

FAMILY COUNCIL CONVENTION SET

Opening Session to Hear William C. Nichols

Educators, government officials and labor leaders will discuss "Man and His Worlds of Living, Loving and Laboring" at the annual four-day meeting of the National Council on Family Relations beginning Wednesday, Oct. 16, at the Jung Hotel.

William C. Nichols Jr., Ed.D., of the Merrill-Palmer Institute, Detroit, will address the opening plenary session at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 16. His topic will be "Work and Family Life . . . A Male Dilemma."

Leo Perlis, director of the Department of Community Services, AFL-CIO, will speak on "The Family, the Man and His Work" at the Thursday afternoon session, Oct. 17.

The third speaker will be Joseph H. Douglass, Ph.D., staff director of the 1970 White House Conference on Children and Youth and chief of the Interagency Liaison Branch, National Institute of Mental Health. He will speak at 2 p.m. Oct. 18 on "The Child, the Father of the Man."

Council president, William F. Kenkel, Ph.D., will deliver the address on "Marriage and the Family in Modern Science Fiction" at the Oct. 18 banquet. Dr. Kenkel is with the department of sociology at the University of Kentucky.

President of the coming year is Mrs. Elizabeth S. Force, director of the Family Life Education Division of the American Social Health Association, New York City.

White House Director Says Dissent of Youth Is Healthy

Addresses Council on Family Relations

The present "dissent of youth is a healthy national catharsis" because it makes adults admit and recognize society's many problems, Dr. Joseph H. Douglass of Washington, D.C., said here Friday.

Douglass, staff director of the 1970 White House Conference on Children and Youth, addressed a meeting of the National Council on Family Relations conducted at the Jung Hotel.

"At long last, we are facing up to and coming to grips with the manifold problems of our society," he said, adding, "we are being prodded and pushed into action by our youth."

"Our youths are shaking the foundations of our complacency and the institutions of our society."

"It is a shakeup that we

desperately need, and that is long overdue. Some aspects of their 'revolution' may be our best hope."

Douglass is a former official of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and currently chief of the inter-agency branch of the National Institute of Mental Health.

He was introduced by Mrs. Elizabeth S. Force, director, family life education, American Social Health Assn., New York.

She said he was chosen to give his address, "The Child, the Father of the Man," "not for what he knows but for what he is."

Douglass, aged 50, holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Fisk University and a doctorate in philosophy from Harvard University.

He said there are many developments today that threaten the fabric of family living, such

as the "ongoing revolution in sexual behavior," the possibility of "programmed births" and big technological changes which "have tended to depress individuality" or 'personhood.'"

"The child is the target of many unseen, un verbalized and contradictory forces that push and pull him," Douglass said.

However, he concluded, "The

family, though changed, can continue to fulfill its humanizing role as the nurturer of our social heritage . . .

"What is at stake is nothing less than the kind of world in which our children will live, the way they will lead their lives, and in fact the very continued existence of humankind on this planet."

Sex Roles Are Taught, Family Session Told

By MOLLY IVINS

Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

NEW ORLEANS, La. — That fact that children are born male or female does not determine their sex, according to Dr. Robert H. Coombs of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

"If things are defined as real, they tend to become real—sex roles are taught," Coombs maintained here during a conference of the National Council on Family Relations.

He does not discount the influence of physiology, hormones and other biological factors, but Coombs has been searching the socialization of males — how boys are taught what role is expected of them and how they come to internalize expectations.

"CHILDREN are in a dependent situation: they quickly learn that the only way they can manipulate their environment is by doing what's expected of them," he said.

Coombs points out that in American society, all children have a predominantly female model. They see their mothers and their friends' mothers all day, every day. Fathers are more mysterious figures who appear at the end of the day.

"It's as though the mother is a detailed map and the father the outlines of an unknown continent," said Coombs.

"So the clearest concept boys have about their role is that boys are not girls—they don't know what boys are but they do know what girls are.

to be different—which means dirty, independent, mischievous, aggressive and above all, not cry babies.

