

Dialectic of Feminism

by carol eveschild

During his first American visit since being elevated to the papacy, Pope John Paul II broke his nearly year-old official silence on contraception. Maintaining his strong stance on doctrine and discipline, the Pope confirmed his agreement with the 1968 encyclical and widened the gap between the Church and approximately 80 percent of the nation's Catholics who ignore the ban on contraceptives.

It is not difficult to understand the Pope's emotional religious bias against abortion which he confirmed during the trip, but it is very difficult to understand the stand against contraceptives which can prevent the need/desire for an abortion. Women are expected to forego careers for marriage and as many children as they can bear. Family life cannot be combined with a career in a good Catholic family. What can the Pope tell a Catholic woman who can't afford the money for the bills? Maybe if the Church were to share its wealth with large Catholic families, it would change its policies as funds are depleted.

The Pope and the Church have a long history of trying to keep women in line. One might even describe it as a very old, boundary-less form of government. It tells its citizens what rules they must obey and punishes those who don't. The punishment for independent women who didn't obey all the rules in the Middle Ages was death. Many women were burned as

witches. Today the punishment isn't as drastic, but should modern women be subjected to any such punishments?

When the Pope, as the Church personified, backs Catholic requests for legislation against abortion by our national government, he is intruding on the American concept of church/state separation. This country was founded by people who wanted religious freedom. To permit the Catholic Church to fuse its religious laws with our government laws would be to permit the Church to take personal rights away from millions of our citizens.

Many Catholic women want to remain within the Church. The Church needs to recognize the realities of their lives, however, and become responsive to their needs. Permitting women to serve throughout the ministries of the Church, including the priesthood, would be a welcoming and accepting sign to many women. Nevertheless, when Sister Theresa Kane, president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, asked the Pope to consider giving women an equal role in the Church, he chose not to answer her directly, but instead told the bishops and the press that the Church cannot and will not change its stand. It is time the Pope talked directly with the women in the Church. Their defection from the Church would be a great loss--and the Church is losing.

c.c. reader

Rate-A-Bar

RATING

***** --Outstanding

**** --Excelent

*** --Good

** --Piss Poor

* --Shitty

Teach's Cove 520 South 29th Street, Harrisburg 238-1340

OVERALL -- ****

SERVICE --****

PRICES --***1/2

ATMOSPHERE --*****

DISCO NIGHT --***

GAMES --*** (no pool table)

QUALITY OF BEER ON TAP --*****

WOMEN --***1/2

MEN --***1/2

DIRECTIONS --

COMMENTS --

LOCATION --**

PARKING --****

FOOD --***1/2
(sandwiches are great)

RESTROOMS --***** (women) ***1/2 (men)

QUALITY OF DRINKS (MIXED) --***** (great cream cycles, but order on ladies night only. Could be strain on pocketbook).

ATTITUDE TOWARDS STUDENTS --people are people.

LAST CALL --****

Tuesdays and Thursdays are ladies night with drinks at half price. Monday Night Football with half price on pitchers of beer and \$.25 for hot dogs. Bands on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with \$1 cover charge (rates may vary with type of band). Dress is campus attire.

From Capitol, take 283 towards H-burg. Take Route 83 south towards "the Burg." Take Paxton Street exit. Before Dunkin Doughnuts there is a road to the right (careful, it could be tricky). This road is 29th Street. Follow this road until you see Villa Lupas on the left. Right next door is Teach's.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Harrisburg is sponsoring their annual book sale at the East Mall, Hess Court, on Sat., Oct. 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and on Sun., Oct. 28, from noon to 4 p.m.

Thousands of books--used, new, nearly new, and collectible--are offered to the public at discount prices.

Proceeds from the sale help support the scholarship

program of AAUW and aid local projects such as financial aid to the Dauphin County Library, student loans at local colleges and underwriting of courses at local schools.

AAUW has received a major donation from the estate of a prominent Harrisburg family. This collection which consists of many beautifully bound sets and limited individual volumes features first editions, rare biographies, sets of Pennsylvania,

American, and English history, children's books and more.

cellent selection of used books in the following categories: Art, Biographies Civil War, Classics, Cookbooks and Gardening, Newer Fiction, Foreign Language and Travel, Music, Psychology and Sociology, Philosophy and Religion, and Special Interests. All books are reasonably priced.

EARN AT LEAST \$68. per month for four hours of your time per week. Donate plasma at Sera-Tec Biologicals. Open Monday thru Thursday from 8:45 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday from 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Stop in at 260 Reilly Street, or call for information at 232-1901.

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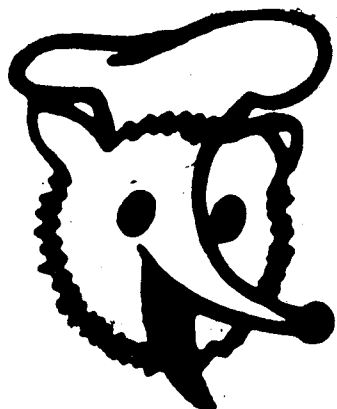
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