

By Carole B. Ricks



Carole's Corner...

If You Are Of Different Races Your Life Experience Is Not The Same

Dear Carole:

We are an interracial couple who is very much in love. I am 30 years old and my girlfriend is 27 years old so you can see we are not young kids.

Our upbringing is very similar. Even our religious denomination is the same. We have a compatible outlook on life. And we are co-workers. We can accept each other because we care. However, our co-workers and our families think it's impossible for us to overcome the pressures of society and be happy. Do you think we stand a good chance of making it as a married couple?

P.A.

Dear P.A.:

If you are mature, responsible and loving adults your chances of having a sound marriage are good. However, in addition to the many social and emotional adjustments that marriage requires, you will have another adjustment to make: a cultural adjustment. Although your upbringing is similar, if you are of different races, your life experiences are not the same. Our society does not treat all people in a fair and equal manner. Prejudice and bigotry still exist. The success of your marriage will depend on your commitment to each other. You must help each other cope with hints of racism within yourselves, your families, your jobs and society.

Carole

Dear Carole:

You probably get more questions about in-law problems than any other kind of problem. Well, add me to your list. I had no idea that I had said, "I do," to my husband and to his whole family, too. But we've been married only eight months and I

can't put up with the way they interfere with us.

Now I come from a large family too. But my family does not make demands on me. My husband says his family "needs" him because he is the oldest child. Well, I "need" him too. And I have told him this. After all, I am his wife. Which should come first, his wife or his family?

Rona

Dear Rona:

You, as the wife, should be given first consideration. It is difficult for newlyweds to learn that they must draw a boundary of love and loyalty around themselves. No one else should be allowed to enter that boundary. Neither friends nor family. When others are allowed in and they become a part of your decisions, the result is usually trouble.

In time of crisis, your families should be able to depend on you both. Your families don't have to be neglected. But they must be taught, by you and your husband, to respect the privacy of your marriage. You should be number one in your husband's life and he in yours.

Carole

Editor's Note: Carole B. Ricks, and M.S.W., A.C.S.W. social worker has a private practice in Charlotte as a counselor. She is featured in Carole's Corner Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. on WPEG radio 98-FM. If you have personal adjustment, parent-child or marriage problems that concern you, write:

Carole's Corner
P. O. Box 37107
Charlotte, N.C. 28237

Colletta Bryce Elected To Two Positions

Misenheimer - Colletta Euvonne Bryce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Collins L. Bryce of 9313 Trinity Road in Charlotte, has been elected to two student offices for 1984-85 at Pfeiffer College.

Colletta was chosen by members of the rising Junior Class as class vice president. She also was elected by a vote of all the women students at Pfeiffer to serve as secretary of the Association of Women Students, an organization which unites the women students to represent their common interests.

Colletta is majoring in business administration at Pfeiffer. She is a 1982 grad-



Colletta Bryce
...Rising junior
...graduate of North Mecklenburg High School.

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Keep Listening, Charlotte

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Paid for by Committee To Elect D.G. Martin

