

MACHINE INFLUENCES

Changes in Family Predicted

By MAURICE HOBBS

Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

Will the family as we know it survive in an age when machines do all the work?

"Probably not," Alice M. Hilton, president of the Institute for Cybercultural Research, N.Y., told a meeting of family planning specialists today in the Leamington Hotel.

"The way of life of the contemporary family is almost totally conditioned by the means by which the family's bread is earned—usually the job," she said.

In the cybercultural era, when production is accomplished by means of machine systems under the direction of a computing machine, said Mrs. Hilton, a new family might develop.

"If machines take on the chores of housekeeping and providing," she said in prepared remarks, "we have the prerequisite for a more meaningful and beautiful relationship between husband and wife than any that has ever been possible in the age of scarcity."

'Spiritual Riches'

It will not be the physical sustenance of children that makes a family structure necessary or desirable, she said, but instead the "emotional strength and spiritual riches that a loving family, and no other known institution, can provide for children."

Mrs. Hilton made some predictions about the world of the future, when machines will take over production. It could arrive in a decade or two, she said, but "compromises, bungles and delays" will probably postpone it by three or four generations.

In the meantime, machines are already beginning to take over production functions, she said. She told of a bakery in a Chicago suburb whose "entire huge operation is run by a completely self-sufficient and self-contained machine system."

The computer, said Mrs. Hilton, not only performs all the functions of directing the mixing, blending and baking the products by other machines, but "also performs management functions for the business end of the bakery operation," calculating, for example, the best number of rolls to be sent to each customer, processing payroll and invoices and providing information about past experience to modify advertising.

The fact of machines taking over production, she said, points to new opportunities, which men may not be ready for.

"Man's ceaseless toil and

ESOTERIC TALKS' AUDIENCE WILL BRAVE NEW WHIRL

Sociologists sometimes complain the public doesn't understand them.

Some reasons why were shown in titles for lectures to be given today through Saturday at a conference of the National Council on Family Relations in the Leamington Hotel.

They included a talk on "Deterrents to Sequential Courtship: A case of Ecologically Isolated Females," a seminar on "Applying the Zetterberg Axiomatic Model to Theory Building in the Family" and a lecture on "Values, Consensus and Cohesion in the Husband-Wife Dyad: Some Theoretical Implications for the Structural-Functional and Symbolic Interaction Theoretical Framework."

Some other lectures, among almost 60 scheduled, include "Adultery as an Extension of Normal Behavior" and "Attitudes of Conflicted Marital Partners Towards Sexual Foreplay."

self-denial have been the 'normal' way of life on much of the North American continent. Even the rich in this society are more concerned with accumulating more wealth than with enjoying the abundance they have," said Mrs. Hilton.

"In a Puritan society man has forgotten that suffering, toil and self-denial are the means to the end, which is the future release from suffering."

Is Man Ready?

The question, she said, is whether men will be ready to live with abundance and leisure.

"We shall, I am afraid, not be bold enough and wise enough to prepare ourselves rapidly to live in the state of the gods—in leisure and abundance," she said. "We have too long a history of scarcity and toil."

Some of the things that will be available, said Mrs. Hilton, will be an endless variety of machine products, custom-made cheaply by computers.

"If we so choose, each one of us can have a custom-built, individually designed home to serve as the proper frame for the family that he chooses to have."

Machines will also do the cooking and housekeeping, she said.

"If you have to repeat the instruction to the computing

machine to serve your steak rare and your salad crisp, you have an inferior home-making computing system, and you should complain forcefully to IBM or Honeywell, or whoever supplied and programmed it."

AS THREAT TO SOCIETY

Adultery Problem Studied

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By MAURICE HOBBS

Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

Adultery in many cases is only an extension of normal behavior, an Indiana University professor said Friday.

Robert Whitehurst, assistant professor of sociology, said that many of the influences which lead a man to adultery are the same ones which are valued in other instances.

Whitehurst was scheduled to speak today at a conference of the National Council on Family Relations in the Leamington Hotel. Some 600 family study specialists are attending the conference, which began Thursday and ends today.