"The whole society rewards boys for being tough. They are constantly told, 'Buck up, be a man.' Do you ever hear little girls being told to be women?

"Girls are taught not to be babies and boys are taught not to be girls. It's clearly anti-feminist.

"The reward boys receive for breaking away from the security of house and mother is higher status. It involves a good deal of pain and trouble for a boy to go out into dangerous places like roofs and trees. The reward is superiority. Basically, all men, including myself, I will admit, believe that men are superior to women.

"AND WE never get over this preoccupation with masculinity. Just look at attitudes toward the external trappings of masculinity. It's all right for girls to wear pants, but not for boys to wear dresses. It's all right for girls to have short hair but, saving the hippies, it's not for boys to have long hair.

"And little girls can be named Billie or Frankie, but when have you ever heard of a boy named Alice?"

Coombs went into the effects of fatherless family situations on this kind of male socialization:

"If the father dies or the

Coombs

"BOYS ARE instructed

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Coombs

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parents are divorced, the mother tends to become less active socially, more protective, to emphasize manners more. Thus it is more difficult for such a boy to make the break away from the house. His peer group adjustments also are more difficult."

COOMBS' research has turned up some interesting evidence on the importance of the age at which a boy loses his father. Generally, if a boy loses his father before he is 5, the effects are strong, Coombs said. The child stays tied to his mother and the mama's boy syndrome is common.

"But if the loss occurs over the age of 5, there's an interesting pattern. Such boys do not seek out other adult male figures as you might expect. Their distrust of adult males is strong — one has already deserted them. But they do have an intense loyalty to their peer groups and spend most of their time with other boys, the gang.

They develop a compensatory masculinity. They are not merely masculine, but anti - feminine as well. Yet they are remarkably mild and passive when they are away from the peer group or alone. They tend to have strong reactions against homosexuals."

COOMBS' thesis is that the father's role in the socialization of males is the more profound.

"Mothers don't differentiate that much — they think they're all 'just children.' But fathers, if they are successful, are demanding and loving with their sons.

"A good father will cherish his daughter, holding her on his lap, cuddling her, putting her to bed, but he doesn't cuddle his son. He pats him on the head or gives him a mock sock in the jaw and tells him not to cry when the boy down the street beats him up but to rush out and fight again.

"Fathers want their sons to be responsible and have initiative. Studies show that most middle - class fathers want their sons to be successful doctors, lawyers, what have you. But they don't want them to be school teachers. That's a feminine world."

Sex Education Urged Here

Discussion of Subject Is Planned Today

Sex education can be talked about rationally.

This is the opinion of Paul K. Houdek, executive director of the Kansas City, Mo., Social Health Society, here for the National Council on Family Relations convention at the Jung Hotel.

"But there is a barrier against freely talking of sex education," continued Houdek in an interview. "Often we find it difficult to influence churches and schools to have adult sex education seminars and discussions. It's because we come out of a generation which never talked about sex."

Houdek and Mrs. Grace Naismith, author of the book, "Personal and Private," and an associate editor of The Reader's Digest, will conduct a round table discussion Thursday on the subject "Adult Sex Education." Both agreed that adult sex education is badly needed in our nation.

REASONS GIVEN

"Adult sex education is needed for two reasons as I see it," said Houdek. "First, it helps couples enjoy sexual relations more fully and second it enables parents to better instruct their children about sex."

Houdek said the two most popular subjects among adults in discussions of sex education are frigidity and impotence and needs and drives of males and females.

A marriage counselor, Houdek said the No. 1 cause of marital difficulties is "immaturity."

"This immaturity can be in either the husband or wife or both," said Houdek. "It almost always causes in-law trouble. The husband will let his mother interfere, or maybe it is the wife who lets her mother interfere. In either case, if the spouse were mature, he wouldn't let the mother interfere."

NEED STRESSED

Houdek stressed the need of a father to be affectionate with his daughter, and the mother to be the same with her son.

"The first real male in a daughter's life is her father," said Houdek. "If she hates him, fears him, resents him or is neglected by him, she transfers these feelings to her husband."

