

THE LION'S EYE

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Letters, articles and cartoons represent only the views of their authors. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect editorial opinion. THE LION'S EYE regrets it cannot guarantee the return of any material submitted.

All submissions are subject to editing.

ASK? ORLOV

Dear Dr. Orlov,

I have a problem. I do and say things to my parents (who are considerably older) that really hurt them. I am a walking time bomb when it comes to the members of my family. I love them dearly and can't figure out why I am not like this with anyone else outside my family. I need help before I hurt someone, or myself.

Guilty

Dear Guilty,

Your letter greatly concerns me and deserves a warmer, more detailed response than this printed column allows me to offer. However, within the brief space available, let me share these thoughts with you.

First, you need to know that it is far from unusual for a person your age (who is, also, a college student — and thus under great external pressure — as well as still living at home) to feel anger toward his or her parents. Within reasonable limits, in fact, such feelings are very common and quite understandable — arising out of your becoming increasingly "your own" person, needing more freedom, etc. So please, first of all, do not consider yourself a terrible person for having the emotions toward your family that you express here. Ironically, if you feel a strong measure of guilt and self-recrimination in the first place because of your anger at home, those feelings will not only hurt you further, but may also — in turn — make you even more angry (at moments of mental self-justification in which you resent being "made to feel" guilty at all).

Still, your sense that you are constantly hurting your parents and that you are a "walking time bomb" of angry feelings toward your family must be taken very seriously — for your sake and

theirs. Whatever the cause of your anger may be, it is certainly crucial for you to communicate your feelings to your parents (rather than at them) in some constructive, therapeutic dialogue. In order to make this possible, you may need to seek professional counseling. (Such counseling might be arranged through our campus' Student Services office, in the Main Building. It might be beneficial for you to talk alone with a counselor at first, and then in a group with your family included. But you should consult a professional psychologist to explore the best procedure.)

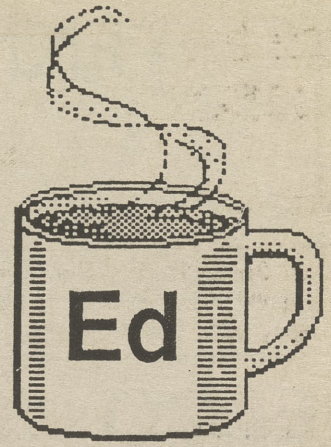
Or, if you can do so at a time of calmness and with your parents' cooperation, you may make a constructive start toward improving your relations with your family — and toward relieving the anger that is festering within you unexpressed — by approaching them to arrange a lengthy discussion at home. (Such a discussion will only be possible, of course, if you and they are able to truly listen to each other's thoughts and feelings with reasonable open-mindedness.)

Either way, I urge you to take action at once to communicate openly what you are feeling and to seek understanding of it that will allow you to regain closeness with those you love. Only in this way can you safely avoid what you admit fearing — hurting yourself and/or those in your family. Seek to free yourself of the emotional trap you seem to be in at present, and take care of yourself.

(Editor's Note: Letters to Dr. Orlov, or comments on his answers are solicited from students, faculty, and staff. Place them in the Lion's Eye mailbox in the mailroom. Those selected will be included in future issues.)

THE FRONT DESK

By Ed Tomezsko
Campus Executive Officer



I don't know how you see things, but from my chair this campus is alive and thriving. I can't remember when the campus has been more active, excited, and involved. Clubs and organizations are very busy. Faculty are teaching up a storm. The activities calendar is filling rapidly. The varsity soccer team is on a hot roll. The Fitness Center is mobbed. There are a lot of smiles. Great!!!

Really good things can happen when you expect things to happen and when you are involved with things happening. That might sound trivial, but it is true. Perhaps you saw the television program on a recent Sunday evening in which the physically handicapped people performed on stage — blind dancers, an armless musician, crippled, wheelchair-bound dancers, and a playwright with multiple sclerosis. They were called "differently abled" by the "real" celebrities.

I was most moved by the playwright. This playwright performed a part in his own playlet. What an effort he put into the performance. It was difficult to watch him. His body was contorted and rigid. His speech was terribly distorted. He struggled every second of the play. He looked like he would fall out of the wheelchair at any time.

I would bet (unlike Pete Rose) that most of the audience was uncomfortable with what they were watching. Who likes to watch people struggle? However, the three people in the playlet didn't seem to be struggling. They were doing something and they loved every minute of it.

