

Our Daughter Is Dating A Delinquent, What Can We Do To Show Her Its Folly?

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We're having serious trouble with our 17-year-old daughter. A few years ago she started going with a boy with a delinquent background. We broke it up then, but now she wants to go with him again. We've tried to pick her own friends. Her companions tell her that if she feels this way about him, she should go with him and that we have no right to interfere. We haven't given in, but how do you handle such a case?



I wish there were a simple, effective formula for dealing with such situations. Your problem isn't uncommon or without precedent in the past. The folklore and literature of every country includes accounts of adolescent love running into conflict with parental wishes.

Because we generally tend to be over-protective, we usually find ourselves pulling for the young lovers in these historical or fictional accounts, though we take a more realistic stand when the problem strikes nearer home.

There are several reasons why this particular type of conflict keeps coming up in every generation. Normal parents want their children to make good marriages, but parental views on this point may not coincide with those of their children. Some parents unconsciously or otherwise are really opposed to their children getting married at all and consequently bring up all sorts of objections to every choice their children may make.

On the other hand, because they lack experience and tend to take a romantic view of marriage, young people may make choices that will obviously lead to a life of unhappiness. Young girls in particular are prone to make this mistake. Some of them see marriage primarily as a means of escaping parental control or of asserting their independence.

OTHERS FEEL confident that they can reform their partners, either because they alone understand them or because they flatter themselves that their partners need the special type of mothering they are prepared to give. Girls in love for the first time usually overestimate the amount of influence they have over their partners, as well as their own capacity to make sacrifices in their behalf.

A peculiar trait in some girls is their tendency to be fascinated by the unusual or the devil. Although chaste themselves, they are captivated by boys who are well known to be promiscuous. Some seem to be drawn only to distinctly foreign types or members of an exploited group.

Others readily confer their affection on the rebellious, the delinquent, or the mark-

edly irresponsible. Whether such girls are merely looking for a cause to defend or are nursing some type of martyr complex, they are not easily dissuaded from pursuing their destructive course to the bitter end.

If you've read this far, you probably think I've forgotten your problem. On the contrary, I feel it will help you to deal with it effectively only if you see it in wider perspective. Your daughter claims to love a boy with a background of delinquency.

Several years ago you broke up this affair, but she has persisted. Because her friends take the romantic view that love is all that counts, they side with her, thus further convincing her that she is being unfairly treated.

WHAT CAN you do? In the first place you are right in forbidding her to associate with this boy. Under the circumstances your obligations as parents leave you no other choice. The boy has no religious faith and there seems nothing in his past record that would lead you to believe that he would make a responsible son-in-law.

However, you recognize that your real problem is how to help your daughter. In another year she will be sixteen and free to make her own decision in this matter. Can you save her from making a fatal choice? As the situation now stands, she'll probably try to wear down your opposition, and if this fails, she'll wait it out until she's of age and then have her own way.

It seems to me that you should make it clear once and for all that you are not going to alter your decision. Forbidding her to associate with

him, so that there need be no further arguments on that score. Point out to her that as responsible parents you have obligations to God and to her that leave you no choice in the matter.

Next, try to take the argument out of the parental or authority-dependence context, showing her that as a responsible person she is gambling with her own future happiness and must answer to God for her decision.

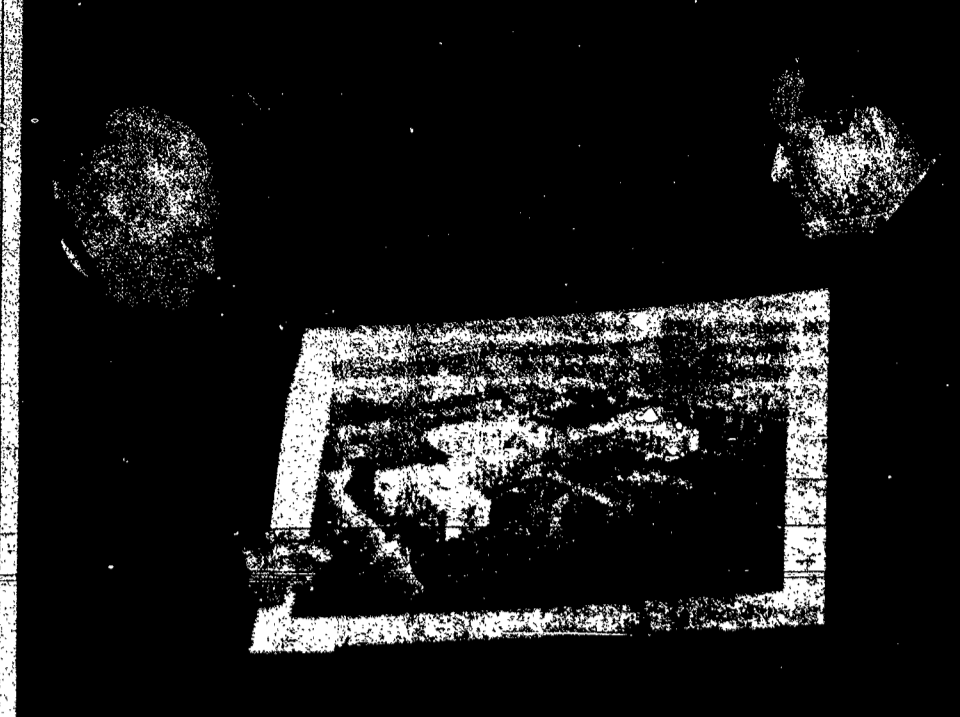
Help her think through calmly the meaning of Christian marriage—its sacred, sacramental nature, its permanency, its parental obligations, and its social status giving character, binding her and her children to the position in society earned by her husband. Try to help her see that she can become attached to a person with whom she could never lead a happy life.

