

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

February 8, 1977

The thirteenth meeting of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee was called to order by Chairman Stephens on the above date in the Governor's Reception Room of the State Capitol at approximately 11:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL 341: The Chairman turned the meeting over to sponsor of the above bill, Senator Dover. The Lewistown Senator explained the need for this bill and the reasoning behind it by reading his opening remarks to the Committee (see Exhibits "A" and "B").

Senator Rassmussen followed the sponsor, testifying in support of the bill. He questioned the communities' need for X-rated movies as entertainment. The Senator said movies of this caliber were unthinkable 15 years ago; we seem to be witnessing increasing depths of perversion. He said the public is being had by the theatre owners who enjoy an immense profit from these movies. The profit margin is so large, in fact, organized crime is into X-rated films. The Senator does not want to legislate morals, but he is opposed to the commercialism of these movies in our streets. The favorite argument is that a bill of this nature would violate citizens' First Amendment rights. However, obscene material is not under the protection of the First Amendment. The Senator stated he thinks the State and this Committee has the right and the duty to act on this social problem.

Pearl Winsor testified next in support of the bill. She drew the Committee's attention to the effects of advertising, i.e., after seeing an advertisement, portions of the public will buy the advertised product. A parallel was then drawn between the X-rated movies and an advertisement. Mrs. Winsor then talked of the health of the communities' marriages and the detrimental effect X-rated movies have on that relationship. As to the rights of the State to control what is being shown in the community theatres, she asked the Committee to consider other restrictions we in the community tolerate, such as traffic ordinances, city building codes, etc. This, she said, is not the beginning of a witch hunt.

Tim Berry, Montana Conference Seventh Day Adventists, said if the majority of the people are convinced that a distinction can be made between that which is obscene and that which is not, the laws should reflect that conviction. Berry said overwhelming evidence shows that television and motion pictures are very important in teaching values and social behavior. Remember that these movies, as in alcohol usage, affect people differently - some have higher tolerances than others. Porno can and does contribute to our social ills. Berry said there are three possible routes legislation can follow, i.e., (1) Where the mores are strong, there is no need

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for law and where they are weak, the law cannot be effective; (2) The State should limit itself to the deliberalization and prosecution of that which threatens the well-being of others, and (3) The purpose of all legislation is to protect morality . . . .

Mrs. B. K. Jordan, Assistant Professor in Family Studies at Montana State University, read her testimony to the Committee regarding the negative effect of X-rated materials on the family and society in general (see Exhibit "C").

Tom Hanzel, County Attorney, Lewis and Clark County, representing Montana County Attorneys, stated the County Attorneys hear complaints from citizens regarding X-rated movies but, at this time, no law is on the books that would give them the tools to work with. We need one - the people tell the attorneys something is needed. Regarding Senator Dover's amendments, Mr. Hanzel said these would be needed because of the present status of case law. Also, Mr. Kronan of the County Attorneys' Association would be happy to work with Mr. Dover and the Committee on these amendments.

Sheryl Teini, Tom Hocutt, and Rose Mary Rodgers then stood up to identify themselves and voice support of the bill.

The opponents' side was first presented by William Romine, lobbyist for the Montana Theater Owners Association, who testified at length, first from the legal standpoint, the philosophical standpoint and then the technical standpoint (see Exhibit "D"). He believes the bill to be harrassment, censorship and against adults' freedom.


Tom Keegan, representing the Motion Picture Association of America (MGM, etc.) testified in opposition, mentioning the voluntary rating system (G, PG, R, etc.) which the movie industry has today. Keegan thinks adults should be allowed to see whatever they wish in movies, while America's children are protected now by laws prohibiting persons under 18 admission to X-rated films.

James Zion, President, A.C.L.U., testified in opposition - he covered specific sections in the bill that, to him, were unacceptable. In Section 3, Zion objects to the phrase, "specially susceptible audience", because of enforcement problems. In Section 5, objection was made to county attorneys having the duty of prosecuting these cases for the reason that a violation of that duty would make county attorneys susceptible to prosecution for official misconduct.

Dan Cossette, Portland, Oregon, in opposition of the bill, presented a news clipping to the Committee (see Exhibit "E"). Cossette maintained that in Portland, at least, the anti-obscenity law is not working.

Sponsor Dover read his proposed amendments. Mr. Taylor will bring them back to the Committee in proper form later in the week for action.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Stephens adjourned the hearing at 12:15 P.M.

