

How Can I Cure My Husband Of Using Foul Language?

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How can I cure my husband of the habit of swearing? He uses vile language in front of me and in the presence of the children. At first our two boys started to imitate him, but now they are ashamed of the way he talks. I try to show him how embarrassing it is and that he's giving scandal. He just laughs and claims it's only a meaningless habit. How can I get him to change?



Well, Madge, according to opinion surveys, a good many wives strongly dislike the language their husbands use. No doubt, one source of the problem is the different worlds in which men and women spend much of their working lives.

Among some classes of men the habit of swearing is taken pretty much for granted. In their minds it bears the stamp of virility and masculinity. This explains why young men and those who feel insecure frequently affect the habit.

MEN IN GENERAL pay little attention to swearing in others. They may think it crude, juvenile, or even humorous at times, but they're not likely to be shocked. Most of them have heard it all before and tend to shrug it off as unimportant.

The majority of modern women, on the other hand, find swearing both shocking and distasteful. This is not merely because they are not accustomed to hearing it; they rightly interpret it as a mark of disrespect in their presence.

I feel this latter point is important, Madge, husbands may explain away or lightly dismiss the moral implications of swearing—it is not always easy to ascertain what formal sin is involved—yet they cannot ignore its social implications. Whether they like it or not, its use in the presence of respectable women implies an insult.

THIS EXPLAINS why some husbands resort to it in a quarrel. They know almost without thinking, that their wives will interpret it as a loss of respect and will be hurt by it. Even when it is used carelessly, husbands recognize that this irritates their partners—and for much the same reason.

Now let's look at your problem, Madge. When your husband tries to explain away his swearing as a mere habit, he's fooling nobody. In our society men don't have the "habit" of swearing in the presence of women whom they respect. They may slip or forget themselves in anger once in a while, but habitual swearing in the presence of wife and children is quite another matter.

As I have pointed out, it is an implicit insult and reveals a desire to hurt. Why should he want to do this? There are several possible reasons. Some husbands think that their wives are trying to be "upper

class," and so forth. They resent this, and use various means to put them in their place.

WHAT CAN YOU do about it, Madge? Well, since your protests have failed, I suggest that you ask him what his real aim can be in persisting in this habit. Why is he trying to humiliate you and the children? What satisfaction does he gain from his crudeness? Of course, he will again protest that it's only a habit. Point out to him that you and everybody else knows better. He's doing this because he wants to do it. Whom is he trying to hurt?

Finally, once you have made your position clear, try to ignore the habit—don't nag. Your obvious irritation may only please him, and if you make a constant issue of the habit, he may feel his pride is involved and will never stop.

Lourdes Story Seen Key To World Peace

N. Y. Cardinal Fears 'Suicide Of Civilization'

Lourdes — (RNS) — A call to every Lourdes pilgrim to become "a missionary to help convert the godless" and "avert the suicide of civilization" was sounded by Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, in a talk here.

He spoke at a plenary session of the International Mariological Congress. The congress was one of the highlights of the Lourdes Centenary Year and was attended by specialists in Church doctrine about the Blessed Virgin Mary and members of Mariological societies from all parts of the world.

"I beg each and every pilgrim," the cardinal said, "to become a missionary to help convert the godless until they, too, become enveloped by the blessings and consolations of peaceful, godly living."

Cardinal Spellman said the effect of this spiritual revival "could be so vast that it would be as a miracle reaching out to embrace all peoples on the face of God's good earth."

"Lonely, exiled peoples," he said, "would once more be enthroned upon their own hearths in their own homelands. Freedom would prevail, and justice, too. Lusts for power would neither corrupt nations nor squander our precious sons. Temples, cathedrals and churches would nevermore be profaned, nor cities and towns be destroyed. Foes would become friends and the peace that is today perishing would be rekindled."

CARDINAL SPELLMAN warned that "it will be fatal for us if we continue to deceive ourselves or to be deceived by foes masquerading as friends, that we are now at peace."

"In truth," he said, "we know that there is no peace and naught for which millions of men fought and died has come to fruit. We know that openly, challengingly and competitively, nations are girding themselves for another war, this time a war of annihilation. The whole world and every human being in it face the greatest crisis in the history of civilization, as nations relentlessly refuse to do God's will and learn to live in honest respect for one another."

