

Veterans, please!
Go to confession NOW
and thus avoid

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
January 23, 1946

Jam at boxes at veterans
High Mass Sunday at 8:00.
(Low Mass at 9:00 Sunday)

FACTS ABOUT A DIRTY STORY

It Travels. The impure narrative has feet. It never stays at home -- because one man tells another (We mean the weak-kneed man tells another). The story or joke may start in a group of three in a college student's room. But from the setting of books and pennants it often buys a ticket with one of the listeners at vacation time and goes South on the train or West in a plane. Somewhere along the line, it has happened that a smut salesman picks it up and prints it to the tune of a hundred thousand copies for national distribution. So when you tell a story once it's just like telling it to the world.

The foul-mouthed person is the best salesman the devil has.

It's a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. One hour it dresses up in rags and goes down to pal with the boys in the back alleys and taverns. A little later, it will be back in the smart dress of a university student knocking about in the rooms of the campus halls. Sometimes it will be in the factory in overalls sweating over a punch machine. At noontime in the same factory it will be up in the front office with the clerks and secretaries as they relax during the lunch hour. This two-faced creature will be with the bobby soxers on Monday and with the Four Hundred on Main St. on Tuesday. It gets along just as well with girls as with boys.

What do you do when you meet this creature? Welcome him? And introduce him to the boys?(and girls?)

It's A Movie Producer. The filthy story or song is colored with vivid details. It raps at the door of the imagination. When that faculty welcomes the dirty guest, it draws out its movie machine and makes a mental movie of the incident portrayed for future reference. The reels of that movie are never blotted out from the mind. At times they are shelved, perhaps for a month or even a year. But the show will turn up again and again on the screen of the mind to tempt a man.

You have heard about the harmful impressions made by some of Hollywoods talkies. Have you ever estimated the harm done by one of the suggestive stories you may have told?

It's A Murderer. There is such a thing as a spiritual stabbing in the back. The person who leads another into sin does just that. The knife he uses can be liquor, soft words, a bad picture that he passes along or impure talk. The impurity that follows in thought, desire or action can be mortal sin, and that's death to the soul. Some fellows have killed their best pals. And bull sessions are often nothing more than murder scenes.

Our Blessed Lord directed one of His most scorching denunciations at the murderer (scandalizer is another word for this killer). "But he that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone should be hanged about his neck and that he should be dropped in the bottom of the sea."

Your Children.

If you want your boys and girls to have Faith, with all that means to you (Mass, Communion, Our Lord and Lady) you have a stake in vocations. Because it is through Priests and Religious that the Church normally brings the Faith to the world. Therefore you as a Catholic should have an interest in vocations, tho you do not have one yourself. THE VOCATIONAL INQUIRY GROUP (for any one with a question about vocation, as well as for those with the priesthood or brotherhood in mind) will meet next Monday, Jan.28, at 7:30 P.M. in the Rockne Memorial Lounge. (Informal discussion on the foreign missions.)