"When is it time to start this relationship? When the daughter is 4 or 5 isn't too soon. The daughter develops feminine traits as the father brings them out. That is what we call sexuality."

"Maybe a father could compliment his daughter on how pretty she looks, have secrets with her, go shopping alone, buy her pretty things, call her by an affectionate nickname."

"If there is no father, possibly an uncle could take this place, a male teacher, minister or there could be remarriage. But the mother must search for a wholesome male image."

Mrs. Naismith said, "You know we need to do away with the idea of the Battle of the Sexes. It's not unmasculine if a father helps around the house, does the dishes, sits with the children."

COUNSELS DIVORCE

Returning to the subject of marriage, Houdek said often marriages are beyond repair; and he counsels a couple to get a divorce. "The trouble is the marriages are pretty far gone when we get them," he said.

"An example was one man who called me on a Friday, said he wanted to see me on Saturday. He said he wanted me to save his marriage as his divorce papers would be filed that con-

at convention, the Louisiana Council on Family Relations family life — clergy, lawyers, was organized Wednesday with marriage counselors, medical doctors, public health nurses, social workers.

The theme of the national convention is "Man and His Worlds." Dr. Evelyn Duvall, Sarasota, Fla., author of more than 20 high school and university textbooks on marriage and the family, explained that the theme was chosen because the role of the male has changed with that of the female in the past two decades.

Dr. Duvall said men are struggling to become more sensitive, aware, self-assured and comfortable with themselves. She said they are seeking ways to become more at home with their families, to become true companions for their wives and better fathers for their children.

Dr. Duvall added men were thrown off balance by women's struggle for equality and their identities became clouded. So, instead of muscle men who depend on sheer physical strength to battle the wilderness, men are finding that the modern world demands a man who is sensitive to human responses. That is where part of the struggle lies, she added. The convention continues through Saturday.

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So, instead of muscle men who depend on sheer physical



—Photo by The Times-Picayune.
MRS. GRACE NAIMSMITH, author and associate editor of The Reader's Digest, and Paul K. Houdek, executive director of the Kansas City, Mo., Social Health Society, are here for the National Council on Family Relations convention at the Jung Hotel. They will conduct a round table discussion Thursday on the subject "Adult Sex Education."

Family Life Experts Mired on Morality

By MOLLY IVINS

Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

NEW ORLEANS, La.—A group of more than 500 sociologists, psychologists and educators have wandered into the field of morals and found it rough going.

The experts, gathered here for the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, find morality is their hottest topic of debate.

They are not wringing their hands over moral decay in the country. But they are seriously questioning themselves about whether they can teach values to young people or whether they can keep values out of what they teach and, if they teach values, whose will they teach?

ONE OF THE men who has done the most work digging into this quagmire is Dr. Lester Kirkendall, author and professor of family life at Oregon State University.

"The old bases of moral authority—religion and traditions handed down—are in the process of collapsing," said Kirkendall. "Few can accept them any more.

"Many people nowadays have no moral authority to which they refer at all and others are trying to get what they need through following the scientific studies. They are still seeking an authority even though they refuse to accept the traditional ones."

KIRKENDALL'S thesis is that a new morality is arising based on the essential nature of humanity.

"We must first find out what human beings are—rather a large order—and then develop a morality which will contribute to individual self-realization.

"Some people think that human beings are warlike and moral systems must

discipline their real nature.

"I believe that humans are both social and anti-social and that their basic instinct is to reach out to others—to love and be loved. And I believe that if given the opportunity this instinct will prevail over the others.

"WE MUST seek to form a morality which fosters honest, accepting, loving impulses—morality should not be a matter of defining that which is wrong.

"We have clearly done a very poor job in some areas—business and organized warfare most notably.

"In working with any small groups of individuals—no matter what their hostilities, I find that they are always reaching out."

Kirkendall believes the problem of developing a new morality is crucial because society is becoming increasingly depersonalized and dehumanized.