  
STAN STEPHENS, Chairman

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

45th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1977

DATE: 2/8/77

[illegible]

Public Health

SUPPORT,  
OPPOSE OR  
AMEND?

**REPRESENTING:**

ON BILL #

(Please leave any prepared statement with Secretary)

[illegible]

DATE

February 8-77

COMMITTEE ON

Public Health (Senate)

BILL NO. 341

## VISITOR'S REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	Check One	
		Support	Oppose
Tim Warner	Warner-Marketing		✓
DAN KLESMANIN	BOZEMAN THEATRES		✓
Jay Baker	Heure Theatre		✓
Art Michals	HELENA THEATRES		
Leon Elving	Blaine & Red Rock Theatres		✓
Victor J. Dwyer	Silvermont Theatre - Helena		✓
Guy Sauri	Helena T.O.I. Theatres		✓
Ray Williams	Bozeman - Nite Montez		✓
Robert H. Brown			
Wally Tinsley	Carroll College		
Tom Lopez	Carroll College		
Paul Mason	"		
Don Shannon	"		
Robert Sullivan	"		
Bob Hansen	Carroll College		
Bob Hansen	Carroll College		
Wally Tinsley	"		
William Dill	"		
Wally Tinsley	"		
Guy Leonard Connor	711 Hatter		
Lee Roper	Coastlight Amusement Helena		
David Rahan	—		
Don Dyer	—		
Wally Tinsley			✓
Wally Tinsley	Wally Tinsley - Laurel		
Wally Tinsley	no		



## EXHIBIT "A"

### TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 341

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

Senate Bill 341 gives communities in Montana some control on the obscene motion pictures that can be shown in their area.

At the present time there are at least 18 areas where free speech can be limited, prohibited, or in some way "censored" because this censorship is viewed in the best interest of our society. I won't go into all of them, but for example:

1. Speaking a prayer, reading the Bible, or giving instruction in religious matters in public schools.
2. Libel, slander, defamation of character.
3. Words which tend to create a "clear and present danger" - such as yelling "fire" in a crowded theatre.
4. Words offering a bribe to a government official.
5. Words from a loud speaker at 3:00 a.m. in a residential neighborhood, disturbing the peace.
6. Television cigarette advertisements.

A. Despite the commitment to free speech in the Constitution's first amendment, the legislative arm of the government as well as the majority of state and federal courts have always felt that there were certain types of speech and expression which society has a right to restrict, censor, or protect itself from.

The United States Supreme Court is responsible for interpreting the Constitution and it has consistently held that obscenity is NOT constitutionally protected speech and that the states have broad power to control the commercial production, sale, distribution, or exhibition of obscene materials. The most recent Supreme Court decision includes *Mitler vs. California* and the *Hamling* case decided

# A Psychiatrist Looks At Pornography

By Melvin Anshell, M.D.

"Why should anyone want to outlaw obscene movies?" a Los Angeles TV commentator editorialized at the end of his newscast. "The motion pictures have come under severe criticism by some people who are disturbed by their presentation of certain sexual activities," he continued. "O.K., let them express their opinions. And if they don't like them, fine, let them stay away from them. But do they, or I, have the right to keep someone else who is 'turned on' by these types of shows from enjoying them?"

Perhaps this commentator believed that he was voicing what he felt was an objective opinion on pornography. But I am sure that it would never occur to him to question the right of the health department to close down a restaurant serving a patron contaminated food.

The newscaster's point of view, and others like him who advocate the acceptance of pornography, arises in some measure from the misuse that pornography causes no social or individual harm. But my medical opinion is that this assumption, unrelentingly promoted by pornographers, is fallacious.

The adverse effects of audio-visual obscenities permitted in today's entertainment media are sexually devastating to children and adults. The belief that pornography is unsuitable mental fare for children but harmless for adults is illogical. It is like saying a human being suddenly becomes immune to poison at age 18.

## EFFECTS OF PORNOGRAPHY

The cumulative result of pornography on a young person is practically equivalent to the sad effects felt by the victim of a child seducer. In later life, a youth so molested fails, frequently, to make a mature commitment. He remains stunted in self-love which is satisfied with immature forepleasures. In much the same way, a young person constantly exposed to oral, anal, exhibitionistic, voyeuristic and sadistic-masochistic sex acts often allows these perversions to take precedence over his genital sex aim.