This won't be easy, but if through sympathy and understanding you can bring her to be less defensive of her position, she may open her eyes and take a more realistic view of the situation before she comes of age.

Talks To Be Translated

Munich (RNS)—For the first time in Europe, a visual interpreting system will be used for delegates from all parts of the world attending the 37th International Eucharistic Congress here July 31-Aug. 7.

As speakers deliver their addresses, translations in the official languages of the Congress—German, English, French, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese—will be projected simultaneously on huge screens visible to the entire audience.



One Of Two New High Schools

Bishop Kearney and Father William Roche, diocesan superintendent of schools, view artist's sketch of the high school named for the Bishop to be built in Irondequoit for 1,250 pupils.

No Dead Language

Latin Leads To Cardinalate

Vatican City (NC)—Cardinal Designate Antonio Bacci is probably the world's greatest Latinist.

He has written in Latin more than 100 encyclicals for Pius XI and Pius XII. He has also written the Latin text of the 1864 encyclical of Pius IX, the 1917 Code of Canon Law, and the 1928 apostolic constitution of Pius XI on the Holy See.

Surrounding him in his library are black tomes of the Acta Apostolicae Sedis, the Church's official publication of the documents of the Holy See. Inside their covers are almost 50 years of his patient labor.

"When I look at them, I remember my intense work of the past, I remember my days and sometimes nights of labor," he said.

Looking back over his years of Latin composition, Cardinal Designate Bacci said: "In addition to all the other documents I've written in Latin there are also approximately 120 encyclicals I've written for three popes."

Pius XI, Pius XII and two hours for Msgr. Bacchi."

"You can well imagine the effort this meant," he continued. For example, he had to rewrite at least 15 times the Encyclical of Pius XII on the Mystical Body of Christ.

The Cardinal Designate recalled that Pius XI had asked him to prepare the Encyclical on Catholic Priesthood in 1928 in time for the Pope to present copies of it to the Cardinals when they came to attend him their Christmas wishes. He had a week to finish it. Working day and night he finally had the Pope approve the text.

Then it happened. The case of the encyclical was pending in the Holy See. The Cardinal Designate was waiting for the Pope's approval.

And it was Msgr. Bacchi whom the new Pope first called the night he was elected. The new Pope and the old-pope Latinist worked until past midnight putting into Latin the Pope's first radio broadcast to the world, calling for peace among nations.

Trujillo Turns Down Plea

Ciudad Trujillo (RNS)—Generalissimo Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina, dictator of the Dominican Republic, in a reply made public here rejected a plea for clemency for political prisoners made by six of the country's Roman Catholic bishops.

The bishops' appeal was contained in a letter sent to the Generalissimo on Jan. 25, with a copy of a joint pastoral letter condemning "excesses" of his regime which the prelates said had brought grief to "so many homes in the country. The pastoral was issued in the wake of the killings of thousands of Dominicans followed an alleged plot to assassinate General Trujillo.

"The respect I owe to the Constitution and to the Republic's laws do not permit me to interfere in the administration of justice in the nation, which is the domain of the civil authorities," the bishops stressed the need for "chivalry and Christian love."

Two Doctors Join Missions

Vienna (RNS)—Two prominent Austrian doctors have answered a call sent out by the Physicians Guild, Catholic Action organization in the Vienna Roman Catholic archdiocese, for medical men to go to Africa as mission auxiliaries.

