

Cohabitation . . .

Marriage licenses issued in Lancaster County 1979 to 1984

1979	2,108
1980	2,215
1981	2,196
1982	2,231
1983	2,154
1984*	1,555

*Figure to date
Source: Lancaster County Clerk's Office

Continued from Page 1
"If you are attracted to someone other than your partner, you should be able to tell them," he said. "That does not mean you have to go to bed with them."
Leinfellner said repressing the underground sex life can have two unhealthy results: exaggeration of attraction that can lead to casual involvement and affairs outside a marriage that can lead to divorce.

Limit fantasies
He suggested that flirting, complementing someone or openly discussing an attraction is preferable.

"Most human beings are content with the possibility. We can limit our fantasies," he said. "Better we should limit than repress."
Cohabitation as a test for marriage is a European idea, as indi-

cated before. Leinfellner stresses in his class that he does not promote promiscuity when discussing living together as preparation for marriage.

"If you are going to cohabit, it should not be out of sexual gratification alone," he said. "It should be a learning experience, to find out what type of person you are going to be able to live with."

He said couples wishing to enter trial marriages should discuss the terms openly. He suggested that a policy of "no kids" should be a top priority. After the learning period is completed, he said the couple should decide whether to marry or not.

Cohabitation as an alternative to marriage is often chosen by retired American couples who have been widowed or divorced. These couples don't want to jeopardize their retirement income or inheritance arrangements.

'Careful' couples
And as of March 1980, in 31 percent of unmarried households, one or both of the pair were divorced. These couples often say they fear the possibility of making another mistake — they want

to be "more careful" this time around.

Using cohabitation as a trial marriage will not insure a successful union. David Dixon, a UNL educational psychology professor who teaches marriage counseling, said psychological abstracts show no correlation between cohabitation and successful marriages.

"Cohabitation doesn't seem to relate to the stability of marriage," Dixon said. "Couples who have lived together do not show a lower divorce rate than couples who did not cohabit."

"Once they got married, things were really different," Dixon said. "Cohabitation was still really part of the dating process."

Couples considering cohabitation should be aware of some of legal issues involved. The Lee Marvin-Michelle Triola "palimony" case decided by the California Supreme Court in 1976 created new rules in the cohabitation game.

- Any agreement on rights to property can be enforced.
- Implied property agreements from conducted do count.
- Judges can infer obligation for support payments.
- Judges can take into account the expectation of partners.

Economic consideration
From palimony, we turn to alimony. The Nebraska Supreme Court is considering cohabitation as grounds to stop alimony pay-

ments by a former spouse. Leinfellner said this is already an accepted practice in Europe, with the stipulation that the cohabiting couple must share one residence and not operate out of two.

"In Europe, if someone stays in your residence more than three days, you must report this to the police," he said. "It's a part of public record. They even file income tax together."

Cohabiting couples in the United States must file single returns, however. A representative of Dana Cole, a Lincoln CPA firm, said that in common-law states a joint return is sometimes permitted after a set time period — often seven years.

But in most states and in most cases, a cohabiting couple can contribute to each other's expenses and still not be married in the eyes of the IRS.

Emma Stevens and Stephen Holmes set down a sample cohabitation contract in a 1977 article in Playboy Magazine. The contract is designed to guard against the legal "pitfalls" of cohabitation. The opening paragraph of the contract states:

"We are desirous of entering into a cohabitation relationship but do not desire to acquire any rights or obligations with respect to property, income, support that might otherwise accrue to either of us by reason of this temporary

union." Even though the number of unmarried couples living together has dramatically increased, the rate is beginning to plateau. And, according to census figures, cohabiting couples still make up only 2 percent of people living together.

Lancaster County figures show the number of marriages during the last five years is fluctuating, not showing significant changes one way or the other.

Leinfellner said that during the Reagan administration, we have had a return to traditional trends. He said this often happens during times of improving economies.

But he projects several methods of living together that may be available to couples in the future.

