

ECHO ECHO ECHO ECHO ECHO

Red Cross youth committee studies domestic violence

By Elizabeth Berliner
Notre Dame High School

It has been said many times that "people hurt most often those whom they love most." Today, domestic violence is a major concern in this nation, with 20 percent of all violent crimes taking place among family members. In addition, it is estimated that only one in every 10 incidents of abuse is reported to the authorities, and a startling one-third of all females murdered are killed by their husbands or boyfriends.

Ironically, family violence is not a new concept. Apparently it has existed for hundreds of years, hidden behind the mask of male dominance in the family. America's cultural patterns of self-reliance, the right to use force, and the desire for efficiency and effectiveness in all walks of life have supported abuse tactics and have placed the American male under great pressure to maintain control of all situations. Commonly stated, "a man's house is his castle," and few dare to venture into the sanctified arena of the family.

In the mid-1900s, however, America entered an extensive period of social turmoil as women and minorities began the long struggle for equal rights. The tragic murders of

Martin Luther King Jr. and John F. Kennedy prompted the foundation of the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, ultimately leading to the realization that violence is often founded and centered in the very heart of America: the family.

This violence often breeds further societal problems such as juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and a devastating "cycle of abuse." Studies have shown that the children of abusers, primarily because of low self-esteem, are most likely to be violent adults and will abuse their own children in the same manner in which they had been raised.

This year the Chemung County Red Cross Committee on Family Violence, a division of the Red Cross Youth Council, is attempting to not only aid victims of domestic violence, but to end the vicious cycle that will affect future generations. In the past two months, committee members have been researching this topic through various available reference materials, including the document of the attorney general's Task Force on Family Violence, which was issued in September of 1984. The group is also conducting interviews with various agencies that offer aid to domestic-violence victims in Chemung

County, and has spoken to Judge Frawley, the Chemung County Family Court Judge concerning the rights of the victims.

Consequently, this information will help the committee to assess the needs of the community and will lead to a possible "open forum" on family violence, effective public service announcements to draw out

frightened victims, school assemblies and measures designed to enable victims to discover how services offered can be enhanced through community support.

America can only be strengthened by strengthening the structural base of the American family. It is no longer necessary to hurt those whom one loves.



Speaking Out

By Mike Fleming
Cardinal Mooney High School

Apartheid. If you ever read the newspaper, watch television, or listen to the radio, you can't avoid the word. But do we ever really think about it when we do hear the word "apartheid?" Maybe we don't know what the word means. Perhaps we know what it means but don't really care.

You might say to yourself, "Sure, I know what it means, but I'm a teenager in the United States. I can ignore it — after all, I can't do anything about it!"

Well, if we all really understood apartheid and its consequences, we wouldn't be able to ignore it. I think we have a duty to recognize this blatant injustice.

The story of apartheid in South Africa is one of a white minority that runs a government opposed to the legitimate needs of a minority of blacks. Blacks outnumber the whites five to one, and are asking for justice and the end of the country's racially organized political and economic system.

They are not asking for the reform of apartheid; they want it abolished! This seems reasonable to me, because how could any version of apartheid be justified?

The government of South Africa seems to have an interesting plan to keep apartheid. They want to make it seem like a positive thing, both culturally and economically.

What they've done is set up another separate "country" called Boputhuswana. However, Boputhuswana isn't really a country at all; it's merely an area. The capital of Boputhuswana is Sun City, which is the South African version of Las Vegas. Sun City is a casino-resort type complex, which caters to the needs of the white minority of people who can afford it.

The South African government does not officially segregate people in Sun City. Who do they think they're kidding? While the people aren't officially segregated in Sun City, the government knows full-well that less than 1 percent of the Blacks in

South African can afford the rates Sun City demands.

Concert-type entertainment is a staple of Sun City's profits. Many famous musical performers have played there, and what amazes me is that a few of them have been black. I don't see how a person could enjoy the profits of indirectly oppressing his or her own people.

As I stated before, we as students think we can't do anything about apartheid. Luckily, not everyone shares our attitude of helplessness. A group of renowned performers, ranging from Bruce Springsteen and Bob Dylan, to Bono of U2 and Peter Gabriel, have come together in a joint refusal to play in Sun City.

Not only have they agreed not to support apartheid, they've made a move to make apartheid known to more people. This move came in the form of an album, appropriately entitled Sun City: Artists United Against Apartheid. The album consists of songs about the injustice of apartheid, and all the profits from the album go to help victims of the prejudice.

I sincerely feel that these musicians should be commended for their effort. They're setting an example that we could all learn from, and this example is engraved in vinyl:

Boputhuswana is far away
But we know it's in South Africa, no matter what they say
You can't buy me, I don't care what you say
Don't ask me Sun City, 'cause I ain't gonna play.

I ain't gonna play in Sun City
Relocation to phoney homelands
Separation of families, I can't understand
Twenty-three million can't vote because they're black
We're stabbing our brothers and sisters in the back

(Lyrics from Sun City, by Little Steven)

Equal Time

Aquinas Institute
How do you think the student bodies of Catholic high school can work together?

DEE WOODS, Senior

As a member of Aquinas' Student Council, one of my duties is to help promote school spirit. If the Rochester Catholic High School Student Councils form a master Student Council, their duty would be to promote Catholic high school spirit in Rochester. Another duty would be to unite the Catholic high school student body.

How can this be done? Megaclean was a start. Another idea is to have a food drive. The high schools could gather food and deliver the food to the poor. A second idea is a Rochester high school talent show. A third idea is a high school night or open house. Grammar school kids can then have the chance to see what Catholic high school spirit is about.

ELLEN FREDERICKS, Junior

I think the student bodies could work together by organizing events to benefit the whole community or local charities. Things like walk-a-thons, community clean-up campaigns, dance-a-thons, etc. could be done. Students from all Catholic high schools would present a united front for these charitable efforts.



DON SCHWAB, Freshman

As a student at Aquinas, I can see the respect we have for each other. The one thing that bothers me is that this respect is often left in school. I think the student bodies of the (Rochester) area Catholic high schools could work together on bringing this outside of school. Besides, this is all part of what going to a Catholic high school should mean to us.



CURTIS POUND, Sophomore

I think the student bodies of the Catholic high schools can work together in many various ways. We could raise money for the Catholic School Marathon and get together to encourage each other to participate in it. All the people involved in the student government should get together and have meetings on these topics. We should have full student council meetings every few months. These are just some of the ways that the student bodies of the Catholic high schools can work together.



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HOUSE OF GUITARS

We received 15 correct entries identifying **Don McLean** as the artist who recorded the 1972 #1 hit song, American Pie.

The winner was **Rebecca Gillette** of Rochester, N.Y.

MUSIC TRIVIA

This weeks question:
What was the name of the uncle in Bob Seger's "Fire Lake?"

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip Code _____
School _____

Rules:
Each week, the Courier-Journal, in conjunction with the House of Guitars will feature a Music Trivia contest. All you have to do to enter is answer the question, fill in your name and address and the school you attend (if applicable), cut out the coupon, and send it in to the Courier Journal. If more than one correct entry is received, a drawing will be held and one winning entry will be drawn.

If yours is the winning entry, you will be mailed a coupon for a free album or tape of your choice redeemable at the House of Guitars, 645 Titus Ave.

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