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# HIF SEXISTS

MEN HAVE NO MANNERS.

OTIONAL.

don't it should have been that big a deal. A girl could do as good a job," Mike

Sexism extends into many other parts of society as well, Melissa said. For instance, she noted that the practice of campaigns helps fuel unhealthy

"When they put a woman on display like that, they're teaching women that's how we're supposed to behave," Melissa commented. "When you put on short dresses and tight shirts, you're saying, 'Look at me, I'm hot' - not 'Look at me,

"I think women are judged by their bodies, and very often are seen as nothing more than that," added Amy Johnson, youth minister at Chili's St. Pius X Church and Rochester's St. John the Evangelist Church (Humboldt Street).

commented.

using scantily clad women in advertising perceptions.

I'm a nice person.".

Mike Navarro, from St. John the Evangelist on Humboldt, said he expects this advertising trend to endure "because it's more marketable." He added that

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**MEN ARE** TASK-

women are often condemned for being promiscuous in real-life situations, whereas men tend to escape such judgments.

"If a guy has a different girlfriend every week, it's 'cool.' But if you have a girl who's been with a lot of guys, it's kind of unattractive," Mike, 16, said. "It comes back to men being better than women, and men being able to do what they want."

He added that said he sees both males and females victimized by sexism at a summer day camp where he serves as a counselor.

"The guys are expected to organize the sports and games, and the girls are usually expected to look after the kids," Mike said. He also noted that a day-care facility at the camp is staffed entirely by women, and yet he felt that any of these roles could be handled adequately by males or females.

"It can go either way," Mike said.

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"What's unfair is to say that this is men's work, this is women's work," Johnson commented. By the same token,

> and Brian pointed out, instances do exist where women should

not perform the

Melissa

same activities as men. In most cases, they said, it's not a good idea for women to play contact sports with men - and therefore, the exclusion of women from the National Football League, for instance, shouldn't be considered a sexist practice.

"A woman's body isn't built for that," Melissa said.

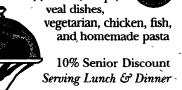
"Men are built more to take the hits. A woman might get hurt more easily," Brian added.

Does this mean that women are not good athletes? Quite the contrary, Mitchell said. He noted that women's athletics have earned widespread

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acceptance in recent years, particularly the first-year Women's National Basketball Association.

"They're getting big crowds at those games," Mitchell said.

Although Melissa contends that women are victims of sexism in the church, Mike Navarro remarked that a healthier balance exists nowadays than in biblical times. He said that men are mentioned much more frequently than women in Scripture, but "if the Bible was written now it would be a lot different."

Much of this progress toward equality has been gained through women's rights movements in recent decades, Melissa said. However, she also said that women shouldn't promote their cause so strongly that they judge men unfairly.

"They get so immersed, they forget the reason they got into it in the first place - for people to be open-minded about you," Melissa remarked.

Mike Navarro concluded that it's healthy for men and women to note their differences - but only to a point.

"There's the respect factor. Once you cross that line, that's where sexism comes into play," Mike said.

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