In adults — even sexually mature ones — pornography has a sexually regressive effect. It encourages sexual behavior characteristic of pervers.

Pornography embellishes the physical sex life of free lovers and perverts who find it difficult to fulfill their complete sexual needs. But complete sexuality is more than a physical relationship. To be life-sustaining, human sexuality must encompass the mind as well as the body. The affectionate component is as important as the physical. Without companionship and affection, the sex act alone produces frustrations that can lead to serious sexual maladjustments. Free lovers and sexual deviants are in a constant state of conflict with themselves. They project their conflicts onto others with sadistic vengeance.

Whether pornography and perversion are morally "right" or "wrong" is not my direct concern here. I leave that to the moral educators of our society. My interpretations are, however, influenced by what is "correct" and "incorrect." As a physician, I consider anything that supports life as correct and anything that prematurely causes death incorrect.

The regressive effect of pornography on sexual behavior brings on premature death. Any living thing — even a simple cell — that regresses to its primitive state dies before its time. For example, at a symposium on high blood pressure, which I attended recently at UCLA Medical Center, there was a graphic demonstration of death following such a return to an earlier type of life.

At the symposium, it was demonstrated that, under the effects of high blood pressure, "civilized" muscle cells embedded in the walls of the eye arteries may return to the primitive cell type from which they were derived. When this happens, the regressed muscle cells go wild. They leave the wall of the artery and migrate into the lumen, shutting off the flow of blood. By stopping blood flow, they cause their own death and death of the eye.

On a microscopic scale, it is as though some mature individuals, under the influence of pornography, in our society return to the sexual behavior of the savage, and in brutal ignorance destroy not only themselves but the society of which they are a part. This frightening analogy reflects what is happening to many of our communities as a result of the pornography and sadistic violence in our culture.

## NEED TO CONTROL PRIMAL INSTINCTS

Primitive man glorified the sexual instinct itself; civilized man glorified physical sex in the relationship with a loved person. Uncivilized societies readily tolerate perversion. They consider the sex life of deviants as normal.

Only by placing restrictions on primitive instincts have civilized societies emerged from barbarian hordes. Uncontrolled aggressive and sexual feelings (such as murder and indiscriminate sex) which served our cave-man ancestors long ago cannot be tolerated in civilized nations.

The standards of society play vital roles in the development of a child's social conscience. He is molded from a miniature Neanderthal

Under continued pressure from free and perverted love, the dam created by civilized man's conscience begins to break. Like a rampaging flood, all the primal instincts pour forth, wrecking and submerging the structures of civilization. And the alarming increase in sexual perversion, crimes, drug abuse and suicide attests to this fatal fact.

## SEXUAL DEBASEMENT IN MOVIES AND TV

A favorite argument of pornographers for showing actual sex scenes in today's movies is that people in love engage in sex. Therefore, they say, producers have an obligation to make their pictures realistic. From a psychological standpoint, their impression of realism is incorrect.

Sex is an intimate affair. Two normal people in love seek solitude during sexual relations. Ordinarily, they cannot perform or participate in sex openly or with a group. People in love are intensely jealous of their physical expressions of love, and intrusions of pornographers arouse intense resentment.

If movie producers portrayed sex realistically, they would show lovers on the screen becoming impotent when performing sex openly before an audience. Furthermore, pornographers would realize that moviegoers identify with the feelings of the characters in the story. Sitting in a theater with one's spouse, children or neighbors while having to watch the hero and heroine fornicate is embarrassing.

Another favorite dictum of pornographers is that nudity in movies and on TV is justified because nudity is an art form. They say that modesty in regard to the naked body is old-fashioned. In art, however, beauty of the entire nude body is the point of emphasis. On the other hand, the pornographer's emphasis on nudity focuses attention on the genitals and sexual activities related to these organs. Pornographers are not interested in promoting higher artistic values; they are selling erotica.

Concealment of the genitals in everyday life keeps sexual curiosity awake. Perhaps this is why the sexual instinct is most highly developed in man. According to anthropologists, one of the characteristics that distinguishes man from all other creatures is that a human being wears clothes.

Normally, public displays of nudity and sex cause embarrassment, they rouse feelings of disgust and shame. These feelings are natural barriers to perversion. They are fixed by heredity and occur without help from society and family. When disgust and shame fail to function, the subconscious reaction for shunning the abnormal and providing protection against contamination is lost.

