

## "Am I My Brother's Keeper?"

In our chapel service Monday morning January 11, a representative of the World University Service presented the question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" The answer our speaker gave to us was an answer many people in the world have discovered: "No, but I *am* my brother's brother!" This statement should have made every girl who was in the chapel search her innermost thoughts in order to find if she considered herself a relative of all mankind. Certainly, all those young citizens who have given their time, their talents, in effect, their lives to various worthy causes prove that they believe that they are their brothers' brothers. The Peace Corps, the World University Service, and many other unselfish organizations are constantly sowing seeds of brotherly love.

This term, brotherly love, is the key to being our brothers' brothers. One does not always have to agree in any given situation, but love, concern for the welfare of humanity, and consideration of others are as necessary as the basic requirements of life. Recent occurrences in our nation have shown that many deviations from this belief present a definite problem to our society. Just what are these occurrences and what are the deviations? Cases of murder, assault, and robbery are the most shocking occurrences. Cases in which neighbors or on-lookers stand by with eager, watchful eyes or turn their heads and close their shades while helpless people have been assaulted are far too numerous. The degree of smugness and self-satisfaction which enables a person to avoid or refuse aid to one of his fellow human beings is disgusting. Are there no feelings of brotherly love left in the souls of our citizens? Is it surprising that our nation on the one hand has not settled the disputes among races who are virtual strangers to each other while on the other hand people will not forget themselves for a moment to help a *neighbor* escape the fury of a maniac or robber? The fact that danger lurks in dark streets has been known for time immemorial. Safety was once assured in the streets of one's neighborhood and in the protection of one's family and neighbors. No doubt this is still the case in many instances, but in many other instances terror prevails. When the numbers of unconcerned bystanders reach the heights that our nation faces today, much soul-searching is needed.

Do such actions merely happen, or are they the result of many small, self-centered, inconsiderate acts? Search the lives of many of today's citizens. Thought for self alone dominates the beliefs and actions of altogether too many people. Even here at St. Mary's the apparent rudeness of those who continually break the rules concerning closed study, the library, the telephones, the meal lines, and numerous other everyday occurrences offers evidence of the depletion of man's capacity for compassion and regard for the welfare of others. Of course, simply because a student breaks a rule does not mean that she will become a hardened criminal or refuse aid to a person in distress. This hardness, made evident by the lack of compassion and regard for one another, may be built by the repetition of such small inconsiderations; then more and more concentration on self until with drastic occurrence, the realization dawns too late.

No, man may not be his brother's keeper, but like it or not, he is his brother's brother. The places to begin to combat the lack of brotherly love, inclusive of love, compassion, and consideration, are in the lives of individuals such as the students at St. Mary's. *Now* is the time to begin the fight, for it may soon be too late. When one has denied his brother and declined to be a brother to humanity, the task of regaining one's self-respect is close to impossible.

CAROL WILSON, *Editor*

## Organization: Key To Exam Study

Exam week looms before us here at St. Mary's and most of us are shaking in our boots. Many people go to pieces at the very mention of the word 'exams and as a result do not do very well. The first rule for preparing for exams is Do Not Panic! It is careful preparation that leads to success, and this preparation can not be done if worry takes over so that you can not study effectively.

This review for exams can go smoothly if you follow a few simple steps. The key word in this situation is "organization." No matter how horrible your exam schedule may be, you can be ready with careful organization of your time. This year we are being given a reading day which should be a great help if used to advantage. While reviewing each subject try to get an overall picture of the course for the whole semester. With this larger view in mind the smaller parts tend to fit in more easily.

Preparing for an exam is just half the battle, however; now you have to show how much you have learned. Go to the exam room early, and do not try to cram once you get there as this last minute studying rarely does any good. Listen to everything the teacher has to say about the exam (after all he made it out)! Organization is again important at this point. Decide how much time to allot to each question and stick to this amount of time. Read all of the directions carefully because you can lose points for not doing what is asked. Take time to organize discussion questions well; the small amount of time spent in making a brief outline will be to your advantage. Teachers are impressed by well organized answers, and this method gives you a better chance of including all the material. When you get through taking an exam always read through your answers to catch any careless errors which could be costly.

The best way to look at exam week is not as a week of terror but as a week of challenge. Whatever your method of study be consistent and determined to do your best. Do not forget to wear something blue for good luck!

HARRIETT JEFFRESS, *News Editor*

## FOCUS

By Sally Little

This old joke used to be: "Hey man, who was that chick I saw you with last night?" "That was no chick, that was my wife." According to an article in the November issue of *Show*, the joke today has got to be: "Hey man, who was that chick I saw you with last night?" "That was no chick, that was my brother." Allusions to homosexuality are ubiquitous.

In *Holiday* this month a picture of a Parisian night club singer (conspicuously resembling a Playboy bunny) carried the nonchalant caption: "Diversions for every appetite: this chanteuse can not only sing, dance, and tell funny stories, but is actually a man." Perhaps making light of the subject denotes acceptance of it—or at least its universality.

To make any rational conclusions, one must first strip the problem to the roots and view it intelligently rather than purely emotionally. Inescapably must come the question: What is homosexuality? Basically it is a sexual deviation originating from a psychologically abnormal situation. (Few homosexuals are this way because of biological defects.) In most cases homosexuality (of males) results from a very erotic attachment to a feminine person, as a rule to the mother, due to too much love and protection from her and retirement or absence of the father during childhood period. Love of the mother merges into repression. The child returns to autoeroticism and narcissism. He remains faithful to his mother. Also involved is the idea that ties can not be cut. He wants to be exactly like his mother—in other words, to play the female role in life.

The situation intensifies (and it originates for some) when sexual maturity is reached in adolescence. The height of sexual capacity is actually reached for some boys at this time. A *Life* article of June 26, 1964, stressed the importance of this period when the adolescent is "discouraged from making any outright sexual overtures to girls, and as a matter of fact few girls that age are interested in sex anyway." The irony is that usually these are the most masculine boys. Then they are "thrown with other boys in athletic teams, boarding schools, and summer camps." In other situations many boys who are physically undesirable may have such bad luck in the boy-girl world they resort to acceptance in the other world. And after they have been branded homosexual, they can never get back into the normal world.

The reason the word *homosexuality* usually refers to men is that there are three-fourths as many men as women. And the prevalence among men, according to the late Dr. Alfred Kinsey, is that nearly one-half of all boys engage in some kind of homosexual play before they reach adolescence; after adolescence, slightly more than one-third of them have at least one homosexual experience at some time in their lives. Needless to say, too, there are numerous degrees of homosexuality.

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This perversion has been viewed as a crime against nature since before the Biblical days of Sodom and Gemorrah. Whether homosexuality is really harmful to the individual and to the society, however, is a controversial question. Many deviates themselves feel simply that it is a sexual variation in which pleasure is found in man more than woman. It is interesting to note that there is no medical harm, though as *Life* remarks: "the life of the Lesbian is futile, hazardous, and lonely."

An indication of social detriment is the fact that homosexuals are discriminated against by governmental agencies to prevent their being hired in state and federal positions because, as these agencies state, "sexual deviates are poor security risks, being less reliable keepers of secrets and far more subject to blackmail."

From the other side of the fence come horrifying though provocative views from perverts themselves: "It is the secret of ancient Greece. Such confirmed homosexuals of history are Plato, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and probably Alexander the Great. And in modern times it is a perfect answer to the problem of population explosion."

Sigmund Freud in a letter to the mother of a homosexual writes:

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