



letters

I think the idea of doing a depth report on sexuality in last week's Fathom was an excellent one. Certainly it is a topic that needs serious attention and discussion. Our sexuality is a beautiful and precious gift.

I am disappointed, however, that my two-hour discussion with the reporter summarized in a few short paragraphs which misrepresents my views.

I was quoted as saying premarital sex doesn't bother me if it is between two people with a good basic relationship—that casual sex does bother me.

In fact, all pre-marital sex is of extreme concern to me. But the very most inhuman and damaging kind is the casual variety. Something so potentially beautiful and fulfilling and so potentially destructive must have some boundaries to protect it, like the public ratification of marriage.

I also believe that marriage does not automatically make sex fulfilling and beautiful—that happens only when two people share mutual trust and genuinely respect and seek each others' good. Hopefully, by the time two people marry, they will have established the kind of good, basic relationship to which the fulfillment of sexual union will give added meaning.

On the matter of ordaining admitted homosexuals—I believe my church will someday face that decision. It will be decided, like all other policy of the church, in our representative form of governance. If I have an opportunity to vote on that decision, it will be against the ordination of homosexuals. Unfortunately, the reporter made it sound the other way. The article also said that the United Methodist Church is opposed to contraceptives. This is not the case and I did not state it to be the case.

Mel Luetchens

Editor's note: Due to a typographical error *Fathom* inaccurately stated that the Lutheran and Methodist Churches are opposed to birth control. The article should have read, "Neither the Lutheran or Methodist Churches are opposed to contraceptives." The *Daily Nebraskan* apologizes for the error.

Further explanation

I am the doctor mentioned on Page 8 of the Friday, November 10th issue, who does not wish to prescribe contraception for unmarried students. The statement that I wish to remain anonymous is not correct.

I do not prescribe contraception for the unmarried for one simple and compelling reason: it is in my judgment that it is harmful for the person. Apart from the physical problems of the pill, which may be in fact tolerable, it jeopardizes the very kind of relationship and fulfillment which is sought. Sex, isolated from the total commitment of marriage is pleasurable for a time, but is likely to turn to ashes over the long haul and in the experience of patients with whom I have dealt, rarely achieves the permanence and oneness of a relationship which is the ultimate joy of sexuality.

I believe that we are created with a purpose by a wise, just and loving God. His purpose includes our fulfillment and enjoyment in sexuality. If this is true then obviously the surest and quickest route to fulfillment must be to follow His directions which are very clear as revealed in the Bible.

This does not imply that I am trying to force my view of morality on any patient. Everyone is perfectly free to choose, and indeed must choose for him or herself. However, because I believe sincerely that the extra-marital sex route does eventuate in less than the best, it does make it necessary for me as a doctor to warn of what I see ahead, just as it is often necessary for me to advise a patient with chronic cardio-vascular or pulmonary disease to stop smoking.

Nor does this mean that I am trying to make Christians in this way. This is not the way to make Christians. In fact, I have no doubt that chastity for self-righteous reasons or in prudery is very likely to become a hindrance to a relationship with God. A vital relationship with Him does not depend on our moral action, but on His grace alone. It is true, however, that the way we view sexuality reveals something of what we think of God.

I commend the *Daily Nebraskan* for honestly reporting the hypocrisy of a majority of the fraternity men interviewed with regard to their reported and actual sexual exploits and their feelings toward their partners in sex. This strikingly contrasts with the reported attitudes of sorority women. If these attitudes are indeed truly the usual attitudes of college men and women, how can a

woman be sure in a relationship short of marriage that she is not setting herself up for a ripoff?

Lorne E. Brown, M.D.

Game proved exceptional

Since moving to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln about 15 months ago, I have been most impressed by the character and quality of the student body, the faculty, and the staff of this university.

Unfortunately, last Saturday's game against the Sooners proved to be an exception to my earlier impressions. The integrity and character demonstrated by Coach Osborne, the Athletic Department, the football players, and the University of Oklahoma team and coaches were in sharp contrast to the behavior exhibited by a number of students and guests at the football game. It is truly a shame that the people who threw oranges and heaped verbal abuse on the Oklahoma team could not demonstrate, in victory, the graciousness and character that the Oklahoma team so amply demonstrated in defeat.

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Money Talks



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