

## Book Review by Joy Bridges

### Husbands and Wives - A Nationwide Survey of Marriage

by Anthony Pietropinto, M.D., and  
Jacqueline Simenauer.

This book is a report on the first large-scale nationwide survey of marriage ever conducted. This survey was based on the responses of currently married people, both husbands and wives. The authors present the matched replies of couples who completed the questionnaires, demonstrating how differently they may perceive the same event.

Anthony Pietropinto is director of the Mental Health Clinic of the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn. Jacqueline Simenauer is a psychiatric editor and a syndicated columnist.

The book opens with an acknowledgment to George Bernard Shaw for his insightful observations on the nature of marriage. Since 95% of the total population marries at some point in their lives, the institution of marriage is in no danger of dying out. The problem is in the quality of the existence.

Why do people marry? Well, in this survey, less than half married for love. Romanticism is out and a more pragmatic selection of partners is in vogue.

Championship is the main value sought after. In the past, romantic infatuation changed into a more comfortable arrangement over the years. Today marriages start out on that basis. Personality has become the most important factor in mate selection. People select spouses who are generally like themselves and who have the same goals and ideals. There is a premium placed upon good communication. Stability, rather than love, was determined to be the satisfactory equilibrium point in a marriage. Marriage was seen as improving people

by giving them purpose and meaning in their lives.

The funniest chapter was the one on mate selection. The answers to "Why did you get married?" were enlightening. The women's answers were lengthier, more articulate and more carefully thought out. The men generally did not have the foggiest idea why they got married. As the authors put it, "If men actively pursued marriage as women do, there would be no reason to suppose they, too, would not marry early; instead, they pursue education and careers until they are deemed ripe for the plucking, upon which they offer such bewildered rationales as "I guess I was just ready for marriage.", meaning some woman thought he was worth the effort."

The authors came to the conclusion that the new idea of marriage as a vehicle for personal growth and happiness may not be too healthy. As the authors put it "Would the world go on if everyone quit his job because he decided it was not totally pleasurable, or was not providing him with consistent satisfaction? Marriage is too important, too vital for us to burden it with such improbable demands as total sharing of all thoughts, complete empathy with the partner, constant evidence of validation of the partners' worth, and other irrelevant romanticisms. The proof of a good marriage is the work accomplished, the respect of partners for one another, and the undying commitment to the life they have chosen to share."

## Left Face at the Place

In recent issues of HILLTOP, Judy Benfield has introduced The Place, and The Center for Christian Education Ministries. In this issue I would like to direct your attention to the Left of The Place.

As you enter the door going from outside into The Place you will probably find Teresa Ball, the secretary for the Center, The Campus Minister, and the Christian Student Movement. If you need assistance in any area of the Place she can be of assistance. She can also give you a tour of the facilities.

To the Left of the Secretary there are two offices. The first of these is the office of our Campus Minister, Dr. David Smith. David is there to help students in any way he can. There is an almost continual stream of students, faculty, and staff in and out of David's office. Many of these are seeking assistance in some area, while many are giving assistance in some programs being directed through the campus ministers office. Also, many folks just come by to chat and share with David. If you haven't met David come by and visit, and get to know him.

The second office is next door to the Campus Ministers office. This is the Christian Student Movement office. It

is here that the work of the Christian Student Movement is coordinated. Here you can obtain information on any Ministries that the Christian Student Movement is involved in. Also you may visit here and bring any suggestions for new areas of work for the movement. We would also like for you to come by and visit if you haven't so that we may get to know you and you can get to know the officers and council of the Movement so we can work better together.

Beyond the two offices is the College Chapel. Access to the Chapel is through the door to the left of the outside door going into the Place. The Chapel is a place set aside for personal devotions and prayers for students and faculty, and it is open 24 hours per day. Also each day from 8:30-8:40 David Smith leads a daily devotion and quiet time, and all students and faculty are welcome.

If you have not been in any of these areas take a few minutes to stop by and visit. We would love for you to come by and make yourself at home in the place.

Bruce Boyles  
President, Christian Student Movement

## Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. **Chesapeake**, by James Michener. (Fawcett, \$3.95.) Multi-family saga along Maryland's Eastern Shore: fiction.
2. **A Distant Mirror**, by Barbara W. Tuchman. (Ballantine \$6.95.) Europe in the 14th century.
3. **The Far Pavilions**, by M. M. Kaye. (Bantam, \$2.95.) High adventure and love in the Himalayas: fiction.
4. **In Search of History**, by Theodore H. White. (Warner \$5.95.) Memoirs of a journalist.
5. **Mommie Dearest**, by Christina Crawford. (Berkley \$2.75.) Life with mother: Joan Crawford.
6. **The World According to Garp**, by John Irving. (Pocket \$2.75.) Hilarious adventures of a son of a famous mother.
7. **Evergreen**, by Belva Plain. (Dell, \$2.75.) Jewish immigrant woman's climb from poverty on lower Manhattan.
8. **The Thorn Birds**, by Colleen McCullough. (Avon, \$2.50.) Australian family saga: fiction.
9. **Scruples**, by Judith Krantz. (Warner, \$2.75.) Rags to riches in the fashion world: fiction.
10. **Wifey**, by Judy Blume. (Pocket, \$2.50.) Housewife's experiences on road to emotional maturity: fiction.

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## New & Recommended

**Careers Tomorrow**, by Gene R. Hawes. (NAL/Plume, \$4.95.) Growth opportunities in the job market:

**Jack's Book: an Oral Biography of Jack Kerouac.** (Penguin \$3.95.) Story of the "King of the Beats."

**People of the Lake**, by Richard E. Leakey. (Avon, \$2.75.) Mankind and its beginnings.

Association of American Publishers

## RESEARCH RESOURCES

Do you often choose topics that have limited resources in the library? Maybe you can expand your research by searching in the Center for Christian Education Ministries.

At the beginning of the semester, a Senior elementary education student came to visit the Center for Christian Education Ministries with some friends. While exploring, she found several books to use in a first-grade unit plan on liking oneself. **Being Me** by Grady Nutt and **Nobody Else Is Just Like Me** by Florence Schulz were especially helpful in her personal preparation of content. Before this first visit, she did not even think about coming to the Center to look for lesson plan aids.

A Sophomore Art major found several books and filmstrips in the Center for Art projects. **Another Face of Christ in the Art of Africa**, and **Art and the Gospel** are filmstrip packages which this student has found useful. To do preliminary research for a group discussion class, a student in the B.O.O.K. (Beliefs of Other Kinds) by Home Mission Board, **Sun Moon** by Frederick Sontag, and **New Religions** by Leon McBeth. Studying these materials, this student left the Center not only with a greater knowledge of cults but also with a greater appreciation of the services available through the Center for Christian Education Ministries. Cont. on