are planned to provide.

Direct aid to our parochial schools is outlawed under the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the McCollum case. Therefore in justice and fairness aid should be provided for all pupils for whom direct aid can not be given. Bus service, health service, free secular textbooks, visual and other educational aids, these are within the constitution. There can be no just objection to granting to our children the same benefits provided for others.

Thinking Catholics should be prepared to write their representatives on this matter, supporting worthy bills as they come up, opposing unworthy ones. It is well to be ready to discuss with our friends in civic societies the reasons of justice and fair-play that demand equal treatment for all. Surely some of the \$800,000,000 asked by President Truman for assistance to the States in the field of education, should be available for our Catholic pupils.

The Crown of St. Stephen

It is only too clear that the Communists in Hungary have no regard for the Crown of St. Stephen. Theirs is no consuming ambition to preserve and protect for future generations the thousand-year-old relic that means so much to true Hungarian patriots. Theirs is no desire to let the relic stand for all the national and Catholic traditions in which it has played so important a part. Theirs is just the wish to possess the relic in order that they may destroy it, or break it into the hands of Russian fellow-travelers.

Originally the gift of the Holy See to a Catholic King, the Crown of St. Stephen, the Crown of St. Stephen is a better brand at present than it will be should it be re-embodied in the Communist usurpers of power in persecuted Hungary. May we hope that the United States may retain possession of the crown till a lawful government representative of the people again holds sway in the land of St. Stephen. Meanwhile, let every decent government raise its voice to high heaven in effective protest against the criminals now misusing their power to persecute the real Hungarian patriots, Cardinal Mindszenty and his Catholic patriots following.

Unalterably Opposed

There is no hesitation in the message of Dr. Morris Fishbein, Editor of the Journal of the American Medical Society, on the particular form of murder called euthanasia. He says he is unalterably opposed to it! All decent doctors will back him up in this stand, leaving to a few irresponsible and pagan-minded practitioners the current attack on God's law. What a pitiful minority of clergymen (God save the mark), have lent their vociferous if unconvincing plea to our legislature to legalize murder. Decent clergymen of every faith still use their reason, still respect God's dominion over life, still feel the sick and afflicted deserve divinely bestowed consolation instead of diabolically inspired destruction.

May all America back up Doctor Fishbein in a declaration that is a tribute to his good sense as well as his dignity as a sincere man of medicine: "I am unalterably opposed to euthanasia!"

Thank God, our legislators are prepared to reject this infamous plea of prospective murderers. Our lawmakers are ready today, they must be ready tomorrow, to outlaw any such insulting communication from the doctrinaires who never give up a wicked cause no matter how badly they are rebuffed. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty! Eternal vigilance is the price of continued safety for things that are right!

The Darkness Outside

Christ used powerful words in referring to the children of the Kingdom who would give up their faith in Him as their Redeemer. He spoke of the "darkness outside." Those who would turn away from Him would be deprived of all light, of intellectual light, of spiritual light. Because they would turn away from the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, they would not be admitted into the Kingdom of God, in which the men of faith, the ancients of the chosen people, Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, would welcome to their table the men from the east and the west whose faith in Christ made them worthy of the Kingdom of heaven.

Every man needs the light of Christ. Every man can find in Christ the light that will explain earthly things, that will make clear man's destiny and man's duty and man's eternal reward. Outside of Christ and His teachings, no man can find light. All that remains for him is darkness. He will be in the dark in regard to many things that concern the mystery of man's earthly life; he will be in the dark concerning all things that picture man's supernatural life.

"The darkness outside!" Thank God that your faith sets you aside from those condemned by their willful unbelief to the darkness outside. How real that darkness is appears only too clearly from the strange and queer teachings that come from those who know not Christ as the Son of the World's God; sacraments, God's precepts, the Holy Spirit, the Holy Eucharist, God's Church, all are denied by those who willfully through unfaith condemn themselves to the darkness outside. Let us be the followers of the light that we may attain to the Kingdom of

Psychology Educator Claims It's Turning British Children Into 'Rotters'

By JOHN A. GREAVES London (NC) Soft psychology is reducing Britain's schools to the level of badly run playgrounds and turning the child, "created in the image and likeness of God, into a pestilential, licentious rotter," W. Dermott Farrell, president of the Catholic Federation of England and Wales, told the federation's convention at Chester.