Television gives you one singular advantage over sitting in an audience for live stage. You see the faces of the actors close up and you could see their enjoyment.

All of us are "differently abled" when you get right down to it. Just come to the Fitness Center and enjoy your physical abilities with everyone else. In class, enjoy your mental abilities with everyone else. In the cafeteria, enjoy your eating abilities with everyone else, in the lounges, your resting abilities. While you are enjoying, you will notice the differences. And the differences are OK.

When the "differently abled" performed, there were people with other abilities there to help them. Audiences are uncomfortable with struggle, but participants find value in the struggle.

That's the idea behind a university, teachers teach and students learn. There is a sense of safety in numbers. One is there to help the other. When I teach chemistry, most of the time I am the teacher. When I get "exercise" there are a lot of teachers around to help me do it right. Role reversal happens a lot in a university. You are allowed to make mistakes; just watch me in the Fitness Center.

In case you hadn't noticed, the Athletic Center is beginning to smell like a gym. I think that's great because the building is being used for its purpose — exercise. When you exercise, you sweat. Sweat provides nutrients for bacteria to grow and to produce smells.

The fact that the Athletic Center smells like a gym is not a particularly pleasant thought. However, it brings me to the point of this writing. This particular campus is being used for its purpose — learning. There are lots of participants. I can tell because there are a lot of smiling people around right now. When you have intellectual challenge, you work. Work usually brings about results. Results provide the satisfaction to produce smiles.

— Video Vault —

by Bob Reap

Yo! Back here. Welcome to the *Video Vault*, where each issue we'll attempt to uncover the best of the celluloid that you may have missed the first time around.

This issue we'll consider an offer from Australian director Ray Lawrence, as well as a few zany strips from the thought-inspiring Gallagher.

Bliss

Often it seems that foreign directors are able to say so much more on such relatively small budgets. Down Under's Ray Lawrence scores big with the sleeper *Bliss*, a racy and spirited tale about the life and lies surrounding Harry Joy.

Harry Joy seems destined to make an early exit from this film when he dies in the first five minutes of the film. However, our hero returns to his body with the dubious gift of a disturbingly clear perspective of the beings he called his family and friends. He is quick to notice that his wife is having a tempestuous affair with his trusted junior partner while his daughter and son haggle over dope.

Harry is moved to distance himself from these creatures he once found so familiar and the job that once filled his life. But the film is saved from becoming a tragedy by the "ivory clean" heroine, Honey Barbara, who snatches him from the road to hell and puts it into perspective for the dazed and drifting ad exec.

It is often comforting to stare at the hypocrites and pain in others' lives (evidence the fifty hours of soaps each week), and the characters in *Bliss* make it very easy. From his carcinogenic clients to his incestuous offspring, Harry has done nothing positive for his world. It is only when Harry comes to terms with these realities and begins to

make amends that we can really relate to him.

The film is a testament to clean living that continually prods us with a trident of karma, conscience, and cancer. Some of the scenes of the film may take you off guard. All in all, the stark imagery and subtle statement of the film are comfortably packaged in a video worth seeing at least once.

Gallagher the Bookkeeper

Without question one of the funniest comedians to ever trash a stage. *Gallagher the Bookkeeper* demonstrates clearly that Doctor Demento's little boy has come of age. Although one of the most innovative stage-set and prop designers, Gallagher could make you laugh for hours with his own brand of common sense (ever wonder why 7-Elevens have locks on their doors when they're open twenty-four hours?).

Gallagher is no stranger to anyone who has the premium channel Showtime; he often appears on the channel in unreleased specials. For these specials alone Showtime is worth the investment. But if you don't have Showtime and don't yet know who Gallagher is (for shame!), then you must run right out and get any of his four videos available (fans are always awaiting the next). And if you ever get a chance to see him (at the Valley Forge Music Fair, usually) by all means get yourself there. And if you happen to be lucky enough to get in the front row — don't forget your rubbers and mac!

Other videos by Gallagher: *Gallagher: the Maddest*, *Gallagher: Over Your Head*, and *Gallagher: Stucky in the Sixties*. See them all!

Do you have a video you'd like to see reviewed in *Video Vault*? Drop us a line in the *Lion's Eye* mailbox located in mailroom.

Donate Blood!

American Red Cross Bloodmobile

Wednesday, October 25

DO THE RIGHT THING!