

arguments against abolishing clothes

by helen landis

... men would have to resort to carrying pocketbooks

In civilized countries throughout the world a new movement is springing up—nudist colonies. Found within these cloistered colonies are fanatic believers in nudity for everyone. These disciples of back-to-nature are converting traditional clothes-wearers at an increasingly rapid rate. Their tantalizing proposals of removing all outer obstacles to class equality, reducing signs of economic status, and providing an opportunity for a complete suntan prove to be powerful incentives as more and more of the traditional world reverts to its natural bare state.

I, for one, would like to point out some of the dangers that are embedded in this theory if it should ever become a nationwide movement. The structure of American economy would collapse overnight. Bathing suit industries, textile industries, and mink farms would have to cease operations. The stock market would immediately drop, because the clothing industries would disappear. Millions would be jobless and thus, eventually, homeless. The country would be involved in the greatest of all depressions known to mankind. Furthermore, the government would have to bankrupt itself in order to pay all of the unemployment pensions.

Without clothes, we could not maintain our foreign policy. Ambassadors could not be distinguished from the masses by their American clothes. We could never take a stand on any issue that might lead to war. Any war-like action would have to be abolished because war would be impossible. No one would dare fight because there would be no way to tell who was on which side.

Being unable to distinguish people by their clothes would mean that football, basketball, and all major team sports would be impossible. Standing armies

would have to be abolished because insubordination is inevitable if rank cannot be distinguished. Charity would suffer; the Salvation Army would go unrecognized. How could children tell who street-corner Santa Clauses were?

Nudity is an insurmountable obstacle to those wishing to raise their social standing in the eyes of the community. Women could not take the wonderful opportunity now provided by churches to display their new hats and dresses on Easter morning. Teenagers could not become part of their peer group by keeping up with the latest fads. Sororities and fraternities would have to be abolished because there would be nowhere to pin pins. Our First Lady could not be chosen as one of the Ten Best Dressed Women in America.

Another main objection to nudity is often overlooked by our bare friends. Visualize, if you can, what would happen to the masculine and feminine roles that are now practiced in America. Men would have to resort to carrying pocketbooks for loose change, pens, and whatever else they wish to keep with them. Women would simply be lost. Destruction of traditional male and female roles would lead to a frenzied chaos; no one could tell who was wearing the pants in the family.

If nudity becomes an international reality, civilization as we know it will perish. Masses will be jobless.

With so much leisure, the world will become so over-populated that starvation will wipe out mankind. Yet, obvious to the approaching doom of society, nudists happily invite us to join them in denouncing clothes.

Beware, America. Clothes wearers, unite! You have nothing to lose but your shirts (collectively speaking).

Sketches of Song: The Lady

I. Youth
She came of fire,
And blood beneath
The fingernail
In sharp relief
Showed her desire
Leaped out of lace
And lingerie
Past gleaming teeth
Into the blood
And bone beneath.

II. Beauty
The wide forehead,
The turned-up nose,
The neck and chin
That gathered pride
As up they rose,
Were fashioned for
The grand lady
Who struck the pose

And wore the mask
That grandness knows.
III. Age
Then dread age came.
Bred to marvel,
Silent-mouthed,
She stayed inside
And changed her name,
But kept out for
Her flagging pride
The memory
Of what she was
Before she died.

by roy scheele

Everymans wish

I yearn to speak
but my lips are clay
and my heart is afraid
to sing
Many ovens I wished to
fuse
into one with realization
and all
but the words are stayed
within me
Where are the scissors
that can cut,
open this soul of mine
and what is the chick that
can crack the shell
stephen abbott

Learning

Look, mine eyes,
and perceive;
Listen, my mind,
and understand;
Open, my heart,
and accept.
Perceive, understand,
and accept, till all be-
comes a part of me.
anda anderson

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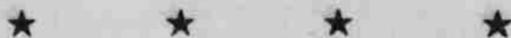
AT THE Varsity

THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF LOVE ... BUT IS THERE ANY WITHOUT GUILT?



ROSALIND / JACK
RUSSELL / HAWKINS
MAXIMILIAN SCHELL
RICHARD BEYMER

Five FINGER EXERCISE



DANDELION

Drops of split sun-paint
on green grass spaces
Where tired butterflies
make resting places
Can brew a draught
of Bradburian wine
That looks and tastes
like liquid sunshine.
A thousand petals cut

short and trim
Supported by a
narrow stem
Over lawn and meadow
they are thrown;
Thus the seeds of spring
are sown.

w. b. napier

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