

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Questions From the Questionnaire.

58. Is suggestive language sinful?

Ans. Cardinal Newman once said that vulgarity is the worst of sins because it contains so many little sins. Language that suggests sin often leads to sin - and that is the sin of scandal.

59. How does the Church look upon political graft and dishonesty in business?

Ans. Just as she looks upon theft and highway robbery. The Catholic Church still preaches the Seventh Commandment.

60. What are the ideals of a good wife?

Ans. For a sound, common sense treatment of this subject, we recommend the reading of the chapters on marriage and family life in the two religious surveys of the alumni. That's the voice of experience - the experience of men in your own condition of life.

61. Why hasn't Hitler been excommunicated?

Ans. Having no facts on which to base an answer, we cannot say. From press accounts, it would appear that Hitler has long since ceased to be a practical Catholic. There are many people who are ipso facto excommunicated by their actions; a sentence of excommunication is not often pronounced.

62. Should a fellow quit college at the end of the first year if he has a chance to go in business with his dad and if he is nearly twenty-one years of age?

Ans. If he knows more than his teachers he should. When your formal education stops, leave school. Some men stay in school years after that happens. (If this is a serious problem with any particular boy, he should consult a priest about it. A general answer on this question is about as useful as a patent medicine sold to cure all ills.)

63. What is a fellow to do who is washed out both mentally and morally?

Ans. Read Father Hugh Blunt's "Great Penitents" for inspiration to go ahead, and then talk with a priest outside the confessional. Such cases need frequent encouragement.

64. Tell me how to concentrate; how to stop the habit of bad speech.

Ans. 1. Get interested; 2. watch yourself.

65. Why do you mix religion and discipline at Notre Dame?

Ans. Such mixture as there is comes inevitably from the organic unity of Catholic education, of Catholic life.

66. Why do we fall so easily when confronted with temptations to impurity?

Ans. Not everyone does. Read past student surveys to find out how your fellow-students have gained the power to overcome bad habits.

67. What should one expect out of life in regard to success and happiness?

Ans. One of the Saints said that we should pray as if everything depended upon God, and work as if everything depended on ourselves. Thank God for favorable results; blame yourself if things go wrong. You will then come as close to success and happiness as a man can come in this life.

68. Just why do college men use such vile language, when 95% of those who do would not think of doing the things they talk about so freely?

Ans. That's a question of civilization, not religion. God can save the soul of a barbarian, but only God could make a gentleman out of some barbarians. It takes a good many generations of exposure to Catholic education to raise some families out of the gutter - and the thicker the skull the more determined the individual is to make it plain that he is gutter stock.

PRAYERS: Deceased, a friend of S.C. Borzillori. Ill, Bob Russell's grandfather.