"IF WE SET up a morality—standards, taboos and the like—it becomes a matter of accepting or rejecting it. But behavior patterns are really a process. If we define a new morality, not as rules but as a process which encourages genuineness and openness in any situation, then we will have a morality which can cope with the pressures of this society.

"You see, people say that it becomes more and more difficult to hold humanistic values—to cherish each individual as unique—because there are so many people.

"That is true perhaps in the urban areas where people are so stacked up upon one another. But the great danger in this society is that we so specialize life processes that we cannot see unity of life."

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THE TIMES-PICAYUNE, NEW ORLEANS,

Family Council Formation Set

La. Relations Unit to Begin During Convention

A Family Relations Council of Louisiana will be formed here Oct. 16 in conjunction with the annual convention of the National Council on Family Relations at the Jung Hotel.

Convenor for the organizational meeting of the Louisiana council will be Dr. Georgia E. Dreger, associate director of Psychological Research and Services, Baton Rouge. The council will bring together from Louisiana representatives of numerous professions which are concerned with the problems facing and involving the family

in today's society.

Mrs. Dreger said social workers, clergymen, clinical psychologists, sociologists, family and marriage counselors, lawyers, medical doctors, public health nurses, high school and college teachers of family life courses, school guidance counselors, religious education directors, home economists, domestic court judges and others have expressed a desire for more communication among interested groups and individuals so that a many-faceted approach to family problems and potentials can be realized.

She said the Louisiana group will be affiliated with the National Council on Family Rela-

tions. There are 30 other state and regional affiliated councils throughout the nation.

According to Mrs. Dreger, the Louisiana group, in conjunction with the national council, will seek to stimulate and encourage educational programs, counseling services, research projects, and legislative action designed to strengthen family development in Louisiana.

The organizational session will meet at luncheon at the Jung. Principal speaker will be the Rev. J. Obert Kempson, consultant for pastoral services of the South Carolina State Department of Mental Health and chairman of the affiliated coun-

cils for the National Council.

The national council convention will continue at the Jung through Oct. 18. Current national president is Dr. William F. Kenkel a sociologist of the University of Kentucky.

CHRISTMAS SAVES ANDY CAPP RULING

CLEOBURY MORTIMER, England (AP) — Liz Redfern has obtained permission to keep her 17th century Old Lion Inn open until 2 a.m. so the drinking clientele can see telecasts of the Mexico City Olympic Games. Police at first objected to relaxing the normal midevening closing, saying, "It's not even a local event," to which the court retorted, "Neither is Christmas."

OCTOBER 16, 1968



—States-Item photo.

CHATTING BEFORE SESSIONS of the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations at the Jung Hotel are MRS. VANCE JEWSON of Minneapolis, Minn., left, executive officer of the council, and DR. EVELYN DUVAL, Sarasota, Fla., author of textbooks on marriage and the family.

Man's Changing Role Family Council Topic

By LYNNE WOGAN

Men are at a critical point in their development in a new kind of world.

Specialists in family relationships are meeting this week in New Orleans to take a close look at the problems facing men as a result of the shift in the role of sexes that has taken place rapidly during the last two decades.

DR. EVELYN Duvall of Sarasota, Fla., the author of more than 20 high school and university textbooks on marriage and the family, said that emphasis in recent years has been on the changing role of the wife and mother.

She said it is especially appropriate that the theme for the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, which is being held at the Jung Hotel through Saturday, concentrate on how the emancipation of women has affected men—

The conference will open officially at 7:30 tonight with an address by Dr. William C. Nichols Jr., a member of the Merrill-Palmer Institute faculty in Detroit, Mich., who will talk on "Work and Family Life—A Male Dilemma?"

IN AN INTERVIEW today, Dr. Duvall gave an overall view of the reasons the council has selected the problems of the man's role in the family as the theme for its annual conference.

She explained that men are struggling to become more sensitive, aware, self-assured, and comfortable with themselves.

They are seeking ways to become more at home with their families, to become true companions for their wives and better fathers for their children.

YET, BECAUSE of an upset in the role of the sexes which came about when women began to work and be educated and treated the same way as men, the men are now unsure of their identities.