As a man grows older, said Whitehurst in an interview, his values change, he may be more attractive to younger females, he may have greater opportunities for adultery, and there is "a good chance most men will end up with an affair."

Ideas Change

The chance is particularly high, he said, in the middle-class, middle-aged businessman who realizes he may never make that first million dollars, whose marriage may be changing and whose per-

spective on the world is changing.

When it happens, said Whitehurst, most men show non-pathological responses—"They are not sick." The adultery is an extension of normal, achieving, individualistic behavior, he said.

Whitehurst said he is studying the problem so that sociologists will be able to take an objective look at it, to begin tackling the problem.

"Since it is a threat to the stability of the family," he said, "it is a threat to the stability of society. It is the sociologist's job to explain it."

In a small sampling of businessmen, said Whitehurst, he found that most men thought Kinsey was overestimating when he said that about one-half of American males would be unfaithful to their wives during their married lives.

Statements Doubted

In his limited sample, he said, most men said their colleagues engaged in adultery either seldom or occasionally. One conclusion, said Whitehurst, is that they

weren't telling the truth—that they were underestimating the incidence. Another conclusion that could be drawn, he said, is that "Society is less threatened than we had thought."

But, he said, his prediction is that the incidence of adultery will increase, as people have more money and more free time.

Also, he said, although "this is not a promiscuous society and morals have not broken down, there is a change of values going on in our culture which may make the penalties of adultery less severe."

Indian American Unit Plans Meeting

The first meeting of Mayor's Indian, - Amf Task-Force will be 7 p.m. Thursday in the reception room in

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Sexual Permissiveness Found Unrelated to Class

By IRV LETOFSKY

Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—

A study by a University of Iowa sociologist reveals that there is no social class difference in attitudes on premarital sex.

The national research project undertaken by Prof. Ira Reiss, a leading American family sociologist, refutes the theory of the late sexual poll-taker, Dr. Alfred Kinsey, that lower classes accept premarital sex more readily.

Reiss' study will be released in two weeks in a book entitled "The Social Context of Premarital Permissiveness," to be published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

HE PRESENTED a preliminary outline of his research to the National Council on Family Relations, holding its annual meeting in the Hilton Hotel here through today.

Reiss said he cross-checked his thousands of statistical tables to find support from the long-accepted Kinsey theory.

He found substantiation only in persons who can be classified as religiously, economically and politically conservative. Conversely, he found that liberals in the upper classes are more permissive than lower-class liberals.

His project covered seven samples, including one national survey of 1,500 adults

and six school surveys (two high schools and four colleges) in three states.

TO OBTAIN diversity, he said, he used a highly permissive southern Negro school to contrast with a white school in New York known to be permissive, in addition to a white college in Virginia thought to have low-permissive students.

The basis of the Iowa research was a series of 12 questions posing kissing, petting and intercourse situations and asking whether the individual accepts them.

"When we look at the traditionally high-permissive group, men in general and Negroes in particular, the level of permissiveness remained the same," Reiss told a group of professionals in family study.

"That is regardless of whether they went to church or not, whether they've been in love before or have not been, and so on.

"But in low permissiveness — women and white — there are tremendous differences, in some cases 10 times as much difference if they go to church."

HE SAID this means in effect that social forces have little effect on people who have highly permissive attitudes, while others can have their attitudes easily altered.

On the statistical surface, Reiss said, one out of four

persons accepts the double standard — that men can have premarital sex but women shouldn't.

"But it's much more than that," he said. "You get an undercoating of the double standard in the society if you go deeper."

Despite what the female says she thinks, Reiss said, more than half of them had guilt feelings on everything they did sexually — "their first kiss, their first petting . . . I accept it and I've done it and I feel guilty about it."

Reiss said students at a white college were asked to trace their change in sexual attitudes, behavior and guilt feelings from ages 10 to 20 and "We found that for most of them any sexual behavior that was performed was eventually accepted.

"THEY HAVE guilt feelings but they get over them and keep going," he said.

The speed of resolving the guilt varied, the research indicated. The difference appeared to be that people under more permissive influences are faster in practicing and then accepting the sexual behavior.