Hitting straight from his bachelorette button, Mr. Farrell charged as follows: "SOFT PSYCHOLOGY has interfered in the sacred relationship between parents and children. Soft psychology is reducing school to the level of a badly run play center. Soft psychology in the streets and public vehicles is turning children into real public nuisances."

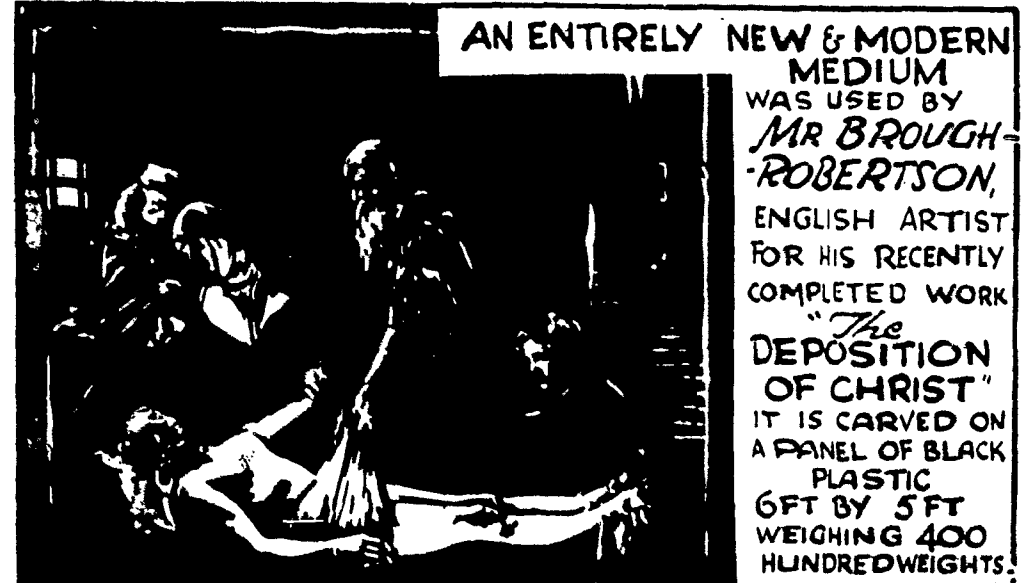
"The human material in our care is the British child, with all his virtues as well as his vices. All I ask in this address is that we should stop to consider whether we are not assisting unconsciously in turning that child, created in the image and likeness of God into a pestilential, licentious rotter."

Most people blame the parents, the schools, the cinema, politics or the police for children's misbehavior, he thundered. Few blame the public authorities and no one blames the child. Why not?

"IF HE AVOIDS idleness and bad company, if he said his prayers and exercised some little self-control and thought for others, would not his behaviour be better?" Mr. Farrell asked. "The prime responsibility rests mostly on the soft psychology ideas that have permeated official and public opinion."

STRANGE BUT TRUE Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY Copyright, 1948, N.C.W.C. News-Service



AN ENTIRELY NEW & MODERN MEDIUM WAS USED BY MR BROUGH-ROBERTSON, ENGLISH ARTIST FOR HIS RECENTLY COMPLETED WORK "THE DEPOSITION OF CHRIST" IT IS CARVED ON A PANEL OF BLACK PLASTIC 6FT BY 5FT WEIGHING 400 HUNDREDWEIGHTS.

Between 5,000 and 6,000 young women join RELIGIOUS ORDERS in AMERICA EVERY YEAR. The BASILICA of ARS, FRANCE, was built by gifts of priests from all parts of the world in honor of their patron, ST JOHN VIANNEY CURE D'ARS. An 18th Century monk, PROCOPIUS DIRWISCH of BOHEMIA, indentified electricity with lightning by setting up a lightning conductor from which he obtained sparks during a thunderstorm.

Fr. Higgins Says:

Southern Industry Must Be Organized For Good of All

On Sunday morning, January 9, we offered Mass in the old Marxist Church in Atlanta, Georgia for a rather unusual intention: the success of the AFL and the CIO in their efforts to organize the unorganized workers of the Southland. And we here by recommending the same intention to the prayers of all our fellow Catholics for, after attending a week end conference in Atlanta of the four hundred members of the staff of the CIO Southern Organizing Drive we are more convinced than ever before that most of us have been praying hard enough for the triumph of social justice.

