



MISS MARGARET COONEY

Miss Cooney Selection Announced

Dear Brian,
 You can easily preserve the friendship and still get your friends to be reasonable about their visits.
 The best thing to do is to tell them kindly to let you know when they are coming.
 Ordinarily, it is not a good policy for friends to drop in on other people without calling them first, and I think your friends should learn this lesson. Sometimes friends can dominate a household and make normal family living difficult. This kind of a situation can lead to tension and even arguments. Occasionally, call your friends in advance and ask them if it would be all right for you to come over. Share the visits a little bit.
 It may be hard for you to refuse your friends sometimes, but true friends are understanding, and I think in this case you can help to teach your friends a good point of etiquette.

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TEENAGERS WANT TO KNOW

By FATHER MARTIN

Dear Father,
 I'm a senior in high school. I feel I'm at an age where this so-called "generation gap" should enter my life. Fortunately, I don't feel any such relationship with any of my elders, including my parents.

weeks ago and all his friends say he's going to ask me out. I can hardly wait, but now I know my father won't let me go. This boy got caught for drinking a beer in the car and fined \$50.00 for that and \$50.00 for being a minor. Now my dad says if he catches me even looking at him, he will ground me for a couple of months.

affection or for popularity. Sometimes a person starved for affection or popularity seeks for them in the wrong way, in the wrong places, and with the wrong people.
 It may be too that you don't have a good enough opinion of yourself. Your statement about consulting a psychiatrist could be a tip-off to the esteem that you hold for yourself. Sometimes people who have poor opinions of themselves resort to actions that they know are wrong.

Dear Brian,
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 The best thing to do is to tell them kindly to let you know when they are coming.
 Ordinarily, it is not a good policy for friends to drop in on other people without calling them first, and I think your friends should learn this lesson. Sometimes friends can dominate a household and make normal family living difficult. This kind of a situation can lead to tension and even arguments. Occasionally, call your friends in advance and ask them if it would be all right for you to come over. Share the visits a little bit.
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It seems to me if you do what you're expected to do and act as a young Christian should, there are no bitter emotional explosions, which often leave scars on friendships.
 In conclusion, I believe this "generation gap" is merely a lack of respect on the part of both generations.

If this boy asks me out though, I'm going to go because I know he won't drink or drive crazy while I'm with him.
 Please, Father, how can I convince my dad he's a good guy, and that he wouldn't do anything to hurt me?

I think you must begin to realize your dignity as a child of God. Realizing all the good points that you do have: the fact that you love God, that you are trying to please Him, and are trying to do what is right. Think of all the good that you can accomplish now and in the future.

Dear Mary,
 Since you seem to have your mind made up to disobey your father, I don't know if I can be of much help to you. Sometimes at 16 it's hard to see that your father has your best interests at heart. It's only when a person grows older sometimes that he begins to see that.

JANICE
 Dear Janice,
 Your letter says it well. I've always felt this generation gap business was exaggerated. If people make an effort to communicate they can do so no matter what the age difference. Sometimes communication may take a great deal of patience and charity and understanding, but if we have those attributes or at least strive to acquire them, we will be better persons and better Christians.

I don't think that you should kid yourself that a boy won't drink or drive crazily because you are with him. Maybe he won't do so the first time to impress you, but there's no guarantee that he will forsake this kind of conduct for good just for your sake.

Perhaps you do need some help, guidance from a priest, the counselor in your school, some teacher or adult you know you can trust, maybe even an aunt or uncle.

Your confessions, I believe, are good ones. When you go to confession you are sincerely sorry. You try to do your best. The thought still lurks in your mind that the same things might happen again, but those thoughts don't necessarily mean that you aren't sorry and that you don't have a firm purpose of amendment. So I wouldn't worry about the past. Look to the future. Ask God for strength and resolve firmly that you are going to call a moratorium on these activities that involve boys, and let them know it.

I think your ideas here provide good grounds for a reader's forum, and I would be interested in the views of both adults and teenagers on this so-called problem of the generation gap. In the future we can devote a column to the letters we receive on the "generation gap."

If you disobey your father and date this boy, then I think you are showing that your father is right and you don't really have the maturity to date. It's not worth disobeying your father and going against God's will in the matter.

Two of my friends are constantly coming over to our house. My parents haven't said much, but I know they don't like these buddies coming over so often. Neither do I for that matter because lots of times they disturb my studying or watching a favorite TV program. They are good friends and I hate to drop them entirely. Any suggestions?

Dear Father,
 I'm 18 and I have been engaged since I was 16. My problem is this. Bill, whom I'm engaged to, is not the guy I love and want to marry. He is presently in Vietnam and should be returning soon, thinking that we will be married.

The only honest help I can give you is to obey your father, and have a talk with him about when he feels you can date.

Dear Father,
 I'm 16 and very mature for my age. My problem is a very serious one.

While he has been gone I have spent many a pleasant hour with a very nice young man whom I feel I'm in love with. He, however, doesn't feel that I'm really serious about giving up Bill. He thinks I'm only using him for security and free company while Bill is away.

Please tell me some way I can make myself stronger, and not feel guilty about these things after confession.

I love God and try to confess all the things I do. But this doesn't ease my conscience because I know it will happen again. I'm sure "Dear Abby" would advise me to consult a psychiatrist and I think I probably would if I could.

Dear Marie,
 Only you can set these things straight. But I think you ought to tell Bill exactly how you feel, even if he is in Vietnam. If he has the understanding that he is going to marry you, you should inform him immediately if you are positive you have no intention of marrying him. You should not let him live with this illusion. He probably suspects it already, but you should confirm him about your intentions.

Dear Kim,
 Perhaps you could help yourself if you could analyze your actions. It may be that you are striving too hard for

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 'Lord,
 So M
 That Te
 Rome — (RNS) — In a heartfelt prayer, Pope Paul VI led a litany of horrors for which is responsible — nuclear arm up, class hatred, racial exclus self - styled individualism, slaughter, devastation — ar out, "Lord, it is true! We are the right path!"
 The pontiff said his prayer Church of Jesus, a 16th Cent ish shrine, where he celebrat on Jan. 1, the "World Day of
 "Lord," he said, "our ha still bloodstained from the la Wars, so that not all our peo yet been able to take each hands in friendship."
 The Pope noted that man sses "instruments of death "in a single instant end world abaze and perhaps stroy mankind."
 In what appeared to be an reference to Russia and the U Paul strongly deplored the "the development and prog many of our giant industr based "on the diabolical ca produce arms of every :
Hospital Block Bishop's Plan To End Strike
 Memphis, Tenn. — (NC) the new year came shatter for peaceful settlement of 1 month-old St. Joseph Hospit The hospital rejected a pe proposed by Bishop Joseph d of the statewide Nashville di
 Hospital spokesmen indicat they would go along with : of the bishop's proposal, str dored by many black and w ers in Memphis.
 But after 126 strikers mar to the hospital to return to hospital administration ann would not go along with : calling for all workers to back without reprisals.
 J. L. Luton, associate a tor of the hospital, said 2 would not be allowed to work. He said 12 of these fused reinstatement becau leged strike-related violence resigned and the contract who worked as vacation reli pired.
22nd See Adopts Saturday Privile.
 Cincinnati — (NC) — T nat archdiocese has become See in this country to prom privilege of allowing Catho fill the Sunday Mass obligat tending Saturday evening M
 Other Sees which have such programs are: Bosto St. Louis, Portland, Ore. Duluth, LaFayette, La., F Madison, New Ulm, Minn., Manchester, Green Bay, (Maine), Burlington, Sar Tex., Wilmington, Pueblo, 1 Albany and Saginaw.
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