

# MTV, Madonna fail to promote family values, speakers argue

By Matthew Grant  
Staff Reporter

MTV and Madonna are not doing a good job of promoting family values, speakers said Friday at a debate between the Rutherford Institute and the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union at the UNL College of Law.

Both sides of the debate agreed that family values were positive, but they disputed how the government should encourage them.

The Rev. John Tyler of the Zion United Church of Christ, said that a commitment to family values should not be simply sloganeering, but should be a serious attempt to construct a new society.

"Family values has been tainted as a code word for far right values," Tyler said.

However, he said, having unattainable goals could be dangerous.

Psychologist Jane Close Conoley said words were not turning into ac-

“**Do you think MTV has done a good job of promoting family values?**”  
—Rick Duncan, UNL College of Law professor

“A value is only a belief statement,” she said. “As a psychologist, I’m aware of the low correlation between what people say and what people do.”

She also said that U.S. individualism got in the way of ensuring the health of all children.

“We value families, but we won’t protect jobs of parents, provide day care, provide health care,” Conoley said.

Economic implications of family behavior also were concerns of the speakers.

Rick Duncan, professor of law, said the government should not subsidize day care because that would be unfair to mothers who chose to stay at home with their children.

All parents should receive the same benefits, which they could choose how to use, Duncan said.

Duncan said that he was not criticizing single-parent families, but he asked if they were the ideal.

“Do you think MTV has done a good job of promoting family values?” he said.

Third-year law student Kelly Rosati said single-parent families were five times as likely to live in poverty as two-parent families.

Rosati also said the prevalence of sex and violence in the media is responsible for a drop in family values.

The area representative for Concerned Women, Rosati singled out

# ‘All My Children’ actor urges theater students to follow dreams

By Sarah Scalet  
Staff Reporter

A soap opera star Friday urged UNL student actors to be in touch with themselves and emphasized the importance of artists and soap operas on our society.

James Kiberd, who plays Trevor Dillon on the ABC soap opera “All My Children,” spoke to about 35 students during Kevin Hofeditz’s Theater 223 intermediate acting class as part of UNL homecoming activities and a promotional ABC program at 12 university campuses.

All students in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln theater department were invited to hear Kiberd speak.

Kiberd urged students to think about who they were and why they were acting. From this, he said, they could discover their cores.

Kiberd said his core was his huge appetite for everything.

He said he did everything in his life too much — eating, working, making love and working out.

Once he realized this, he worked with it and used it to his advantage in his career, Kiberd said.

“You’ve got to start with what you are, then make friends with that,” he said.

Kiberd, who was a painter until he was 30, said he decided to start acting

“**If you see something that you want, go for it. You’re the only one that’s going to get you there.**”  
—Kiberd, actor on ABC’s “All My Children”

when an acquaintance encouraged him to audition for a part in a play.

He got the part. From then on, he knew he had to act, he said.

Kiberd told non-traditional students their age could help them succeed in acting, the same as it had helped him.

When he started auditioning for parts at age 30, he was still excited. Other actors his age were grumbling, because they had auditioned so many times.

Kiberd also encouraged older students to draw on their life experiences for parts.

However, he told all the students to use time to their advantage instead of rushing their talents.

Time is part of the process of acting, Kiberd said, because it takes time for acting to integrate through the body and resonate through life.

At the same time, once people decide to be actors, acting must be their entire life, he said.

Acting is not nine to five, Kiberd said, but five to nine — 16 hours a day.

He also emphasized the importance of artists in our society, and said he believed soap operas were the art form of our age.

Kiberd said he believed soap operas were the closest thing to a repertory company in America today.

In today’s society, there are no longer beginnings, middles, and ends, Kiberd said. Society is based on disposability and convenience.

Because of this, he said, the art form of today must be soap operas, which communicate with millions of people every day.

For that reason, he said he loved working for “All My Children.”

However, combatting the image of soap operas as “fluff” is difficult, Kiberd said.

He said he believed characters on soap operas were more challenging and interesting than other characters because of the changes they go through every day.

But whether or not they end up in soap operas, Kiberd encouraged the student actors to follow their dreams.

“If you see something that you want, go for it,” he said. “You’re the only one that’s going to get you there.”

## Wesleyan forum features professor

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska Wesleyan University Forum with William D’Antonio will be presented Friday at the First United Methodist Church, 50th Street and Saint Paul Avenue.

The lecture, “Families and New Religious Movements,” will begin at 10 a.m. D’Antonio is a professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Connecticut and former executive officer of the American Sociological Association.

## WALT DISNEY WORLD COLLEGE PROGRAM

Walt Disney World Co. representatives will present an information session on the Walt Disney World College Program on Monday, November 9, 7:00pm, in the Union. Attendance at this presentation is required to interview for the SPRING '93 COLLEGE PROGRAM. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, November 10. The following majors are encouraged to attend: Business, Communication, Recreation, Theatre/Drama and Horticulture.



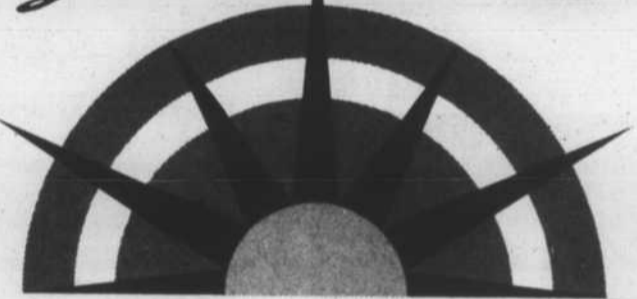
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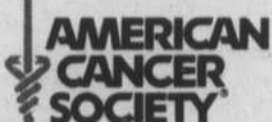
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