

Cincinnati [RNS] — The man who plays television's "Archie Bunker" is, in real life, an Irish Catholic whose staunch liberal views would probably leave the famed arch-bigot chauvinist in a cigar-stomping stupor.

When he's not playing Archie, actor Carroll O'Connor said he favors, among other things, amnesty, more clergy involvement in politics, women's liberation, and optional celibacy for priests.

However, the actor expresses keen compassion for Archie. He believes the celebrated bigot is sick and needs help — the kind of help that the Churches can offer to save him and others like him.

"Bigotry is a trap, and children are thrown into the trap at a very early age," O'Connor, 49, said in an interview in the October issue of St. Anthony Messenger, published here.

The actor agrees with the view that Archie Bunker represents the "trapped American" — the American who from childhood has assimilated many false values and biases from a cultural history he doesn't understand.

A person's bigoted notions are smuggled into his mind in his formative years "by a loving father or mother," O'Connor said. "It's a trap encased in love. You're trapped by any ideas instilled at a formative time of your life. When these ideas come with parental love, the love makes them indelible."

How can we get rid of bigotry? "Look squarely at it," the actor suggests. He said the program "All in the Family" is bringing to light many of the unexpressed biases and fears of Americans, and thus allowing the biases to be "lampooned" and weeded out.

"Archie is a man who is having a sour life, who comes home every day mad at the world . . .

and whose inability to get joy out of life is due to his fundamental errors," O'Connor said.

Archie Bunker and the other Archie Bunkers can be saved — but not by themselves, he said, adding that Archie needs help from all fronts, including the churches.

Of Irish-Catholic background on both sides of his family, Carroll O'Connor was born in New York in 1924. He was a merchant seaman during World War II. In 1951, he married Nancy Fields, whom he first met at the University of Montana. Both were interested in the theater. The O'Connors, now married 22 years, live in Los Angeles with a son.

O'Connor said that at the time of his marriage in 1951, he was not practicing his Catholic religion. He said this influenced his wife to drift from her Episcopal practice.

In 1961, Nancy began taking instructions and converted to Catholicism, he recalled. "She brought me back. I don't think I ever lost my faith. I just wasn't attending to it."

Contrasting sharply with Archie's chauvinistic stand toward women, O'Connor declared that "a husband has no business treating his wife as an inferior in any way. She's the same in the sight of God as he is. She's no less; she has no less soul . . . no less mind."

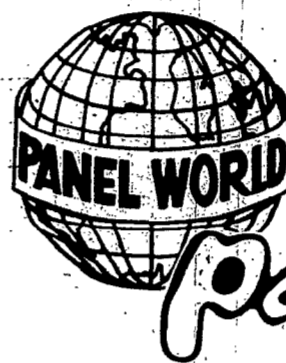
Would You Believe This Man Favors

Optional Celibacy, Women's Lib and Amnesty?

Commenting on celibacy, he said "I think priests should be allowed to marry. The Church should make it optional." But at the same time he thought certain priests could be more effective by choosing to remain celibate.

He gave hearty approval to the changes which swept over the Catholic Church after Vatican II, and called for greater involvement of the Church in political and social problems and issues.

On the question of amnesty for draft dodgers and deserters in the Vietnam war, O'Connor said, "I



PANEL WORLD

Paneling

One day installation of our beautiful paneling

- NO JOB TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL**
- VANITIES • KITCHEN CABINETS
- PANELING

Kitchens, Bathrooms, Any Room of the Home or Office

Visit Our Paneling Showroom at

769 EMERSON ST. 458-2000

Charity Ball Slated At Notre Dame High

Elmira — Bishop Joseph L. Hogan is honorary chairman of the seventh annual Charity Ball which is sponsored by the Ladies of Charity of Elmira and Chemung County.

Proceeds from the ball are for the benefit of New Horizon House, a center for senior citizens under the aegis of Catholic Family Service.

The Charity Ball will be held at Notre Dame High School Saturday, Nov. 24, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dancing will be to the orchestra of Mark Terry and the Jim Caccia Trio.

Mrs. John Dunn, president of the organization, has announced the following committee chairmen:

Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Ramick, general chairmen; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kwasney, programs; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sweeney, tables; Mr. and Mrs. John Corsi, decorations; Mr. and Mrs. J. Howard Ferguson, publicity; Mr.

and Mrs. Charles Prettyman, invitations.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunn will act as honorary co-chairmen. Father Richard Murphy is spiritual advisor of LOC. Reservations, to be limited to the capacity of the ballrooms, will be closed on Nov. 10.

Mercy Seniors Win Awards

Ten seniors at Our Lady of Mercy High School have received scholastic awards from National Achievement and National Merit.

Andrea Davis was among 1400 high school students in the United States to become a semi-finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship for Outstanding Black Students.

Rebecca Regan was notified that she is a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist. This award is given to the top half of one percent of high school students in the United States.

Eight other Mercy seniors received Letters of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. They are Nancy Barry, Julie Fitzpatrick, Barbara Higgins, Mary Alice Jenny, Patricia Kenny, Marylou Maracle, Mary McAdam and Eileen Springer.

KNIGHTS INSTALL

Edward C. Miller was recently installed as grand knight of Our Lady of the Cenacle Council 3892 of the Knights of Columbus at an installation dinner for all new officers of the council.



BIG SAVINGS ON ALL HOCKEY EQUIPMENT

196 MONROE AVE.

222-4788

Nobody's perfect.

Maybe there's something about Channel 21 that you don't like.

Well and good.

Become a member by sending us \$25 and we'll let you squawk about it. And we'll listen to you.

You can come to our annual meeting, question our budget, kick about the programs we bring you.

We'll still thank you for your contribution by sending you the monthly program guide free for a year. And let you buy some great books and records at ridiculously low prices.

And if you like what we're doing at Channel 21, that's all the more reason for sending us your contribution.

The money you send us lets us produce the kinds of TV shows you like. Or would like to see.

Be a TV Producer for Channel 21.

Send your contribution to:

Channel 21

BOX 21 · Rochester, New York 14601