

# Jailing sex offenders 'ineffective'

By Leslie Knight  
Of the Emerald

Sex offenders can be treated better in controlled or open community therapy programs rather than in prison, a Quaker minister who has worked in prisons for 30 years said Friday.

"People need restraint, but that doesn't mean they need incarceration," Fay Knopp said during a workshop titled "Remedial Intervention in Sex Offenses." Only a small percentage of sex offenders need to be in a very controlled environment, she said.

Rape and other sexual assaults are "pseudo-sexual acts" that involve acting out of anger, dominance and control through sexuality, Knopp said. She said these are learned behaviors that sex offenders can be reeducated to control.

Advocating "remedies rather than punishment," Knopp said therapy programs take a variety of forms. They can be used as a substitute for imprisonment for lesser offenses, a program for the last two years of a person's sentence, as well as an ongoing program for people coming out of prison.

Controlled therapy programs might involve a separate wing of a hospital where offenders are restrained 24 hours a day. In open programs, the offender comes in for therapy, but otherwise is a community member.

Knopp said therapists agree that

offenders who raped or used violence are too risky for open programs. Offenders who fit into the category of less-threatening offenses, such as exhibitionists or voyeurs, are better off in therapy than prison, she said.

"Whatever we do, we must consider the offender and his needs, the victim and his or her needs, and the community and its needs," Knopp said. Imprisonment without therapy does nothing to change behavior, she said.

Therapy programs around the country focus on dealing with anger and causes for deviant behavior. Knopp said a majority of sex offenders were abused as children and never learned an appropriate way to vent anger. This is coupled with societal stereotypes that portray the woman as weak and passive, the man as aggressive.

The sex offender unit at Oregon State Hospital follows a strict 10-step program that involves privileges and restrictions based on behavior. The objectives for these steps include recognition by the offender of his deviant behavior, an understanding of its cause and a firm commitment to responsible behavior, Knopp said.

The sex offender is "into denial, manipulation and avoidance," when it comes to dealing with his offense, she said. This makes getting the offender to accept responsibility for his actions one

of the most difficult aspects of therapy, Knopp said.

In the Oregon State program, they do this by having the offender act out his crime with a lifesize doll and watch it played back on videotape. He then has to role-play the victim. This allows the offender to identify with the victim, instead of closing himself off to emotion and pain, Knopp said.

Knopp said these programs will do far more than imprisonment can to change the behavior of sex offenders when they are back in the community.



Photo courtesy Chinese Student Association

## Taiwanese troupe show

The Youth Goodwill Mission will perform in the EMU Ballroom at 7:30 p.m.

The show is sponsored by the Chinese Student Association. Tickets are \$5 for the general public and \$4 for University students and are available at the EMU Main Desk.

## Dean announces two promotions

Karl Nestvold has been named assistant dean of the journalism school and Gregory Kerber has been named assistant to the dean, says Everette Dennis, journalism school dean.

Nestvold, who also heads the school's broadcast news program, has been on the University faculty since 1961. He served for several years as general manager of the Oregon Association of Broadcasters and has published research on telecommunication policy and audience issues.

Nestvold worked for several broadcast stations and a newspaper prior to coming to the University. He has a doctorate in mass communication from the University of Texas at Austin.

Kerber, who had several administrative and teaching assignments in the school during the past two years, recently received his master's degree in journalism from the University. He has been an assistant project manager of a University study on the state press and worked on the school's national project about the future of journalism education.

Kerber has been managing editor of a business and

economics journal at the University of Florida and worked in hospital administration.

The two will help administer the school's academic and service programs, Dennis said

## Visual music presented

Guest artist Ron Pellegrino will give a lecture and recital on the visual application of music at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4, in Beall Concert Hall at the University.

His presentation is sponsored the University Committee for Musical Arts. Admission is \$2.

The lecture, "Visualizing Music and Music Theory: A 21st Century Approach," will utilize a laser projection system to graphically show how the structural principles of music operate. The presentation includes a short performance and a demonstration of visual music composition.

Pellegrino is composer, theorist and author of "The Electronic Arts of Sound and Light." He began his electronic music career as a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin in 1967.

For more information, call 686-5664.

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