Under the barrage of pornography, the natural barriers to perversion are destroyed and the individual becomes defenseless.

## A CASE HISTORY

Marty, age 17, came to me for treatment of his recurrent headaches. My experience as a father and as a physician practicing psychiatry has given me a certain rapport with teen-agers; and it was not long before Marty discussed with me his real problem.

It had begun four years previously, when Marty was in junior high. The son of affluent, professional parents, he was not only a bright student but was popular as well. One afternoon another 12-year-old boy invited Marty and a group of schoolmates, boys and girls, to come to his home to view a movie which his parents showed at grownup parties. Since every young person's ambition is to prove that he can act like an adult, he had an eager audience while he played host during his parents' absence.

The movie turned out to be hard-core pornography, graphically depicting sexual intercourse along with every type of perversion. After the initial embarrassment, the majority of the children were completely seduced. They attempted to outdo the adults in the movie then and there.

By the time he entered high school, Marty told me, his earlier promiscuity had ceased because he no longer "got a kick out of it." His problem, he said, was that he was impotent. For sexual stimulation, he now needed drugs. At present, he is a school dropout, finding release in drug-induced sexual fantasies.

## NORMAL SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT STUNTED

Is there any hope for Marty to return to a normal life? It is most improbable. You cannot stretch the bones of a dwarf. A dwarf's subnormal size is due to premature closure of the bones in childhood. Marty's impotence was due to his sexual growth having been stunted before mature development occurred in adolescence.

Likewise, adolescent girls engaging in premature sexual relations fail to develop their female psychology and to feel pride in femininity. For both boys and girls, chastity during adolescence is essential for developing the capacity to idealize love.

Marty's experiences with pornography sated him with sex before the process of idealization was established in his relations with girls. As a result he holds girls in contempt. His unresolved affectionate longings have built up a continuous succession of frustrations. His bitterness and disappointment with carnal sex devoid of spiritualization have created such a reservoir of hate for females that his sadism is almost fiendish.



EXHIBIT "C"

*Mr. Thompson, Vice-Chair of the Committee  
My name is B. Thompson. I am a  
prof. in Family Psychology in Sch. of H.E. @ U.C. Tl.  
I am testifying for myself.*

*Blanca*  
*Interview*  
*deliberate*  
Blumenfeld deplores what is happening in America today. He says we

are experiencing a breakdown in the process of making human beings human. . .

by setting our priorities elsewhere and putting children and families last,

by holding one set of values while pursuing another. We leave our children

devoid of standards and support and our own lives impoverished. . .

*Naturally, obscene movie do not contrib. to the process of making human beings human*  
Allport says it is not possible to "leave the teaching of values to the home

and church. Schools can't do much of anything. . ." It is a position that

is untenable. If the school does not teach values it will have the effect

of denying them. Children and adolescents are in a questioning stage. If

the school never mentions honesty, modesty, charity, or reverence. . .

they will be persuaded that, like many of their parents' ideas, they are

simply old hat, and later become critical of the teaching of both parents

and the church.

*Go out*  
We will also be thrown on peer values more completely with their emphasis on

the hedonism of parties, destructiveness of gangs; beware at the mercy of the

corrupt values peddled by movies, TV, and disk jockeys. Also some homes

give the child no fundamental value training, so the school may be his only

chance for finding ethical anchorage.

Values, to borrow Whitehead's term, are "matters of importance" as distinct

from mere matters of fact.

Blumenfeld again points to the development of theory and research which

would be respectable scientifically, but requires that we take into account

these variables and those systems which do, in fact, shape the behavior and

development of a human being.

*psychologist*  
James Adams writes that adolescence is important in the determination of the

individual's lifelong value system, because at that time several variables de-

termine whether the adolescent will adopt a principled level of morality or

remain at a conventional level, where judgments are made on the basis of obed-

ience to authority and conformity to the social order. At the principled

level (see attached sheet of Kohlberg's Stages of Moral Development) the in-

dividual makes judgments according to the universal ethical principles based

on the rights of the individual and the value of human life. p. 195.

*In my opinion, obscene movies do not*

*contribute or help the adol. make*

*successful adj. to these universal*

*ethical principles*

SENATE BILL # 341

Mr. Chairman, my name is William L. Romine and I represent the Montana Theater Owners Association and we oppose passage of Senate Bill #341.

