

SADIE'S CORNER

(Tips To The Ladies)

Dear Sadie,

Sometimes I find it very hard to communicate with my parents. I never get a chance to get my points over, I wonder if they understand me at all. They want to know it all and when I speak out, they say my personality is terrible and I have to watch my manners or be put on punishment. How do I get them to understand how I feel about things?

Signed Teenager

Dear Teenager:

Believe me I know what you are going through. I went through the same stage when I was a teenager. One thing you can rest your mind on, is the part of they don't understand you. Most parents don't understand their children and their disagreements with you are only to keep you on the right track because they have already been down that track. What will really shock you is to realize as you grow up that all the things your parents try to teach you, and forewarn you about usually comes true.

Several times, now being an adult I have had to tell my mother that she was so right, about so many things that I thought she was telling me wrong when I was a teenager.

Most teenagers feel that their parents are not letting them be themselves when they show discipline or authority over a situation. But most teenagers must realize that they can be themselves and still listen to their parents. To listen only enables a teenager to gain knowledge of things to be faced in life. I say to any teenager that feels that his or her parents just don't understand, well try to understand the parents, look at their side and not just your own views. Give your parents credit for having sense too, and most of all give them respect even when you disagree. If most teenagers follow the guidance from their parents, then they will very seldom hear the words, "Well I Told You So!!!"

From B-1

our court and correctional systems have been unable to keep up."

Everyone is guaranteed a "speedy trial" by constitution but Alexander wants to ensure this by trying felony cases within 60 days and misdemeanor cases within 30 days to guarantee this right.

"I feel we can unclog the dockets and thus speed up the court process by realizing that until the number of judges and district attorneys increases, plea bargaining will be a necessary means of administratively relieving the overcrowded dockets. Therefore, guidelines need to be established, probably by a committee of the Bar Association, that will

safeguard the use of plea bargaining."

Alexander also stated that he feels we need to start dealing more humanely with "criminals" such as the public drunk. "This is a sickness, not a crime and should be taken out of our criminal justice system." He stated that Mental Health, with the money from alcohol taxes, should be responsible for treating the public drunk.

Alexander also proposes establishing priorities for processing court cases giving first priority to persons who pose a serious threat to society and last priority to first offenders or those in a pre-trial program.

"I am a strong believer in

FEWER CHILDREN DYING OF CANCER TODAY: More children are being cured of cancer today as a result of better diagnosis and treatment of the disease, says a Milwaukee researcher. Dr. Donald Pinkel, a Medical College of Wisconsin pediatrician, surveyed recent advances in childhood cancer treatment, and concludes that improved diagnostic and treatment techniques "have led to increasing periods of disease-free survival and probable cure for greater proportions of children..."

Dr. Pinkel stated further that "Although only one percent of cancer occurs in children, the potential number of productive years of life to be saved by eliminating childhood and adolescent cancer deaths is nearly equal to that to be saved by eradicating adult cancer mortality."

The American Cancer Society says cancer is second only to accidents as the cause of death for children under 15. While about 3,500 children under 15 now die yearly of cancer, the Cancer Society said, this is a "notable reduction" from the peak of 4,615 who

died of cancer a decade ago.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS: Illegitimate births are steadily increasing, especially among white teenagers, the National Center for Health Statistics reported recently. The Center estimated that there were 418,000 illegitimate births nationwide in 1974, the latest year for which figures were available. This amounted to an increase of nearly three percent over the previous year.

White illegitimate birth increased for the second consecutive year in 1974 after declining in 1971 and 1972. The Center said the illegitimacy rate decreased for all age and racial groups except 15-19 year-old white women, who showed a four percent increase.

For women 40 years and older, the number of illegitimate births dropped nearly 12 percent. A Center official said many states are revising their birth certificates to reflect the marital status of the mother rather than the legitimacy of the child. The latter type of classification can raise legal questions in such areas as inheritance rights.

EPIDEMIC OF HEROIN CONTINUING: The nation's top drug-abuse expert stated recently that heroin addiction is increasing steadily in the country after a temporary 18-month downturn that started in mid-1972.

Admitting he was wrong when he predicted in 1973 that the epidemic of heroin addiction had ended, Dr. Robert L. DuPont said it has now spread into small cities and towns across the country from the major metropolitan areas of the East Coast, where it had been centered.

