

Double standard

Americans are hypocrites when it comes to sex



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Americans love sex. And yet, we as Americans take every opportunity to deny we even have sex. We're hypocrites when it comes to admitting that we do anything under the sheets besides sleeping.

Sex is private, but it's a part of life. So the need to disassociate ourselves from the act is unnecessary.

Our parents have sex. As gross and incomprehensible as it may sound, it's true.

It's natural to have a sexual relationship despite a person's age, as long as the body can take it.

But most people can't stand to hear about older people having intercourse, let alone their parents.

When we turn on the television to "Ricki Lake" or "Jerry Springer," we learn about pre-teens and young teenagers having sex. This is a big concern to me, because kids are less likely to be able to support a baby than most sexu-

ally active adults.

With the divorce rate as high as 50 percent, we should be grateful that our parents still love each other enough to share intimacy.

But something needs to be done to reduce the number of kids who have intercourse or at least increase the use of birth control.

The best way to teach kids about responsible sex is in school. It makes sense, because a school is a place of education.

Many parents, however, argue that a school is not the proper place for sex-ed. This idea doesn't make sense, though, because a lot of parents are too embarrassed to discuss intercourse with their own kids.

Schools teach us so many concepts that we never use again in life. Yet some won't teach responsible sex, which is something we'll have to know for the rest of our lives.

Sex-ed needs to be taught early in a kid's life in school. No, this will not give kids bad ideas and turn them into sex addicts.

Kids are going to have sex, whether their parents like it or not. By teaching safe sex to kids at an early age, maybe fewer kids will lead sexually irresponsible lives. My school didn't discuss sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancy issues until I was a senior. By that age, the sex-ed class is usually too late. Most kids have already made up their minds whether or not to have sex.

At least early sex education might help prevent babies from having babies of their own.

We also tend to be hypocritical on the subject of adultery. I'm disgusted to hear about anyone who cheats on a lover.

But men and women often act upon sex rather than love and cheat on their partners, though the sexual act can ruin their marriage.

Marriage is for monogamy. It means being faithful to the person who shared your marriage vows.

I'm not against anyone having many sexual relationships (with protection), as long as none of the participating people are married.

So if a person believes in marriage, then they believe in monogamy. Hypocrites shouldn't get married.

A prime example of how uptight our society is regarding sex is the reaction to President Bill Clinton's numerous affairs.

Until our country's people can avoid adulterous acts, why should the president have to live up to higher standards? He is the leader of our country, but he's not perfect.

I'm not condoning adultery. I already said that I believe in monogamy. Clinton never should have gotten married, if he knew he couldn't be loyal to his wife. But it's not fair that so many Americans have affairs, and to them it is OK, whereas the president has an affair, and society is in an uproar.

In Europe, there are political figures who have known mistresses as well as a wife, and no one cares. It is an accepted arrangement.

It doesn't make adultery right, but at least the Europeans have made up their minds to face their sexuality honestly.

Americans have such a double standard about sex.

If you're Clinton-bashing because of his infidelities, then you better not be a cheater yourself. That would be like speaking against drunken driving and then getting picked up for DWI.

Clinton is being tried for impeachment because of perjury. However, he probably felt the need to lie because of America's attitude toward sex — which is ironic, because many people cheat and then lie about it.

Just like Bill.

The media also spend too much time worrying about people's sex lives rather than concentrating on more newsworthy topics. To be fair though, people turn on their TVs to tune into these trash stories.

This feeds the media's fire.

Adultery is often the topic of gossip groups and the discussion at the kitchen tables of many families.

Average citizens would be devastated if anyone knew they were cheating, yet they find nothing wrong with watching a public figure's life ruined because it is on television.

I feel that cheaters do deserve some embarrassment, but the amount of

time and money spent by media to tell these scandalous stories is incredible.

Finally, one of the biggest double standards of sex is between the genders. For some reason, when males have sex, especially as teen-agers, they are known by peers as "studs."

But if a female is having intercourse, even if it is with her boyfriend, she is often labeled a "slut." The only difference is gender.

If sex is OK for one gender, then it should be the same for the opposite gender. So how can one be a stud and the other a slut?

This is the way hypocrites think.

Americans have many hypocritical views where sex is concerned. Even though most everyone has sex, many are embarrassed to mention the word SEX.