To begin with, it must be recognized that Senate Bill 341 does propose censorship. Call it what you may, the intent of Senate Bill 341 is to prohibit the expression of certain ideas and to prohibit adults from voluntarily seeing certain expressions of idea. This is censorship.

When we approach any piece of legislation as substantial, and as controversial as the intent of Senate Bill 341, we must first look to the basic laws of the land. In this instance, we must look to the Montana Constitution. The 1889 Constitution provided, in relevant part, that no law shall be passed impairing the freedom of speech. The present Montana Constitution also makes a declaration concerning the rights of the people of Montana, but Section 7 of Article II of the 1972 Constitution contains different language than the language of the 1889 constitution. The present Constitutional provision provides as follows:

"No law shall be passed impairing the freedom of speech or expression."

It should be noted that there are differences between the older Constitutional language and the present constitutional language. The older constitutional language only applied to freedom of speech. The present constitution includes not only freedom of speech but also freedom of expression, and provides that no law shall be passed impairing such freedom.

We also have under the new constitution a new declaration of rights, not found in the older constitution. This is Article II of Section 10 which states as follows:

"The right of individual privacy is essential to the well being of a free society and shall not be infringed without the showing of a compelling state interest."

The right to attend a theater to see a movie which has been rated R or X and which may be to some individuals objectionable, is a right of privacy and a right of individual choice. Unless there is a showing, under the constitution of a compelling state interest, I am entitled to exercise my right of privacy.

Aside from constitutional law should take a look at the existing Montana Statutes. In 1973, the Montana Criminal Code was passed as a result of the Criminal Law Study Commission which has spent many years in preparing the code. It prohibited obscenity only when it was specifically directed to a person under the age of eighteen. It was quite similar to the Illinois Criminal Code.

# Portland police, DA at loggerheads Over still-thriving porno business

By LESLIE NUDELMAN

Special writer, The Oregonian

THE PORNOGRAPHY business remains alive in Portland 18 months after adoption of Oregon's new anti-obscenity law, but the police and the district attorney do not agree on whether the business is thriving or dying.

There have been estimates by the police that pornography is a multi-million dollar business here, along with confidential that prosecution by the district attorney has not been vigorous enough.

Capt. Norman Reiter of the police bureau's special investigations division said insufficient enforcement of the law is "an exercising in hypocrisy" and in "complete disregard" of the voters who passed the law, which took effect in December, 1974.

He contends that the only way to control the pornography business is to prosecute more cases, and for judges to give stiffer penalties.

Multnomah County Dist. Atty. Harl

Haas acknowledges that his office has not committed large budget amounts for anti-pornography prosecution.

"With a 23 per cent increase in our caseload since last year and with a severely limited personnel budget, I don't have the staff to assign 15 or 20 deputies to chase the police," he declared. "Armed, robbery and burglary come first."

Haas contends some pornography shops and theater owners are closing their doors for fear of prosecution. Reiter, however, said the level of risk to the operators should make them "relatively comfortable" here, and that closures are mainly due to competition and "problems within the industry."

Haas' office, since the beginning of 1973, has prosecuted fewer than a dozen obscenity cases, compared with the office total of some 13,000 misdemeanors and 4,600 felony prosecutions.

Records show that at least four obscenity cases have resulted in convictions. The penalties included maximum fines of \$5,000 against two corporations and a \$250 fine and 30 days in jail for one individual defendant.

Oregon's current anti-obscenity law, of which Haas was a prime sponsor, is aimed at prohibiting live sex shows, illegal sexual activity in massage parlors and dissemination of "obscene" books, magazines and films in theaters and adult shops.

The bill was passed by the 1973 Legislature, but was referred to the voters by petition and ultimately approved by some 40,000 votes in November, 1974.

The new law replaced one which had distinguished Oregon, between 1971 and 1974, as the only state virtually without restrictions on pornography for . . . Th . . . pro . . . only

sale or distribution of obscene material to minors.

Reiter said that despite the new law there are 11 bookstores and 12 to 15 theaters here making "hundreds of thousands of dollars a year" from pornography.

When Haas was promoting passage of the anti-obscenity bill, he and the police seemed to agree that organized crime controlled many of the city's opacently outlets and warned that Portland could become a haven for pornography production unless tougher laws were passed.

