

Ferdie J. Deering

AUG 2 1984

Morality as Scarce Now as Clothing

MY generation was taught that only primitive or uncivilized people went about without clothing. What I see on the streets, in print, and on TV often reminds me of this.

The "Permissive Society" likely would say that anyone who holds such a view is suffering from a "generation gap." The fact is that today's widespread nudity and pornography are results of a "morality gap." Morality seems to be as scarce as clothing.

The resignation of Miss America because nude photographs of her being published in a pornographic magazine does not reflect a resurgence of morality or even a strong stand for respectability by the sponsors. It only recognizes that many people still think part of each individual should be private.

Hollywood, New York, San Francisco, Las Vegas, and other centers for worship of Aphrodite and Mammon have imposed their amorality upon our country through control of entertainment, communications, and other means. There is no way to

avoid it.

They have been aided and abetted by organizations that have brought about suppression or moral teachings in public schools so that children may not even learn right or wrong there.

A couple of weeks ago Robert E. Lee reported in his column in The Oklahoman's area newspapers that a study showed incidents of sex on network TV shows were up 34 per cent over a year ago and that 84 per cent of all allusions to sexual intercourse on prime time TV took place outside of marriage.

That is what the younger generation is being taught and there is no reason to suppose that it is unintentional.

Viewers have been complaining about advertising of personal feminine products, medical, and bathroom supplies on TV in ways that are embarrassing to family groups. Nudity and sex are exploited offensively to sell merchandise just as they are used in programming. Decency is losing out.

The worst is yet to come. The Wall Street Journal reported July 19 that TV commercials appearing in some markets show a group of women discussing contraceptives they prefer.

Contraceptives are about the last remaining products banned by the networks. Once the barrier is broken we may expect the herd to follow, as they do in programming. The leering couples in bathrooms and bedrooms soon may be demonstrating birth control devices for your family on prime time. And probably in print, too.

We seem to learn little from history. Great civilizations of the past collapsed when the people turned to debauchery and drunkenness. Everyone who has eyes and ears should be aware that the United States is becoming a profligate nation but we don't seem to think that historic precedents apply to us.

Like a famous author said on his deathbed: "Yes, I know everyone must die, but I thought an exception would be made in my case." Destiny doesn't make many exceptions.

WALTER R. HARRIS
2836 N. W. 65TH
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73116

August 3, 1984

Mr. Ferdie J. Deering
11608 Susan Lane
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73120

Dear Mr. Deering:

I know you receive hundreds of letters about your writings, but feel that one more will not hurt. You, of course, do not know me, but we met at Jim Hunter's years ago while you were the editor of Farmer-Stockman. Lil and I grew up together in McAlester and I had known Jim long before they married. Before retiring I was an attorney for the Internal Revenue Service.

What I wanted to tell you is how much we admire your work and particularly the way you feel about immorality which threatens the very existence of this country. Although I am certain the decent outnumber the bad too many of us are unable to make our voices heard.

The typical show on television today has boy meeting girl, them chewing on each other a while and then going to bed. Even Cagney and Lacy which rates near the top has a female detective who is practically a nymph. Boycotts have not worked, ministers are too fearful to mount an attack and there seems to be no effective organization whatever. Please keep up your good work and recruit others if you can.

Sincerely,

Walter Harris

National Debt Data Sought

TO THE EDITOR:

Your Sunday paper of July 19 had a truly remarkable commentary reprinted from "The Spotlight." It was remarkable because so little on the subject of the Federal Reserve System is generally known or understood. Its independence from voters, administration or even congressional controls is astounding! And the Constitution is so specific about the matter of monetary control that it is surprising the FED even exists.

What I would like to read about is who are the major recipients of the enormous interest being paid out by the federal government on the trillion-plus national debt that is a large portion of taxes from all of us? Are they foreign or national financiers? Do they pay taxes on the collected interest as we do?

It would be a great service to the taxpaying public.

AUG 13 1984
A.H. Abernathy, Enid

Editorial Right on Target

TO THE EDITOR:

The editorial by Ferdie J. Deering on "Morality as Scarce Now As Clothing" was one of the finest and truest I have read in a long time. We need more like them.

Yes, historic precedents do apply to us. Thank you for him.

Catherine M. Butler, City

Gasoline Laws Suggested

TO THE EDITOR:

I have recently read about the millions of dollars to reduce the lead in the air by making all gasoline unleaded. I propose three very easily adaptable laws, and the cost is almost negative.

1. Equalize the cost of regular and unleaded gasoline.
2. Charge a muffler shop a \$10,000 fine for deliberately removing a catalytic converter.
3. Outlaw the sale of so called "test exhaust pipes" sold in auto stores.

You have effectively removed all incentive to eliminate the factory installed equipment.

Bob Holt, City

August 6th, 1984 Med Cashion
7724 Rumsey Road
Okla. City, Okla. 73132

Dear Mr. Deering:

Thanks for your very timely and much needed editorial titled "MORALITY AS SCARCE AS CLOTHING". To me the moral decadence so rampant today, is due mostly to the movies, tv. shows, porno permissiveness and the power of the literary and news dispensing media. And the churches of all denominations are certainly not loud, energetic and effective in fighting the deadly moral decay that destroys Nation. A philosopher of old once said, "Vice is a monster of such horrible mien, that to be hated needs but to be seen. But seen too oft, familiar with its face, we first ABHOR, then endure and then embrace". That seems to be the picture of the U.S. today. The news media of good intent should more often take up the cudgels against the evil subversing our people. The churches, too, should be admonished to start a revolution against VICE and its cohorts. But the far left seems to control TV, Movies, magazines of ill repute and the published media. THANKS and power to you. Sincerely *Med Cashion*