The Physicians Guild, working in the framework of the Austrian Catholic University Society, has given priority in its 1960 program to recruiting physicians and surgeons for work in the African and Asian dioceses.

Second Plea Sent Dictator

Ciudad Trujillo (RNS)—The Catholic bishops of the Dominican Republic, in a second X lit pastoral letter, appealed again for the release of large numbers of persons jailed in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate General Leonidas Trujillo.

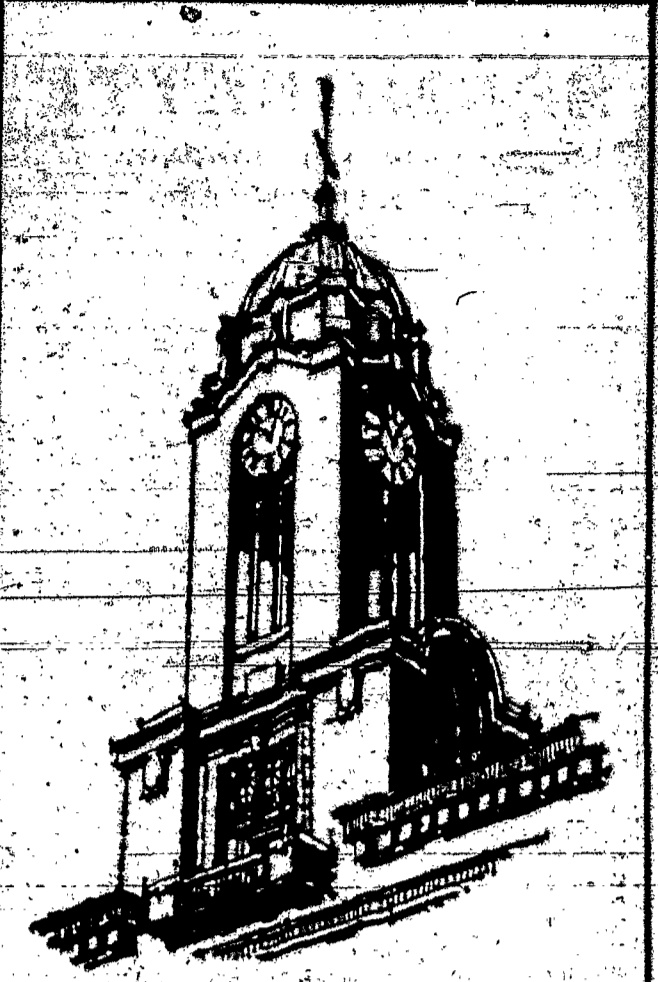
Their second pastoral, which was read in all the Catholic churches of the country, came after General Trujillo had replied to the first letter by stating that his respect for the laws of the country did not permit him to interfere in the administration of justice.

According to information received from 1,000 to 2,000 persons, many of them members of prominent families, have been held by the Trujillo government. Four trials have been held at which 123 persons have been sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment. Meanwhile, only a negligible number of prisoners have been released.

Nuns TV Film Wins Award

Monte Carlo (RNS)—A TV film depicting life in a Wales Carmelite convent was awarded first prize by the International Catholic Federation of Television, Radio and Films which held its third annual meeting here.

Entitled "Out of This World," and filmed by special permission of the Vatican party within the Carmelite enclosure, the movie was made by the British Broadcasting Corporation's Western Region Television Unit.



views from THE TOWER

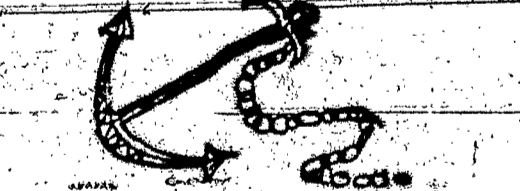
This is a BIG week at Sibley's — come in and share the fun. There's so much of interest, but these are our really big attractions, and we've worked hard on them for you.



ITEM: Sibley's Fifth Annual Spring Flower Show is in full bloom now through Saturday. Main exhibit is a rural dell of spring growth, an old mill wheel in country garden setting, and a tropical planting that includes a treeful of orchids. And that's not all — see for yourself!



ITEM: Sibley's annual exhibit of Scholastic Key Award Art (this is the 18th year) in our Special Gallery on the Fourth Floor. Come and see what Rochester's future artists can do right now! The kids are more talented every year!



ITEM: And from the Tower, we get a good view of Sibley's Third Annual Boat Show in our Southtown Marine. The show hasn't stopped our many boating friends and Southtown certainly is on well traveled roads: W. Henrietta and Jefferson Rds., with plenty of free parking. Be sure to see Western New York's largest boating display ... ends Saturday.



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