In another phase of the study, students were asked to rate their permissive nature against their parents' and their peers'.

Reiss said that more than 60 per cent felt they held attitudes similar to their parents. This percentage was the same "whether one was dealing with a low-permissive group like white females or a high-permissive group like Negro males," Reiss said.

In general, students rate their level of permissiveness between their parents' standard and their peers' standard, but usually closer to the latter, he said.

Problems Described in Training Jobless to Be Male Nurses

By MAURICE HOBBS

Minneapolis Star Staff Writer

Factors that have hampered the training of some economically poor persons were described today by a teacher of practical nursing in Detroit, Mich.

The teacher is Gertrude Z. Gass of the Morrill-Palmer Institute.

She spoke in the Leanington Hotel at a conference of the National Council on Family Relations. She reported on a program which she directed in the Shapero School of Practical Nursing of Sinai Hospital, Detroit, which trained unemployed men as practical nurses.

In the program 19 Negro men and one white man, representing as much as possible an "average" sampling of the unemployed in Detroit at the time, began training in September 1963.

14 Graduated

A year later 70 per cent or 14 of them graduated as practical nurses.

The 20 were all men who had never been successfully employed and who showed

no real potential for employment, said Miss Gass. Fifteen were married and had from one to six children each. They agreed for the year of training to live on a stipend that "covered food and rental and at times barely sufficed."

There were numerous training problems. The first one mentioned by Miss Gass was that, while the training staff was prepared for difficulty in learning on the part of the trainees, it was not prepared for a lack of desire to learn.

The assumption was they would be grateful for a chance to learn.

"This assumption proved soon enough to be a misconception," said Miss Gass. "Actually most of the men had come into the program opportunistically; it was just 'something to do' at the time."

Perception Dim

In addition, she said, their "perception of reality was often so dim that they failed to see the importance of persisting in the program in order to gain the long-term stability they claimed they wanted."

The group and individual counseling in the program were altered to provide more motivation.

Another problem was an "identity struggle," said Miss Gass. Many of the trainees had never achieved a workable sense of identity, usually one of the central tasks of adolescence.

"They wanted to be adequaten, but did not know what this meant or how to accomplish it," said Miss Gass.

"The pattern of getting up, going to work, returning to a wife and children in the evening, and receiving a weekly paycheck sufficient for family needs was a concept totally foreign to the majority of the trainees," said Miss Gass.

Medicare to Add More Rest Homes

Changes in Medicare regulations which would allow nursing homes in Minnesota to qualify to care for patients under the program being processed by the Security Administration, a federal official said here today.

Albert Marcotte, medical consultant in the Medicare Division of the Public Health Department, and John T. Goltz, home consultant in the Public Health Department, were at a press conference at the Radisson

No Model

"They had never seen male in the family conduct himself in this way and thus had no model for such behavior."

So the program was altered to include a "male model, who could help them understand "that a man can react in ways other than running away or being cruel and punitive or passive and weak."

He was Sydney Peimer, the hospital administrator.

A further problem was that of money. Living on the small amount available in the program, the men couldn't support their families as they wanted to and one said he couldn't maintain former friendships. It was more difficult than being unemployed or on welfare, because in those circumstances there was always the possibility that things would "soon pick up," said Miss Gass.

"I went home and my kid asked for money for a Boy Scout uniform," one man said, reported Miss Gass. "I told him just didn't have it and that he would not be able to join the scouts. He said to me, 'What kind of a father are you?' and I felt pretty bad about that."

Refrigerator Bare

Said another:

"I am embarrassed when people come to the house and I want to give them something to eat, and my refrigerator is completely bare, except for one quart of milk which we need for the kids' breakfast the next morning."

The last major problem reported by Miss Gass was attitudes toward success. They were both attracted to and frightened by it, she said, because it meant moving away from people close to them and accepting different standards of dress, speech and values.

"It became apparent that at some level the men wanted to fail," she said.

It was found necessary, she said, to point out to the staff that the world of the working class was not necessarily "better," but that it was different and that if the men wanted to move into that world they would have to accept the different values.