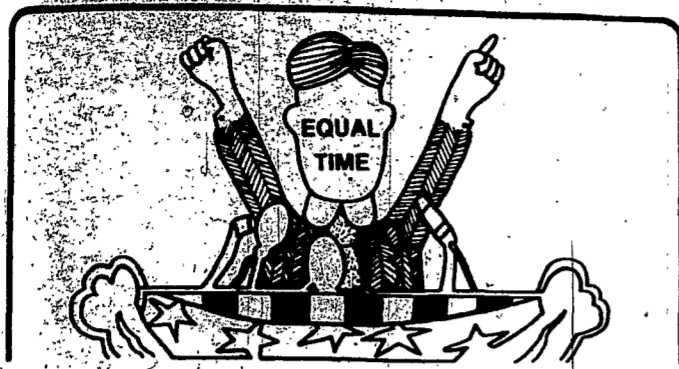


Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap A



Is the crime of rape on the increase and why?

NAZARETH



Michele Mahle
sophomore
basketball

"Yes, I think it is on the increase because of the porno magazines and the movies. Also there are men in this world who don't think they're attractive so they force themselves on women. I consider rape a sexual offense as opposed to a crime of violence. But it is a crime that should be punished by life imprisonment. I don't think there is anything that can be done to prevent the crime."



Margaret Woodward
junior

"It's hard to tell because a few years ago women wouldn't report rapes but now they are. It's not in the closet anymore. It's a definite psychiatric problem but also a crime and the rapist not only ought to receive therapy but also should be kept away from society. If the problem can't be erased through rehabilitation the man should remain under security."



Patti Jones
sophomore
riding club

"Yes it is on the increase because of all the violence shown on TV and the fact people see that others aren't being punished for their crimes so they think they can get away with it. I think rapists have mental diseases. I don't think the clothes a woman wears has anything to do with it because you hear of so many different types being raped. I think a rapist attacks anyone who happens along at the critical moment. There should be more police patrols on the streets at night."



Lori Kutsche
sophomore

"Yes. A lot of psychological problems go unnoticed and then the man goes off the edge. And there does seem to be more psych problems with men these days. I also think that today, women are more outgoing than they realize and men take for granted that they are more easily victimized. I don't, however, think women's aggressiveness triggers the problem. It is a sexual crime and should be punished but with the person receiving psychiatric help while in jail."



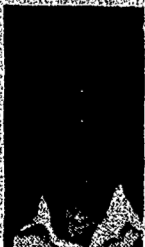
Monica Culligan
sophomore
cheerleader

"I think it is on the increase because of the type of movies being shown. To guard against it happening women should have more protection and learn to defend themselves. Rapists shouldn't get life imprisonment so much as receive psychiatric help."



Vicki LaDuca
Perosian Choir

"Yes because there are more men on drugs and alcohol and their addiction causes them to do these things without knowing what they are doing. If they are aware of what they are committing then they are mentally sick and should be sent to a sanitarium or prison to receive psychiatric help."



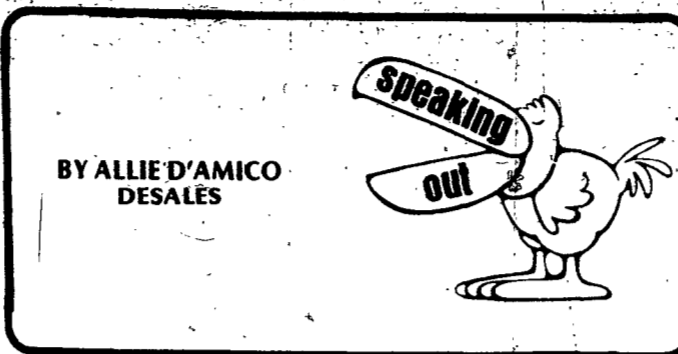
Lynn Zicari
junior
band

"I don't think it is on the increase but it does happen. There is more violence in general but I don't think rape has increased so much. I think it is a psychological problem and should be treated as such. I don't think a rapist should be sent to prison and then let out a few years later. I don't think what a woman wears has any effect but I do think that the adult entertainment places have something to do with the problem."



