Bishops Life Unit Opposes 'Definition of Death' Laws

Citing medical, moral and legal disagreements over the value of such legislation, the bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities reaffirmed its opposition to "definition of death" laws.

The committee, chaired by Cardinal Terence Cooke of

New York, said "a compeltion to "definition of death" paper" sent in April to all U.S. bishops.



I'll go for it," muttered my

said and soothed him by

saying that maybe the

youngest would make him

some baked ziti with melted

cheese, her contribution to

Cautiously, I took one slice

of bread and cut it to make a

half sandwich, spreading it

liberally with chunky peanut

butter. I wrapped it in the

paper towel but forgot and

put it in on high power. It

came out soggy, then grew

hard. The dog thought it was

microwave cookery, later.

'This is an experiment,'' I

husband.

delicious.

All in the Family

Sarah */

Child/

Leave It To the Dog To Gum It Up

As regular readers know, I like to pass on culinary treats when I hear about them.

The following tips all are from kids and involve use of a microwave oven - a. commentary on the age we

The first came via the head of the house who heard it from an acquaintance who is rearing two teenage sons by himself.

"Isn't cooking every day a bit of a chore?" my husband asked.

No, reported the man. The boys, it seems, like peanut butter sandwiches warmed in the microwave.

"That can't work," I interrupted. "Bread gets soggy, then hard in the microwave.

"Nah," said our teenage son and he described how his three friends. Chuck, Jim and Kurt, wrap their peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in a paper towel and put them in the oven on warm for half a minute.

The next suggestion came courtesy of our daughter, the senior, whose friend, Eric, uses up breakfast leftovers by putting peanut butter and jelly between two pancakes and warming the whole sandwich in the same way.

"Gross, isn't it?" she muttered, "though it's not as bad as what Mary does. She spreads a graham cracker with butter, adds marshmallows, tops it with another buttered graham and melts it all in the microwave."

Not bad when you get a craving, I noted, but I like my own fix better, i.e., mixing chunky peanut butter with Hershey's syrup to make hot peanut butter fudge topping for vanilla ice cream.

Wanting to see if the peanut butter sandwich in the oven really works, I asked for takers. "Make it peppers and

Academy Alumnae To Meet

The Nazareth Academy Alumnae Association will hold its annual banquet, 6:30 p.m., Monday, May 2 at the Mapledale Party House.

Members of anniversary classes, beginning with the class of 1913, have received individual invitations, but all Nazareth graduates are welcome to the event.

Present will be past principals and teachers of the school, and the golden jubilee class will be particularly feted.

Tickts to the event are \$12. Reservations are made by calling the school's alumnae office, 254-3219.

It took particular notice of ling need for such legislation a model definition of death has still not been demon-strated." The committee, statute which has been adopted in some states and was endorsed in 1982 by the which first stated its opposi-President's Commission for laws in 1977, gave its the Study of Ethical Proassessment in a "resource blems in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavioral Research.

The committee asked if the model statute could be "a stepping-stone to euthanasia or a bulwark against it? Does it prevent less restrictive 'brain death' definitions from being approved or set a dangerous precedent for them?"

More than half the states have enacted some form of legislation equating death with "brain death," and in other states courts have approved the legal concept of brain death. But existing statutes and court rulings differ among themselves.

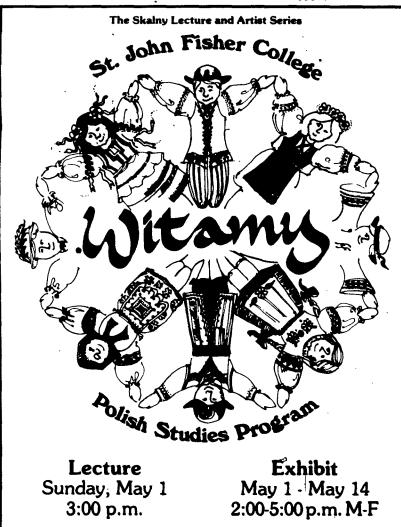
According to the committee's resource paper, definition of death legislation has become an issue the United States largely in response to the development of medical life-support technology. Traditional criteria of death -- the cessation of breathing and heartbeat -- have increasingly been abandoned in favor of "brain death."

But, according to the paper, the situation is complicated by the fact that medical and other experts do not agree among themselves on criteria for identifying brain death or on whether brain death can be equated with death itself.

There are fears, the committee stated, that some doctors may want to use "brain death" as a medical and legal fiction to obtain transplant organs from comatose but still-living patients. There is also evidence, according to the paper, that pro-euthanasia groups have attempted to use the definition of death movement as a way to legalize cuthanasia.

Communion **Breakfast**

Parents and teachers at Nazareth Academy will sponsor a Communion Breakfast at 10 a.m., Sunday, May 1, at the school. Father Brian Murphy, school chaplain, will be celebrant. A pancake breakfast will follow in the cafeteria. Individual tickets are \$2.25, family tickets \$8 and are on sale at the school. Further information is available by calling 872-



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