The trend is now for a senescent situation in heroin abuse, said DuPont, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. "The epidemic is continuing. It had never ended."

He estimated there are 600 to 400,000 daily heroin users in the country compared with 200,000 to 300,000 during the period of the downturn. But current heroin use hasn't reached the peak of pre-downturn epidemic - 600 to 600,000 in 1971.

The 18-month decline, DuPont said, came as a result of Turkey's ban on the growing of opium poppies and related

developments. Now, he continued, Mexico supplies 90 percent of the heroin used in the U.S., and the growth of treatment programs has leveled off.

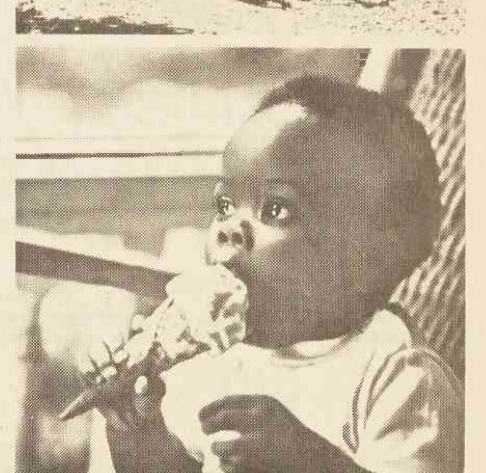
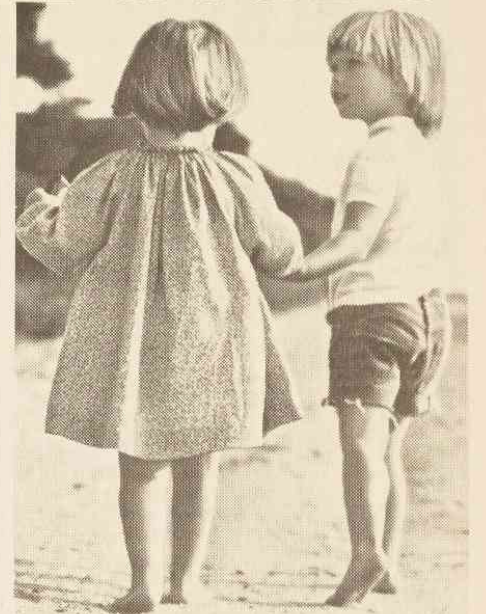
Dr. DuPont stated further blacks and whites now use it equally, and the number of female addicts is rapidly approaching the number of male addicts, adding that it is spreading from the East to the West Coast.

NCCU Professor Named To Red Cross Post

Dr. Charles W. Orr, professor of education at North Carolina Central University, has been named to the Southeastern Area Advisory Council of the American National Red Cross.

The three-part appointment was made by Dr. Frank Stanton, chairman of the Red Cross. It is effective July 1.

America's Children: America's future



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time for equal crimes." To accomplish this, Alexander proposes limiting the discretion of judges in sentencing convicted offenders, and establishing guidelines for departure from the prescribed sentence.

Alexander said that he is definitely in favor of capital punishment.

"The most scientific study to date, shows that it is, in fact, a deterrent. Furthermore the alternative to capital punishment would be absolute life with no hope for parole. I think this could be more cruel and unusual punishment than death. Also, inmates who are in for absolute life pose a serious threat to prison staff and other inmates because they have

nothing to lose if they murder or assault."

Alexander also pointed out the tremendous cost of incarcerating life prisoners. The cost for the inmates currently on death row for the next 20 years will exceed \$11 million. "I can't see that this can be justified when so many of our citizens who have never done any harm are in such desperate need of assistance."

Alexander proposes capital punishment be mandatory for all premeditated crimes which result in the taking of another human life. This would include premeditated murder, premeditated arson, premeditated burglary, and premeditated rape.

"Prison overcrowding is the major problem of the correctional system in North Carolina. We are in danger of federal takeover of our prison system, which happened in Alabama, if this problem is not alleviated."

Alexander proposes reducing the population by increasing parole for non-dangerous inmates, converting unused state facilities such as juvenile centers,

hospitals and mental health facilities for prison hospitals or prison mental health institutions.

"The final alternative is construction of more facilities to house dangerous criminals."

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