

During Novena for Purity.....University of Notre DameLearn to say NO and mean it.

Religious Bulletin

November 29, 1950

Pray For An Easy Life?

Do not pray for easy lives!

Pray to be stronger

Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers.

Pray for powers equal to your tasks!

Then the doing of your work shall be no
Miracle.

But you shall be a miracle.

Every day you shall wonder at yourself, at
the richness of life that has come to you
through the goodness of God. --Anon.

Aid To Chastity: Understanding.

A correct understanding of chastity will dismiss much misapprehension about sex. Ordinarily knowledge of sex abuses comes before knowledge of sex uses. Parents have a direct responsibility to instruct their children about sex. Without this parental instruction facts of life are pieced together out of the gutter.

In the 1950 Bishops' report (consult The Denver Register), CHILD: CITIZEN OF 2 WORLDS, parental responsibility is clearly pointed out in no uncertain terms:

Fathers and mothers have a natural competence to instruct their children with regard to sex. False modesty should not deter them from doing their duty in this regard. Sex is one of God's endowments. It should not be ignored or treated as something bad. If sex instruction is properly carried on in the home, a deep reverence will be developed in the child and he will be spared the shameful inferences which he often makes when he is left to himself to find out about sex. We protest in the strongest possible terms against the introduction of sex instruction into the schools. To be of benefit such instruction must be far broader than the imparting of information, and must be given individually. Sex is more than a biological function. It is bound up with the sacredness and uniqueness of the human personality. It can be fully and properly appreciated only within a religious and moral context. If treated otherwise, the child will see it apart from the controlling purposes of his life, which is service of God.

God could have planned otherwise the propagation of the race than via sex powers--but He did not. We must accept the present order as it is, work to perfect it, not speculate about other possible world orders. Keeping the divine plan in focus, we place sex where it belongs.

The power of fatherhood and the power of motherhood are in no way obscene powers. Husbands and wives freely exercising these powers and their privileges in accordance with the divine Will act virtuously and meritoriously. God could not ordain that which in itself is "dirty" or is a shameful means for creating men made to God's own image and likeness.

The command to "increase and multiply" was given to Adam and Eve before the Fall. In their state of ORIGINAL JUSTICE there was no such thing as immodest actions or impure desires. Only after the Fall did man's lower nature become unruly. Only after the fall from grace did reason lose its control over passion and there came into the world what was called by St. Paul "the sting of the flesh." In the beginning it was not so.

Prayers: (ill) grandmother of Gene Gorski (Iy); Miss Anne Rossiter (St. Mary's); mother of Arch F. Gott, '37; Remo Mazzone's father; father of Bill Ryan (Dil).