

Happy Mother's Day

We may be old fashioned, our thinking outdated, even chauvinistic, but we happen to believe that being a full-time mother is one of the best jobs a person can have.

We know it is vogue to look down upon this vocation as a waste of time and energy. During the past year we were involved in a conversation at a cocktail party. Two women who have chosen to be career people were commenting on a very intelligent lady, a college graduate, who is a full-time mother by choice and opportunity. They said, "What a waste of time and talent." We feel sad, for where they saw a missed opportunity for extra curricular fulfillment, we saw a lady who was at peace with herself, totally fulfilled, struggling with a whole bunch of youngsters and enjoying every moment.

Unfortunately, because of the economic times we live in, most

families need two incomes to survive. As soon as the babies are old enough to walk, mothers are forced back to work and the kids are raised in day care centers, nursing schools or co-ops. Most mothers still manage to give guidance, love and direction to the kids, but are denied the opportunity of sharing all those moments that rightfully belong between child and mother. It's a difficult existence, demanded by necessity.

We salute those women who are able to pull it all together and make it work. We salute those mothers who are fortunate enough to have the family income to be full-time mothers. There is nothing like a mother's love.

To the millions of women who have given so much may we simply say, we love you and may this day be yours. And why not?

Right On Target

President Reagan addressed the American Newspapers publishers in New York City this past week during their annual convention. Reagan criticized the publishers for not giving as much coverage to the good news about recovery as they had given to the bad news when it was happening.

What Reagan didn't say should be said. In a recent poll of American news media, over 70 per cent of those who practice journalism on the national level are of the liberal persuasion. They were flabbergasted, dismayed and disoriented when the people of the United States elected Conservative-Republican Ronald Reagan. Not only had they elected Reagan, but had given him a mandate by giving him a Senate to work with for his programs of halting inflation, cutting government and reducing taxes.

There wasn't much more Reagan could do than to introduce his plans during the first year. Spending was pre-determined by the Carter budget. Inflation has come about through 20 years of uncontrolled government growth and spending. Taxes had perpetually been raised through bracket creep to a point where many Americans saw no reason to make an investment in the country, increase productivity or work for rewards.

Today, inflation is basically a negative factor. Taxes have been reduced 15 per cent; they will be reduced another 10 per cent on July 1, and a long-sought goal, indexing future taxes to reflect inflation, will go into effect. This will put a halt to the government achieving huge new taxes by creating inflation without approval or legislation.

What Reagan has accomplished in less than three years is a near-miracle. A miracle that, if accomplished by a liberal-Democrat, would have been in 148 point headlines on a daily basis. Instead, all we have heard about is unemployment and the dwindling American economy.

Yes, part of the unemployment problem, a small part, was brought about because of the harnessing of our federal government. Most of the unemployment, particularly in steel and the automotive industry, was a result of our failure to automate and take advantage of the high technology the Japanese and Germans had borrowed from us.

Why we failed to maintain our leadership is obvious. Under the old tax laws, there was almost no incentive to risk capital or invest in America. If your risk paid off, your investment produced a profit, but taxes wiped out most of the gain. You were lucky if you were left with, in current day dollars, the value of the investment you made originally.

Reagan stood before the American Newspapers Publisher's Convention a proud man, and a proud President. He had a right to be. He is accomplishing what economics and politicians said could not be done.

Maybe some of those liberals who sat in the audience will be a little kinder and less calculating in attempting to use the economy to discredit the President.

And why not?

A Contract Between Parent and Teenager: The S.A.D.D. Drinking-Driving Contract!

Teenager: I agree to call you for advice and-or transportation at any hour, from any place if I am ever in a situation where I have had too much to drink or a friend or date who is driving me has had too much to drink.

Signature _____

Parent: I agree to come and get you at any hour, any place, no questions asked and no argument at that time or I will pay for a taxi to bring you home safely. I would expect we discuss the issue at a later time.

I agree to seek safe sober transportation home if I am ever in a situation where I have had too much to drink or a friend who is driving me has had too much to drink.

Signature _____

Date _____

Distributed by S.A.D.D.
Students Against Driving Drunk

S.A.D.D. Is Happiness

We are continually encouraged by the number of programs being initiated to help stamp out the tragic and needless deaths caused by drivers who drink. The county's crusade against those who drive while intoxicated has caused a dramatic reduction in the number of fatalities caused by drunk drivers. And in recent weeks schools throughout our coverage area are becoming more involved in getting the important "Don't drive if you have been drinking" message across to our youth.

It is the student involvement in the crusade against driving while intoxicated that impresses and pleases us the most. Not because our youth are the greatest violators, but because the message they learn now in regard to this important matter will undoubtedly carry with them through the years of their lives, years that many of them will live to enjoy because of the emphasis against the DWI violator.

Students Against Drunk Driving (S.A.D.D.) Chapters are springing up in many of our schools, and that is good. Even better is the contract that S.A.D.D. proposes be established between teenagers and their parents. In that binding agreement signed by the teenager and parent, the basis of mutual love and concern is established.

As their part of the contract, the teenagers vow: "I agree to call you for advice and-or transportation at any hour, from any place if I am ever in a situation where I have had too much to drink or a friend or date who

is driving me has had too much to drink."

In return, the parent vows: "I agree to come and get you at any hour, any place, no questions asked and no argument at that time or I will pay for a taxi to bring you home safely. I would expect we discuss this issue at a later time.

"I also agree to seek safe sober transportation home if I am ever in a situation where I have had too much to drink or a friend who is driving me has had too much to drink."

Both sides of the contract agreement offer good, sound reasoning. We strongly support this concept, and urge that all parents and their offspring—teenagers or older, whether members of S.A.D.D. or not—enter into this binding agreement of mutual concern and understanding. Such an agreement, particularly at a time when proms and other such festive occasions are scheduled, can be a forceful weapon to prevent tragedy.

We applaud all the members of S.A.D.D. and those who guide them, for their common sense efforts of concern today can make the all-important difference between happiness and a bright future and tragedy and tears.

And why not?

Letters to the editor

Dear Mr. Willmott:

On April 21, 1983, two people lost their lives at the Long Island Rail Road underpass on Route 25 in Laurel. One of the victims was a woman from Canada and the other was her nine year old daughter.

Many accidents have occurred at that location due to the low clearance of the bridge. The warning signs are inadequately located and many times go unnoticed by the driver. This problem is well known by local drivers but out-of-state truck drivers are unaware of the situation. I am sure that state and local officials are well aware of the frequent accidents that occur at this underpass.

Immediate action such as flashing lights should be installed to let drivers know of the impending underpass. The next step to be taken should be to grate the bridge so that the necessary height can be obtained.

Do we want more fatalities to occur before the state corrects this problem?

Catherine Simicich
Mattituck

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