- Premarital arrangement: a trial marriage without kids.
- Strict monogamous relationship: as many religious and personal ethics call for.
- Family group: possibly government instituted in areas of near-overpopulation; a group of adults will be in charge of a limited number of children.
- Open marriage: including group marriage; an option that Leinfellner thinks will not be successful.
- Senior marriage: couples over 60, for example, can marry as they choose without being penalized through Social Security deductions, etc.

'World Famous'
P.O. Pears
→ FRIDAY ←
WEEKEND WARM-UP
HAPPY HOUR 3PM-7PM
GREAT FREE MUNCHIES!
QUALITY SPIRITS & PITCHER'S • MICHELOB • MILLER • OF MILLER LITE 1989
322 S. 9th ST. • LINCOLN, NEB. • 476-8551

Police Report

UNL police cleared a case involving a stolen vehicle Wednesday with a report that the vehicle

had never been stolen.

A UNL student reported the car stolen Aug. 30. The student reported parking the car in Parking Areas 1 and 2 at 21st and Vine streets and finding it later in Parking Area 2 on the east side of Sandoz Hall. The student also reported that the car had been damaged during the time it was missing.

Through a follow-up investigation, the student was issued a citation for leaving the scene and for filing a false police report. Arraignment dates are Sept. 20 and Sept. 19, respectively, in Lancaster County Court.

The following incidents were reported to UNL police between 8:50 a.m. and 11:29 p.m. Wednesday:

8:50 a.m. — Billfold reported stolen from Oldfather Hall.

9:53 a.m. — Parking permit reported stolen from a car parked off campus.

11:07 a.m. — Portable stereo reported stolen from a car in Parking Area 3 at 14th and New Hampshire streets.

11:55 a.m. — Billfold reported stolen from phone booth on first floor Oldfather Hall.

12:11 p.m. — Bicycle reported stolen from Love Memorial Hall on East Campus.

1:32 p.m. — UNL police assisted Lincoln police with a traffic accident at 14th and W streets. No injuries reported.

2:35 p.m. — Belated report of a walkman-cassette stereo stolen from Memorial Stadium. The theft reportedly occurred Saturday.

3:30 p.m. — After a follow-up investigation of a stolen vehicle, police reportedly issued a person a citation for filing a false police report and leaving the scene of an accident. The person reported theft of car Aug. 30.

5:14 p.m. — Attempted theft reported from a car at 19th and Vine streets. The person reportedly attempted to remove the stereo.

5:15 p.m. — Wallet reported stolen from Nebraska Union.

11:29 p.m. — Person reported tampering with emergency phone at Parking Area 3 near 14th and New Hampshire streets.

FREEWHEELIN' BIKE SHOP
BIANCHI BIKE SALE!
Frames for both men and women.
Sport SS Model
Regularly \$310.00
Now Only \$279.00
Walking distance from campus!
(only 6 blocks down 13th St.)
DOWNTOWN 427 So. 13th 475-0204
EAST PARK PLAZA 208 No. 66th 464-0188

Here's the best game plan for your road trip!

VAN RENTAL SPECIALS

- Oct. 20 University of Co. at Boulder
15 passenger van—3 days & 1100 FREE miles
ONLY \$249 + GAS
- Nov. 3 Iowa State University at Ames
15 passenger van—1 day and 450 FREE miles
ONLY \$99 + GAS
- Nov. 10 University of Kansas at Lawrence
15 passenger van—1 day and 400 FREE miles
ONLY \$89 + GAS

For more information call us today
423-2500

Good Life Coaches
15 passenger vans, 28 passenger mini bus, 47 passenger buses

GLC
5034 Rent-Worth Ct.
Lincoln

HOVOR
27th & O ST.
101 N. 27th. 476-1566

Cold OLD MILWAUKEE \$3.78 12 pk. cans	Warm or Cold MOOSEHEAD \$3.99 6 pk. Bottles	Warm BUSCH \$8.79 case
RIUNITE \$4.99 mag.	SKOL VODKA \$4.99 ltr.	AMARITA AMARETTO \$4.75 750 ml.

PRICES GOOD WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!