

The Salemite

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Dr. Mavis Hetherington answers questions following her lecture on "His and Her Divorce." Photo by Patricia Earnhardt

Hetherington: Scholar Speaks on Divorce and the Family

by Patricia Earnhardt & Nancy Jeanrenaud
The Salemite

The time has come for clinicians to accept the single-parent family as normal.

This was the over-all message Dr. Mavis Hetherington, the James M. Page Professor of Psychology, University of Virginia and Salem's Scholar-in-Residence, gave during her lecture on "His Divorce Her Divorce."

Hetherington's lecture was a continuation of this year's lecture series on issues affecting America's children.

During a divorce, Hetherington said parents are unable to give the necessary stability to their children because of their own emotional status. The lack of parental support during this time can cause problems during early post-divorce years.

The parent-child relationships after divorce were an important part of Hetherington's lecture.

Studies show that after divorce, boys do better when living under the father's custody and daughters when under the mother's custody.

The impact of a divorce on boys begins earlier than on girls.

In single parent families where the mother becomes the head of the household, mothers and sons go through a coercive cycle - sons fight their mothers' rules causing mothers to feel incompe-

tent in child rearing. Hetherington said the cycle typically ends when the mother takes on a stronger role and demands that the child behave.

Hetherington said that in girls the effects of divorce are not evident until their teenage years.

The period of adolescence is typically another time of trouble for single parent families. Fathers tend not to monitor children enough during their teenage years, causing problems with adolescent development. Fathers also are likely to ignore their daughter's approach to puberty out of embarrassment.

During their teens, mothers and sons tend to experience role reversal. Hetherington gave the example of a mother who was dating - when her date came to the house, the son began to question his intentions, the time his mother would be out of the house, the proposed destination, and the time his mother would be home. A time was given, and the son replied "Okay, I'll be up."

Another factor of divorce affecting children is that extended relationships with non-custodial fathers begin to drop about five years after divorce. Hetherington said that only 16 percent of non-custodial fathers see their children an average of once per week five years

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"Is There Really a Ghost in Sisters Dorm?"

by Leah Petree
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"Is there Really a Ghost in Sisters Dorm?"

Halloween has arrived, and it is a time for the dead spirits to rise and walk the earth. Will Salem be fortunate enough to encounter those ghostly spirits of the other world? Time will tell, but a spirit supposedly lurks in Sisters Dorm.

The ghost is known by the name of "Patsy." Indeed, this ghost has an interesting history. "Patsy" is thought to have once been a student of Salem College, and she supposedly ended her own life under the pressure of unrelenting grief over not being accepted into an on-campus society. According to the residents of Sisters Dorm, "Patsy" is the spirit of a young, beautiful girl with long, blond hair. She is usually seen in a white nightgown. "Patsy" is thought to take the most liking to girls with long, blond hair, and she especially likes it when a student having

long, blonde hair rooms with a student having long, brown hair.

"Patsy" is an apparition that indulges in the art of moving things around and making unsuspecting noises. Strangely, this spiritual indulging leads to steady but random happenings. Some of the students in Sisters Dorm reveal strange occurrences such as fans and radios suddenly coming on, things constantly being misplaced, objects such as soft drink cans floating across tables, strange shadows passing, sudden footsteps in places where nobody is seen making those footsteps, and so forth. Also, "Patsy" seems to like moving things around in students' closets. Libby Brown, a resident of Sisters Dorm, said that she remembers seeing "Patsy" one night in her closet. On that fateful night, Miss Brown had shut her closet door; but she later saw that the closet door was open and that "Patsy" was in the closet in a white nightgown moving things around. During this

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Old Salem Celebrates Its 40th

by Robin Wilson
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On Saturday, October 13, Old Salem Inc. celebrated its 40th anniversary. Also celebrating its 25th anniversary was MESDA (the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts). Along with the other highlights of the day were the performances of George Hamilton IV, the Salem College Archways, Philip's Chapel Choir and the Salem Academy Glee Club on the square. Planters Lifesavers helped celebrate by serving free refreshments and bringing their giant inflatable Mr. Peanut. Tours were given all day of our campus, through Main Hall, the Inspector's House, the Alumni House & various dorms.

Old Salem began with only a few buildings open to the public. Tours, at that time, cost only a quarter. Today, Old Salem owns a large number of restored buildings and historic land. Although the price has increased for a general public admission to the buildings, Salem students get a better deal than anyone—admission for us if FREE! All you have to do is take your Salem I.D. down to the Visitor Center, where they will give you an admission ticket for Old Salem and MESDA (located down at the end of the restoration, past the Tavern.) This might be a worthwhile (and cheap) idea for Parent's Weekend. Remember—there is much more to Old Salem than just the bakery!

The celebration of Old Salem and MESDA was definitely a success. Approximately 8000 people attended. At this point plans for another such celebration are tentative.