The cardinal stressed that in "these bitter, perilous days we who believe in God must, in prayer, dedicate ourselves to penance, in reparation for the sins of men who bear malice not only toward their fellowmen, but in ugly, defiant hatred violate the laws of God and humanity."

He said the only road to peace is through obedience to God's will and in prayer that men everywhere will turn to Him in Whom alone "can there be any hope of salvation in this atomic age of violence and war."

Cardinal Spellman came to Lourdes as the spiritual leader of the largest American pilgrimage group since the opening of the centenary year. The group, numbering 700,

Pope Counsels Parents With Rh Factor

Castelgandolfo — (NC) — Total continence, the adoption of children and use of the Ogino-Knaus (rhythm) method are permissible solutions to the problem of hereditary blood diseases, Pope Pius XII said here.

Artificial insemination, direct sterilization, contraception and voluntary adultery were listed by the Holy Father as solutions which are not permitted.

The Pope made these statements in his second speech within eight days, to a group of blood specialists on the moral problems facing scientists and individuals in regard to hereditary blood ailments.

HIS FIRST address on the subject was made to delegates attending the congress of the International Society of Blood Transfusion, in Rome. His most recent speech was made to more than 600 scientists attending the Seventh International Congress of Hematology.

Recalling that in his first address he had outlined the problem of opposing Rhesus or "Rh" factor, which can adversely affect the circulatory system of the newly born and lead to their death, the Pontiff discussed the possible solutions to the problem as advanced by modern science.

IN REGARD to this disease the Pope stated:

1. Blood tests are advisable and may be obligatory in certain cases in these areas.
2. Carriers may be advised against marriage but may not be forbidden to marry.
3. Married couples who become aware that they have the disease may be advised not to have children but cannot be forbidden to have them.
4. Such a hereditary disease is not sufficient to render a marriage invalid.
5. The death of a first child due to "Rh" factors is not sufficient to render a marriage null and void.

Church Aids Jews Find Brazil Homes

New York — (RNS) — The Roman Catholic Church in Brazil has played an important role in bringing about "the liberalization of immigration policies to provide havens for refugees," an American Jewish Committee delegation reported here.

Back from a 15,000-mile, three-week survey and goodwill mission to Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Peru, the six-man group said that more than 5,000 Jews from Hungary and Egypt in recent months

have found homes and livelihoods in Brazil. However, they observed, immigration facilities for refugees of all faiths show that some governments "still maintain restrictive policies in practice."

Headed by Irving M. Engel of New York, president of the committee, and Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore, honorary president, the delegation conferred with government leaders, including President Arturo Frondizi of Argentina, Catholic Church dignitaries, U.S. Embassy officials, and Jewish community leaders.

Of the general situation in South America, the delegation emphasized that each of the countries visited is now beset by a multitude of economic, social and political problems. Inflation is rampant and the standard of living of the majority of the people is very low.

THEY REPORTED the absence of any significant "organized anti-Semitic movements" in South America and said that the 600,000 Jews there "suffer little actual discrimination." But at the same time they warned that "demagoguery and extremism" may erupt in an atmosphere of "serious economic difficulties coupled with profound political instability."

Extensive information and educational programs tailored for each country, they said, should be put into operation to negate the Communist propaganda campaigns. In addition, they urged an expanded program of fellowships and scholarships for South American students, teachers, scientists and other intellectual leaders for study and work in the U.S.

"No opportunity should be overlooked," they emphasized, "for the encouragement of 'people-to-people' relationships between the northern and southern parts of this hemisphere."



Christ and Atoms

Bonn — (RNS) — A design featuring a silhouette of Christ against a background of whirling atoms is featured on commemorative stamps issued by West Germany in connection with the recent German Catholic Day Congress (Katholikentag) held in Berlin.

90th Birthday

Albany — (NC) — Bishop Edmund F. Gibbons, who retired as Bishop of Albany almost four years ago, marked his 90th birthday.

Bishop Gibbons observed the occasion with priests and seminarians at Albany's Mater Christi Seminary, where he has resided since his retirement.

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