

## Discipline Of Children Aids Them To Rule Themselves In Teenage

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We're doing our best to raise our five children properly. There are three boys and two girls — all but the youngest is in grade school, according to the articles we read, our serious problems won't start until the children are older. I suppose that makes sense, considering all the talk about teenagers today, but isn't there some way to help them develop normally?

I rather enjoyed your letter because you inferred there was no good reason why minors should become major problems. For various reasons modern parents have come to expect that their children will have a stormy, frustrating time during adolescence.

This widespread view becomes a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy. Parents and youngsters feel they ought to have problems, so they do. As one high school girl wrote me recently, "I'm a teenager and have all the problems we teenagers face."

Granting that our nation has a great deal of juvenile delinquency, it doesn't follow that the normal process of growing up must necessarily involve serious problems. Of course, we can call anything and everything a problem.

ALL LIVING calls for fairly continuous adjustment to changing conditions, but we should speak of problems only when we are incapable or don't know how to adapt ourselves to the demands of the situation. If modern young people have serious problems, therefore, it must mean either that they are not adequately prepared or that their social environment makes impossible demands



upon them. In our complex, rapidly changing society both factors are operative to some extent.

What can parents do? Well, Rose, your first task is to define your role as parents. Inherent in the very nature of the marriage contract is the obligation to work together for the establishment of a stable, loving society or home in which children can be born and reared to Christian maturity.

Since this is your role as parents, you must be confident that the Creator has given you the knowledge, strength, and grace to fulfill it. You must also be convinced that your generous fidelity in carrying out the entire job will perfect and sanctify you as parents. Some parents lack confidence in themselves and consequently are afraid to enforce order

should be united, consistent, and patient.

By united I mean that you and your husband agree on all essentials — and your children know it. Discipline should be consistent, that is, the children should know what you expect of them and understand that you mean it.

If enforcement of rules is sporadic and your "No" is only semi-final, no respect for authority will be developed.

Discipline should be patient. Normal children will assert their independence by trying to "test" the rules. They will seek excuses, nag, argue, and protest. This may be expected, but intelligent parents don't change the rules or argue. They give their reasons, state their policy, and remain firm. In too many homes there is little discipline because the children have learned that if they argue long and loud enough, parents will let them have their way.

Third, give your children aims and goals that will challenge them. Expand the scope of their interests, train them to look to the future and to prepare for it. Youth is an age of idealism — don't let them drift through it like playful, irresponsible, well-fed animals.

Fourth, children learn by imitation. Unless you display charity, honesty, self-control, sincere respect for others, a sense of social responsibility, and so on, they will probably grow up without these virtues.

Fifth, protect your children against premature entrance into social life. Take a firm stand against early dating, competing for popularity, and the like nonsense that seems to warm the hearts of so many neurotic mothers.

Finally, help your children develop a warm personal attachment to Christ and His Blessed Mother. Don't relegate religion to the school or the church where it may become a meaningless custom or mechanical process. The child develops into an adult Christian only if he personally accepts his Savior.

Parenthood is a big job! Of course it is! But you have the grace of vocation in raising God's children you are co-workers with Christ.

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## Register To Vote

Monroe County residents who are not permanently registered as voters have today and tomorrow as a deadline to get their names on the rolls to vote in November.

Polls are open today, Friday, 3 to 10:30 p.m. and tomorrow 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

In Cayuga, Livingston, Ontario, Steuben, Tioga, Wayne and Yates counties, polls will be open today, tomorrow and next Friday and Saturday for registration.

For details about registration in other counties, contact local election officials.

Information about registering may be obtained at neighborhood polling places or from county Board of Elections or from Nixon-Lodge or Citizens for Kennedy headquarters.

Shut-ins may obtain a "sick ballot" by applying now at local offices of each county Board of Elections.



LIKE AUTUMN is the theme of the annual Mission Dance at Nazareth College on Oct. 8. Planning the semi-formal affair are from left, Cathy Foley, publicity; Jane Doane, Judy Konezny, entertainment; Jane Nortz, refreshments, and Dolores Cicconi, decorations.

## Candidates At Al Smith NY Dinner

New York — (NC) — Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts will speak at the 16th annual Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation Dinner here on Oct. 19.

In addition to the appearance of the presidential candidates, other speakers at the \$100-dollar-plate dinner will be Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York and New York City Mayor Robert Wagner, Jr.

Chairman of New York announced that Mrs. Thomas J. Morrison of New York is again donating the full cost of the dinner, thus permitting the \$250,000 raised from the dinner subscriptions to be turned over to the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Hospital, a co-worker with Christ.

## Nazareth Nun-Authors Given Press Recognition

The writings of two of the members of the faculty of Nazareth College have recently received wide recognition in the press.

SISTER MARGARET TERESA, chairman of the English Department, has been writing book reviews as a weekly feature of the Catholic Courier Journal. An article entitled "Everybody's Favorite," a review of a new reading of the Imitation of Christ, which Sister wrote for the Journal, has been reprinted in the Fall 1960 issue of *Sheed and Ward's "Own Trumpet"*.

The latter is a nationally circulated bulletin of excerpts from, and commentary on, books published by that company, including prose and poetry.

The review by Sister Margaret Teresa is written in the unusual and charming fashion which her readers have come to expect from her, and which makes them want to read every where.

book which she discusses.

IN A FEATURE of the book section of the weekly magazine "America," entitled "Spotlight on an Educator," a new book on John Dewey, named *John Dewey: His Thought and Influence*, is reviewed. The book is a series of essays written by educators from various universities.

Among the contributors to the volume is Sister Joseph Mary, chairman of the Education Department at Nazareth.

Sister's chapter considers the relationship between John Dewey and progressive education. The reviewer of the book states that "it commands the attention of Dewey scholars and of professional educators everywhere."

## Mission Dance Scheduled At College

In tribute to the first days of school, and with a nostalgic glance at the first falling leaves, the theme "Like Autumn" has been chosen for the Mission Dance at Nazareth College, to be held on Saturday evening, Oct. 8. The committees in charge of the affair are headed by seniors and juniors.

DECORATIONS chairman is Dolores Cicconi, a senior. Music will be by the Vic Patti Quintet, engaged for the evening by Judy Konezny, a junior, and her committee. The orchestra will play from 8 p.m. till midnight.

Refreshments will be available in the cafeteria during intermission, according to Jane Nortz, a senior in charge of this group.

Publicity for the dance is under the direction of Cathy Foley.

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