Neither Haas nor the police, however, have ever produced clearcut evidence of an organized crime connection.

Whether the connection exists or not, a major problem in prosecuting those suspected of disseminating obscene material is to identify the true owner of the outlet.

Haas said the shops and theaters may be run by corporations, partnerships or individuals which remain "hidden" through the use of other names listed on business and corporation licenses and other documents.

He said the problem is to get at the real owner, the person who makes the profits, rather than simply "arresting a kid off Burnside making \$2.25 an hour" as a shop clerk.

Haas and Deputy Dist. Atty. Jody Stanancyk explained that substantial time is spent checking records and interviewing handwriting experts and other witnesses in an effort to establish owners' identities. In some cases, they said, the owners cannot be identified and the cases cannot be prosecuted.

Haas said that although identifying the owners is the key to successful prosecution the police have generally . . . to spend time working on that

phase of obscenity investigation. Another big problem, said Ms. Stanancyk, is the legal definition of obscenity.

"Obviously," she said, "if lawyers and the Supreme Court have had years of difficulty deciding what is obscene, you can imagine what the jurors are up against."

Jurors have an "immediate fear of censorship," according to Ms. Stanancyk, who has prosecuted several obscenity cases, including the one against the film "Deep Throat" which resulted in acquittal. She said the law is confusing to jurors and asks them to make "moral judgments."

Haas said he receives "a lot of calls" about pornography outlets, and that public sentiment generally falls into three categories: Those who want all such activity banned; those mainly offended by the garish yellow frowns in the downtown area; and those who oppose any form of censorship as an infringement on freedom of expression.



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C. Bonetti



DEAN OF STUDENTS

# CARROLL COLLEGE

HELENA, MONTANA

59601

February 8, 1977

Senator Stan Stephens, Chairman  
Senate Public Health Committee  
State Capitol  
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Senator Stephens:

Just a short note to let you know, and hope you would relay to the entire committee, I wholeheartedly support Senate Bill No. 341.

As a person who has worked with young people my entire professional career, I find it extremely important that our society give young people good models so they can form sound value systems. I cannot see where obscene movies do anything but detract from that system.

It is high time the adults of this society begin to recognize that things like obscene movies and literature do have a profound effect on our young people. It is time to take action and Senate Bill No. 341 is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Dean G. Roberts,  
Dean of Students

DGR/f

# MANNERS, MODES AND MORALS

We often hear it asserted that change is vital to progress, a proposition that only the unwary will accept at face value, yet one that nevertheless has gained widespread acceptance in recent years. Change must not be accepted uncritically, no matter who advocates it, but should be supported only if it appears reasonably likely to be for the better.

The radical changes that have occurred in contemporary life and that are continuing to occur are nowhere more evident than in our manners, our fashions and in our morals. The question is whether these changes have produced an improvement in the human condition.

It's a long way from the few-seconds time limit on kisses imposed by the Hays office on movie producers to the sex, nudity and perversion paraded across the silver screen in today's skin flicks. Change? What else, but is it good? Young and old are deluged with sex from newspapers, magazines, radio, television, movies, stage and books of the grossest vulgarity and "utterly without redeeming social value," to quote one of the three criteria cited by the U. S. Supreme Court in its decision that opened the floodgates to the current orgy.

There are those who promise that the pornography bath will cleanse our minds and souls of those horrid old Puritan inhibitions that have

tormented us so long, and then we will live happily ever after. Perhaps, but meanwhile, what are we going to do about the staggering increase in venereal disease and the other manifestations that either the cure isn't working out as intended or that it is going to take a lot longer than expected.

Change is all too visible in the decline of manners, in the ordinary courtesy which, because it is based on consideration for others, benefits everyone. As Emerson wrote, manners make for happiness. It's just possible that Saint Paul had the right slant when he advised the Corinthians that "evil communications corrupt good manners."

Rampant extremism is not confined to the ideological arena. It has also overwhelmed the world of fashion along with the arts and for that matter most areas of human activity. There was once a time when extreme styles were taken up by a mere handful of devotees of the cause. Today these are approaching if indeed they do not already constitute a majority, and that includes a lot of people over 30. Individualism is a wonderful thing, and we are all for it. So, too, is a little regard for the fitness of things.

It strikes us that the time is now for a change — a change to good manners, good taste and good morals.