

AMA Stand on Birth Control Reviewed

By CINDY GLASSOW
Emerald Staff Writer

"The AMA can't decide what is emotionally right for their patients," says Dr. Glen Gordon, Oregon Medical Association president.

This statement was in answer to a question concerning the ethical decision of doctors when faced with the abortion question.

Gordon, talking on abortion and birth control at an SU luncheon discussion Wednesday, emphasized that the AMA "abides by the law" concerning abortion.

The law now states that abortion is illegal unless the mother is in danger, the fetus is dead, or there is a very high chance of deformity. These reasons must be backed up with evidence; several consultants must be backed up with evidence; several consultations should be made before an abortion is performed.

Gordon said that the AMA does not extend their research into issues such as abortions for unwed mothers, mainly because "members of the AMA have a wide spectrum of opinions concerning such a philosophical and religious question."

He pointed out, however, that the AMA is considering support

of abortion for medical reasons, such as the mother having had German measles early in pregnancy, or having used drugs such as thalidomide.

On the question of birth control, Gordon expressed a firm belief in family planning, especially for low income families. He

feels that participants in such programs as Aid for Dependent Children would greatly benefit from birth control measures.

When asked about state control in birth control programs, Gordon said that the government should supply information but should not force it on people. "The family doctor is the best source in this area; he provides a relationship of confidence and under-

standing. Government control is too impersonal."

Gordon stated that the AMA has taken no real stand on birth control, again because the members represent so many viewpoints. "It is up to the individual doctor to practice to the highest degree of excellence he thinks possible; the AMA doesn't set rigid rules that doctors must follow in this area."

Court Tries Three

Three cases were heard by Minor Court One between October 10 and 14. Two students pleaded guilty to possession of alcohol, but because of special circumstances, they were given an admonition of warning.

One dormitory resident was put on disciplinary probation for fall term and was campused for two nights for possession of alcohol.

PL-3 Program

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

- 6:30—HUNTLEY-BRINKLEY REPORT
- 7:00—SCIENCE REPORTER: The operation of equipment inside the Apollo spaceship.
- 7:30—WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? A close look at the Fraternity system, its virtues and shortcomings.
- 8:00—THE STRUGGLE TO GOVERN; CONVERSATIONS WITH CANDIDATES: F. Monty Montgomery, candidate for State Representative from the 13th District, is interviewed by Russell Sadler and Phil Semas.
- 8:30—POVERTY CONFERENCE: The complete film of last spring's ASUO Poverty Debate. Participants are Arthur Pearl, Saul Alinsky, Kenneth Polk and Robert Lampman.
- 10:00—NEWS FINAL

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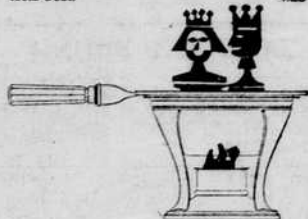
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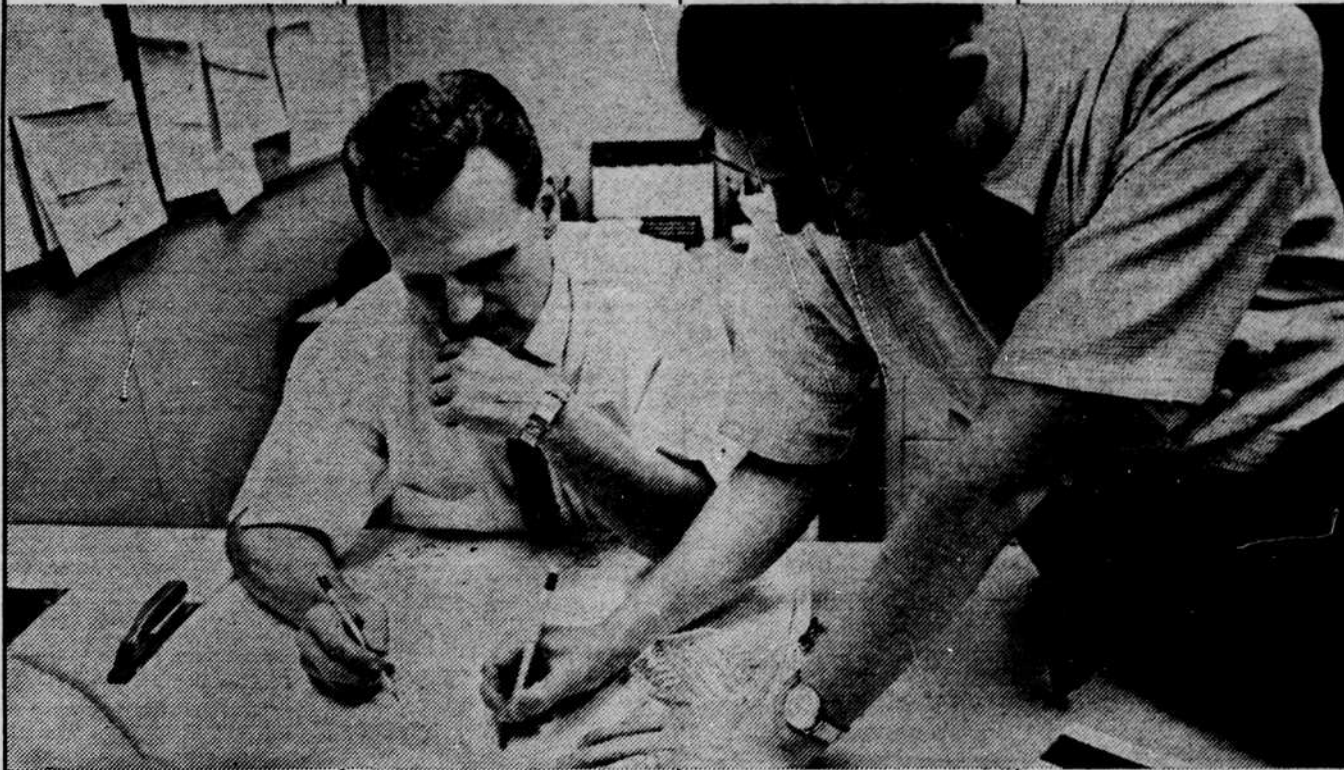
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