We can pass all the laws we want — and we can repeal a few others like the Taft Hartley Act — but that's not enough. We must also get down on our knees and say some prayers, for we are face to face with a moral and a spiritual problem.

The opposition to trade unionism in the Southland and in the other unorganized areas of the nation is a sin against the virtue of justice. It is quite literal about the matter and, in the final analysis, the only effective answer to sin is prayer and fasting.

THESE ARE strong words but they are "theologically accurate" and they have behind them the supreme authority of Pope Pius XI who tells us in his encyclical, "On Reconstructing the Social Order" that those who oppose the establishment of unions are guilty of "criminal injustice" because they are "denying the natural right to form associations" to those who need it most.

These words — which are just about as emphatic as they could possibly be — were written in 1917. Eighteen years later 400 men and women gathered in Atlanta to report that, for all practical purposes, the teaching of Christ, namely on the subject of trade unionism, has had scandalously little effect in Dixie.

Southern industry is still unorganized for the most part because too many of the powers that be are still indulging in "criminal injustice," still resorting to every conceivable stratagem — including the occasional use of blackjacks and other weapons of violence to thwart the establishment of unions. They are protecting dear old Dixie against the inroads of Communism, an ancient pretence against which Pope Pius XI warned us in his great encyclical.

"There were even some Catholics" in Pope Pius XI's day, he tells us rather sadly, "who looked askance at the efforts of workers to form associations of this type as if they smacked of a socialistic or revolutionary character."

IT WOULD not be honest to pretend that all of the opposition to trade unionism in the Southern states originates among the employers. Many workers themselves are slow to understand and even slower to exercise their natural right to organize. They need to be convinced that trade unions are as necessary and as desirable a Christian social teaching



Fr. Higgins

say they are. The CIO and the AFL are doing their best to convince the rest of the CIO and the AFL have a perfect right to look to Southern industry for a reasonable amount of encouragement and assistance.

It is safe to predict that the Catholics of the Southland, both the natives and the carpetbaggers, will have a chance of heart and will look with favor upon unionism, the majority of their employees would jump at the opportunity to exercise their right (and their duty) to organize. The history of Homestead and Dearborn and South Chicago would probably repeat itself.

But perhaps it is proper even to suggest to Southern industrialists that they ought to open the door to the AFL and CIO. Perhaps, let's hope not however for the AFL and the CIO are a success story in the case of no "mistake" but of a triumph.

They intend to organize the South, with or without the permission of the powers that be. This much was perfectly obvious to those of us who were privileged to sit in as observers at the recent Atlanta meeting of the energetic staff of the CIO Southern Organizing Drive.

SOUTHERN industrialists were talking in favor of the AFL and CIO, says the President of the Institute of Workers Education and others. That they have done this is true. They can use trade unionism as a means of getting in line if the hand of God lets them and pay with the emphasis on "if" that they will have the intelligence and good sense to face it the easy way.

Southern industry simply has to be organized — for its own good, for the good of its workers, for the good of Dixie, and for the good of the entire American economy.

Common sense — to say nothing of Christian morality — suggests that the continuing powers of Southern industry ought to face up to the inevitable and make the transition from latter-day feudalism to industrial democracy as painless and as bloodless as possible. This may be said to be a fair warning from the very lips of the "good sense" of their Northern colleagues and recklessly precipitate another round of industrial violence.

Don't forget to pray for them occasionally.

Do You Remember?

25 Years Ago — Jan. 18, 1924 Indulgent prayers to be recited on donning the uniform and the capeau of the Knights of St. John were received from His Holiness Pope Pius XI by members in Rochester, N.Y.

10 Years Ago — Jan. 19, 1939 Catholics of the area joined with other Americans in deluging the 76th Congress with messages urging the Congressmen to keep the existing embargo on the shipment of war materials to strifftorn Spain.

5 Years Ago — Jan. 20, 1944 With the sale of close to \$50,000 worth of War Bonds and Stamps credited to Aquinas Institute students in 1943 the school was preparing to launch its campaign in connection with the Fourth War Loan Drive.