Adultery has been labeled a sin, but so much of the population commits it anyway — as if hell weren't full enough.

People should realize that sex is a natural thing, which is why we need to teach children early in life that it should be shared by two people who care about each other and are willing to take responsibility for the consequences.

We also need to practice what we preach. We can't judge others if we can't live up to our own standards. Eliminating double standards and hypocritical views toward sex is a must.

Sex is a healthy part of life, not a naughty secret.

A man with moves

Pro wrestling prepared 'The Body' to govern outside of the ring



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I love this country. I love it for many reasons, but mainly I love it for its funny little quirks.

The "Only in America" stories, if you will.

I'm going to tell you one of these stories. This is a story about a man who went from serving his country in Vietnam to serving his country as the new governor of Minnesota.

Of course, the patriot I'm referring to is Jesse "The Body" Ventura.

We've all heard stories about people like him. Ordinary people leading extraordinary lives that could only happen in America.

Stories like ...

... a high school dropout named Sam Walton who turned a little five-and-dime store into the empire known as Wal-Mart.

... the tale of a poor Alaskan girl who once lived in her van. She now is the über-talented singer/songwriter/poet/snaggle-toothed sweetheart we all know as Jewel.

... a young man who was mercilessly cut from his high school basketball team. That boy grew up to be Michael Jordan.

They are all American success stories.

True Americans like Jesse. Gov. "The Body" first served his country in Vietnam as a Navy Seal and underwater demolition expert.

After his discharge, "The Body" embarked on a career that certainly prepared him for a life of politics.

He became a professional wrestler.

Many of us can recall the days of our youth, watching the fledgling World Wrestling Federation and boo-ing a loud, brash Gov. "The Body." Of course, then it was just "The Body."

The double-crossing, deal-cutting, tag-team mentality of pro wrestling provided him with the tools necessary to govern.

It's so obvious now, yet it was overlooked then.

For example, his main foe during his wrestling career was Hulk Hogan.

Sure, at the time Hulk came across as a red-blooded American. A true

It was only years later when Hogan became "Hollywood" Hogan that we saw him

along. After his 11-year career as a wrestler, he entered the broadcasting booth.

His insightful, colorful look into the mental side of professional wrestling allowed the governor to become a member of the American Federation of Television and Radio



MATT HANEY/DN

good guy who stood up for truth, justice and the American way.

But Ventura knew better. He always opposed Hogan, and we booed him.

for what he truly was — a greedy, egotistical maniac.

But Gov. "The Body" knew all

Announcers. As a firsthand witness, I can attest to his talent. When he described the pain of a figure-four leg lock, you truly felt it. But he wasn't content sitting still. No, this is a true man of action we're dealing with.

His supporting role in the film

"Predator" gave us a glimpse of the real patriotic hero that Ventura truly is.

With classic lines like "I ain't got time to bleed," and as he unwrapped a mini-cannon, "payback time," Gov. "The Body" instilled in the American public a sense of the American spirit.

The governor demonstrated the same never-say-die attitude he showed in the ring. Only this time, he used a 600-round-per-minute machine gun instead of a folding chair.

After appearing in "Predator," "The Running Man" (as the appropriately named Captain Freedom), "Batman and Robin" and several other films, Gov. "The Body" decided it was time for him to give back to America.

And he decided to give back to Minnesota, especially.

He returned to Brooklyn Park, Minn., where he was elected mayor in 1991. He served until 1995.

But on this Election Day, he pulled off his most exciting move since performing an atomic leg drop from the top rope on Andre the Giant.

Humphrey, the attorney general and son of the former vice president, was the favorite, and Coleman was the popular mayor of St. Paul.

But Jesse beat 'em like he used to beat up on Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka.

In the end, however, he showed that he was still the same Ventura he was when he was just "The Body."

After his opponents' concession speeches, Gov. "The Body" said, "The experts said I wasn't gonna win. They were wrong. I want to wait until all the votes are counted. Because now all the experts say I've won. They might be wrong again."

Forget John Glenn, George Washington and G.I. Joe. Ventura is a real American hero.

My question is where does he go from here? Will "The Body" be content running the land of 10,000 lakes, or does he have higher aspirations?

Might we be talking about President "The Body" someday?

I can't answer that right now. But when this guy throws his hat into the ring, it's only a matter of time before someone else gets thrown out of it.