Sandy Handley
sophomore
athletic
association

"I don't think it has increased, it's just that we hear more about it. Women have more rights in the courts than they used to so they're not afraid to go to court and get a man convicted. The problem could be individual and social. Rape could be anger at one person, or a crime against women as a whole, especially with women as liberated and independent as they are there are men who can't accept this fact."



BY ALLIE D'AMICO
DESALES

There are many controversial issues which play a big part in our lives today and make for a lot of discussion. One such issue is that of abortion which has received perhaps more publicity than any other major moral issue of our time. Of course, the main point of controversy in abortion is whether the object inside of the mother's womb is really a human life, or just a fetus, a "thing" which is not alive, just merely there. For a great number of people of all religions, not just Catholics, the decision of "life or fetus" is an easy one.

Most of the young people I know, feel that abortion is a disgusting, unthinkable act by women who have no consideration for the helpless baby inside of them. Their opinions, along with many of my own on abortion, have been greatly influenced by filmstrips and tape recordings made by Dr. and Mrs. Wilke who are known nationwide for their work and research on abortion. These filmstrips present unretouched photos of salt-poisoned, mutilated masses of something vaguely resembling a baby. We were shown Caesarean sections which are performed, not to save the baby, but to kill the "thing" inside the mother which is the cause of all her embarrassment and humiliation. And then, there is the final step, the completed abortions, dead human beings in a garbage can, awaiting the incinerator.

After watching these films and listening to these tapes, we end up wondering how anyone could even think of hurting someone so helpless, so much a part of a mother's own body. But we must take our opinions one step further, we must take into consideration the mother's side. We must not allow ourselves to become so prejudiced that we end up closing our minds to the mother.

No way am I speaking of the mother who says, "It's my body, I'll do whatever I want with it." I am speaking of the feelings of guilt, anxiety, humiliation and terrible tension that a mother goes through in making the decision whether to abort her baby or not. This side of the issue is not presented to us in the filmstrips and tapes. We are made to see the mother as the terrible villain out to destroy her defenseless baby. If a mother does have her baby aborted, what must she be going through during the time prior to her abortion? Those of us who haven't experienced this ordeal can only imagine the tremendous pressure put on a woman by relatives and friends who fear disgrace, not to mention her own feelings of guilt and regret.

In no way am I justifying abortion, but in any issue it is important to be very open-minded and aware of all the facts. We all have certain opinions on abortion, and we must all arrive

at our own conclusions. Even those of us who strongly feel that abortion is wrong, can understand the need that everyone experiences to relieve themselves of their feelings of guilt and humiliation. The question is: How do we bring about this relief? Abortion is a type of terrible penance that can leave a physical scar and always leaves a mental one.

Finally, what can we conclude from all this discussion on abortion? Some say that a woman should not get herself in that situation to begin with but this doesn't help the woman who is already in that situation. And whether or not we agree that it is her body to do with whatever she pleases, in the end, it is totally the mother's decision to let her baby live or die.

We cannot, however, even try to understand how the Supreme Court could ignore the material presented to them; the same sickening photos and gross statistics that were presented to us in religion class. As was pointed out in one of the tapes — now that it has become legal for a mother to kill her unborn baby who is a burden to her, then logically, it will become legal for a daughter to kill her mother who has become a burden to her.

Travel Program

Sister Edwarda McCarthy, a teacher at St. Agnes High School, has been appointed by the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) to accompany a group of students on an educational travel program abroad. Through this program the students will have the opportunity to visit Paris,

Geneva, Nice and Monte Carlo during their Spring vacation. They will also go through the French and Italian Alps on the way to Nice.

Parents and students wishing further information about the program may contact Sister Edwarda at 424-1330 or 424-4626.

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