

# Abortion And Women's Lib

Self-determination does not include the right to destroy others. Motherhood does not confer ownership. The unborn baby is a separate and unique being, not part of his mother at all.

The Right to Privacy applies to the marital relationship, not to the destruction of offspring. Society may not stand aside while individuals privately abuse or kill their relatives.

Discrimination Against the Poor is possible when applying any criminal law. But laws protecting the unborn can be administered justly if that is the public will. Abortion on demand could become a reality for every woman only through tax-supported out-patient clinics

staffed by paramedical personnel — amounting to a little more than back-alley abortions moved to main street.

Independence, not equality is the real goal of the women's liberation movement. Too often, "equality" is a step downward. Permissive abortion makes possible the ultimate degradation of women.

The double standard of sexual morality made men unaccountable for their actions. But far worse is the single standard which pushes women toward the same irresponsibility, with abortion as the equalizer.

Promiscuity fostered by permissive abortion, strikes at the family itself, the basic unit of society and the source of its stability. Thus, both parents

should be expected to assume their obligations toward their child and society. If the father shirks his responsibility, the mother must be supported and helped by other individuals and agencies (Birthright, for example).

Women and doctors are joined by abortion in a strange alliance to extinguish life. A mother kills the helpless child committed to her protection and love by the strongest natural bonds; while the doctor turns his skills from life-saving to death-dispensing. Their "private decision" soon becomes a matter of public immorality supported by public funds.

Prepared by the Rochester Right to Life Committee.



SARAH CHILD

## All In The Family

A friend who recently moved into a new home was asked how she liked it. She replied in the affirmative pointing out how marvelously convenient and comfortable her combination kitchen and family room layout was.

"There's only one thing wrong with this house," she added. "With the family room in constant use the living room is a complete waste of space. Even when company comes they naturally gravitate toward the family room," she said.

The family room concept is not a new one although the extra room was eliminated for many years probably due to rising building costs.

But as a child I remember two of the three houses we lived in had two sitting areas. We didn't call either of them family rooms, however.

The room nearest the kitchen was called the living room and it held my father's rolltop desk. He had purchased it with money he had earned when he was 12 carrying water to the workers at the old Austin, Pa., dam. There was an easy chair and a studio couch. Before I started school, my mother and I would lie down afternoons there while the baby slept and she would read to me from a magazine about a little black boy whom I loved dearly.

The other sitting area separated from the first by an arch and a floor furnace held more chairs, a piano and the Christmas tree at the appropriate time. To the right were the stairs that led to the tiny upper floor. It was grandly called the parlor.

In the winter time we sat in whichever room was warmer. My grandfather had built the house and it was sturdy but it was cold with only the furnace and air registers to heat the upstairs. Every November my mother would start using flannel sheets on the bed and I can remember blankets over the windows when the cold was so intense it froze the gas line.

It did seem like a hardship when this happened. In fact

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the adventure of going to a friend's house to have supper because the gas range could get no fuel is one that stands in my mind.

In the summer the heat in both downstairs and upstairs would be oppressive and we would sit on the porch that wrapped itself around the house on two sides.

We got our first telephone when I was eight or nine and it sat on the roll top desk ringing every time anyone on the four party line would get a call.

It seemed, along with the furnace and the bathroom up and the powder room down, like the height of luxury, for my grandmother had none of these conveniences.

And at that point I could envision none of the miracles yet to come like wall to wall shag, air-conditioned and humidified air and that magnificent monster the television set.

## Mental Health Commentary

By THE DE PAUL CLINIC

**Question:** When I talked to my pediatrician about my child's emotional problems, he referred me to my "catchment area clinic." What is a "catchment area" and how can I find out which is my catchment area clinic?

**ANSWER:** In 1963, Congress passed the Kennedy Mental Health Act which recommended that each community be divided into population areas of not more than 200,000 people. Each area would have a mental health center which would provide complete psychiatric care for the residents of its catchment area.

Monroe County has been divided into four catchment areas. Currently there are two mental health centers in operation:

- 1) The Rochester Mental Health Center at The Rochester General Hospital and
- 2) The Community Mental Health Center of Strong Memorial Hospital which includes The Child Guidance Clinic of the Convalescent Hospital.

Since you live in Webster, your Catchment Area Clinic would be at the Rochester Mental Health Center. Children and teenagers are served by its Children and Youth Division. Call 544-5220 for an appointment.

If your child attends a Catholic school in Monroe County you can use the DePaul Clinic.

To find your Catchment Area Mental Health Clinic, call 275-4445 and give your street address.

Questions on children's mental health should be mailed to: Mental Health Commentary, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, 14604.



Sister M. Irene, OP., who had been visiting her mother, Mrs. Eldora M. Scott of Holcomb, has returned to Fatima, Portugal, where she is stationed at the Pius XII Monastery.

### Myra Shuler Named

Myra Shuler, a student of fine arts at Nazareth College, has been named Summer youth arts coordinator for the Arts Council of Rochester. She will work with local groups to establish a master calendar of community events and will serve as liaison between the cultural community and groups planning summer programs.

Myra was graduated from Penfield High School as a member of the urban-suburban exchange program. She has worked as a teacher's aide with Project Headstart and is a music and remedial reading instructor as well as choir director at Immaculate Conception Church.

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