

# More Opinions

## Why Display NCR in Churches?

Editor:

Your excellent editorial (June 17) wondering: where does Christianity exist in a message written by George Kleve that refers to the Holy Father as a "Polish clown," prompts one to ask the same question to those parishes which display the National Catholic Reporter in their pamphlet racks.

During John Paul's the U.S., the NCR published a caricature of him as an ignorant buffoon. (Perhaps George Kleve saw it.)

Last Fall, it had caricatures of him naked and running after his flock. Week after week, the NCR, which lost the blessing of the bishop who started it when it became strongly anti-Catholic, belittles in words or cartoons the Holy Father.

People who know that the Holy Spirit works in a special way through the teachings of the Pope know that, like Christ, he, too, will be attacked by those who oppose his authority.

Are we not as guilty of hypocrisy as George Kleve (who claims to be a Christian) if we display a newspaper in our pamphlet racks that attacks our Holy Father and then go inside and pray for his welfare.

**Margaret Finnane**  
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## Let's Develop Love Theology

Editor:

There have been several letters in the Courier-Journal recently calling for prohibitions in connection with sex education in Catholic schools. This seems to be out of step with our diocesan vocation as educators.

There has even been a suggestion to write to the Pope or Apostolic Delegate to intervene in the plans already developing in this country to help pastors and principals in this important ministry. The problem with interventions, prohibitions and condemnations is that they do not assist the people responsible for education in their search for ways to help those entrusted to their care. Prohibitions may be an invigorating exercise in power,

but they leave the problem untouched.

I suggest that others may want to write the Pope and Apostolic Delegate to ask help in developing a theology of love and friendship, including the sexual component, and remind them that love and friendship are not just for married couples. There is a crying need for these biblical values in the lives of adolescents and single adults, too. Recent church documents and exhortations about human relationships have been only slightly helpful in these matters.

My perception is that parents, teachers and preachers will welcome biblical and "living church" teachings about the building of responsible love and friendship relations.

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## Sex Ed Concerns Well-Founded

Editor:

Bravo to Mrs. Joann May for her letter regarding sex education in Catholic schools, June 17.

Her concerns are well-founded and her suggestion for workshops for parents excellent. The response of Sister Anne Michelle was quite inadequate in that it in no way addressed the complaints specifically.

The practice of exposing young children to all this sophisticated information has had obviously disastrous results — more teenage pregnancies, more abortions, more venereal disease. One cannot create interest in a subject like sex without inviting experimentation.

Perhaps it is time to revert to the custom of allowing only parents to impart this type of knowledge with a firm base, first of all, of respect for other individuals, whether one's family members or one's friends.

Too much talk has created too much trouble.

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## Pontiff's Column

As Pope John Paul II convalesces this summer, and refrains from pursuing his ordinarily rigorous schedule of addresses, the Courier-Journal will temporarily suspend its practice of publishing excerpts from his talks.

## MDC Slates Summerfest

The Monroe Developmental Center will sponsor a Summerfest/Friendship Fair on Sunday, Aug. 9. The day will begin with an ecumenical service in the gymnasium led by Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

The Summerfest/Friendship Fair is a celebration of the International Year of the Disabled Person.

The fest will begin with the service which will also feature

the folk group from St. Pius X parish. Then the fair will begin in the interjoining courtyards, featuring bands, refreshments and other entertainment.

There is a need, however, for volunteers. Any individuals or groups who would like to be the friend of clients at the center for the afternoon and escort them to the service and fair, are invited to contact the center, 461-2800.

## Advancement Or Regression?

Editor:

A recent article in the Democrat and Chronicle favorably noted as a medical advancement the ability to destroy a disabled twin in utero by the selective piercing of his heart with a needle while leaving his twin unharmed.

Anyone who could observe the physical development of either child at approximately 20 weeks from gestation would have recognized both as "human beings."

Tests on infants at this stage of development have

confirmed that they are sensitive to sound, touch, drugs and pain. Even the changes in the heart rate of the targeted child as he futilely struggled to avoid the deadly dagger needle was capable of recording.

Many condemn and protest the nuclear technology of a neutron bomb which allows the destruction of human lives without injuring property. Yet, the same persons lavish praise on the developing medical technology which assists in the actual destruction of one and a half million unborn human beings, the population of Texas, each year.

Is this really medical advancement, or is it truly moral regression?

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## Appreciates Column

Editor:

Thank you for your column, "Viewpoint: Sisters

Reflect." I find it very interesting and informative about the variety of ministries carried out by the Sisters of our diocese. I hope you will continue the column.

**Glenna Wickline**  
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