As the role of one sex changes, it affects the other sex, she continued. What women really want is for men to be masterful, decisive and aggressive, but with their struggle for freedom and equality the men were thrown off balance, and their identities became clouded.

Now, instead of muscle men who depend on sheer physical strength to battle the wilderness, men are finding that the modern world demands a man who is sensitive to human responses. This is where part of the struggle lies.

Doctors, educators, psychologists and other specialists in family life will explore a wide variety of aspects of the man

and his role today—in his job and with his family. The conflicts will be explored during the three-day meeting at the Jung Hotel.

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SPEAKERS CONFERRING AT THE NATIONAL —States-Item photo.
Council on Family Relations meeting at the Jung
Hotel are, from left, DR. MARY CALDERONE, rep-
resenting Sex Information Education Council of the
United States; DR. KENNETH R. ALLEN of the
Institute for Marriage and Friendship, Toronto,
Canada, and DR. NONA H. CANNON, San Diego
(Calif.) State College.

The Marrying Kind Are 'Submissive' Women

By LYNNE WOGAN

Women who are more likely to marry are more submissive, friendlier, outgoing and agreeable than women who are less likely to marry.

Men who are more likely to marry are more emotionally stable, objective and masculine than men who are less likely to marry.

THESE ARE FINDINGS reported here today by Dr. Kenneth R. Allen of the Institute for Marriage and Friendship in Toronto, Canada.

The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations and are based on tests on a group of 80 unattached men and women and 40 married couples (most of them met at the institute).

The groups, which had an average age of 31, were asked 66 questions and differed markedly in the way they answered 14 of them.

FOR EXAMPLE, the men were asked if having guests in their homes would prevent them from lending a hand with serving meals or keeping the house orderly.

The married group said they would help, but the unattached men said they would bend over backwards to help keep things in top shape. Dr. Allen said this kind of difference points up a compulsion about neatness and having things just so among the unattached.

As another example, the women were asked if staying at home with the children would be their duty rather than that of their husbands.

THE MARRIED WOMEN said no, while the unmarried ones felt that this would be their duty. Dr. Allen said this reveals a compulsive need to marry so strong that the unmarried women would agree to unrealistic terms just to make the marriage contract.

Here is what Dr. Allen said in the introduction to his report:

"Marriage is a dominating life-goal for men and for women. Our society perceives married life as the normal state for any adult human being, equating it with the utmost in personal happiness and fulfillment.

"In contrast, the life of the single man or woman is seen as empty and dull—a Garden of Eden without Eve for Adam and without Adam for Eve.

"Society in general exerts great pressures on single adult people to enter the married state.

"Yet an increasing number of enlightened persons are wondering aloud whether marriage is indeed the ultimate vehicle of happiness for everyone."

ALSO AT THE MEETING, the executive director of the American Association of Marriage Counselors, urged people to be on the lookout for unqualified counselors who could literally wreck their lives.

Dr. Edward J. Rydman said that only three states in the country have licensed marriage counselors.

He said that many doctors, clergymen and others untrained in the dynamics of man and wife relationships can hang out a shingle and begin counseling.

The doctor said this is highly dangerous. He said that even, or especially, well-meaning but unqualified counselors dabble in others' lives trying to help and "end up manipulating other human beings without really knowing what they are doing."

Others, said Dr. Rydman, are getting a perverse satisfaction from hearing about the most intimate details of peo-

ples' lives.

He warned people seeking marriage counseling to be careful and to find a counselor who is a member of the association. He added that the association is working now toward the legalization of marriage counseling through state licensing and certification.

OTHER SPEAKERS on the programs today included Dr. Nona H. Cannon, a professor at San Diego State College, who spoke on "New Challenges for Women and Their Effect on Men," and Dr. Mary Calderone of the Sex Information Education Council of the United States (SIECUS), who led a discussion on "What Women Would Like to See Men Become."

Dr. Cannon said that women have to stop seeing themselves as inferior before they can have the self-esteem to regard themselves on the plateau where men place them.

The meeting will end Saturday at the Jung Hotel.