

# OPINION

Editorial

## Men depicted as bimbos

A new controversy is arising in the entertainment industry. It seems that too much sexism is being demonstrated towards males on TV, in movies, and in commercials.

Men are feeling that they are being made to look like "bimbos," and they are not liking it.

Women have been degraded in every form of entertainment since the beginning of time. Now its the men's turn to look like babbling sex objects.

Almost all of these complaints are coming from men. They feel like they are being portrayed as incompetent fools. Most men feel the portrayal is brought across the most in shows where they have family settings and they are always being corrected by their wives, and never able to handle themselves in menial tasks such as changing a diaper.

If men want this portrayal to end, first they have to become more skilled around the house and prove their competency. After all women have been working quite hard for the last 25 years to prove that they can hold jobs and do just as well as men. So if men want the media to portray them as being intelligent and useful human beings they have to earn it.

-MKT-

## Sunny days brighten life

Today I awoke to sunlight streaming in my bedroom window. I heard a bird singing among the bare branches of my maple tree. My heart felt light. Quickly I pulled on my clothes and ran outside to greet the morning. How clean and fresh the air felt. Life was wonderful! I decided to take a walk through the nearby field. As I walked through the field, spongy with last night's rain, I began to contemplate on life.

### Domestic Issues

by Tammy Swartzendruber

Why is it that when the sun shines our troubles seem so far away. What is life all about? On rainy days it seems that all life consists of is school work, grouchy kids, dirty laundry and a messy house. Then the sun breaks through the clouds and you suddenly discover life is a good thing. It's something that courses through your veins filling you with new energy. It gives you a rush, a sense of purpose and well being.

Some say life is just a vapor that will soon pass away. On rainy mornings that's depressing. It makes you feel like death is just a step away. On sunny mornings the very fact that life is a vapor adds to dimension to life. It makes it challenging, something to live to the fullest.

Anyway, while I was walking through the field I decided that I would try harder to see the beauty in life. With a light heart and a new determination I head-

ed for the house, singing as I went. Suddenly I remembered that I had a Math test in one hour. I'd better hurry.

Calling for my daughter to get her coat, I frantically searched for my car keys. My search brought me to the living room where Shelly was calmly watching cartoons, her clothes still lying in a neat pile beside her.

"Shelly Marie, you get dressed this instant," I hollered, "I haven't got time to wait on you."

"But mom," she wailed, "I don't have a pair of clean socks."

"Oh you do too," I said impatiently, "they're here in your drawer." Woops, I guess she was right. There are no socks. Five minutes later I found a pair in yesterday's laundry I had forgotten to fold and put away.

A cloud passed over the sun. I shivered. Why was it so cold anyway? Oh mercy. My tennis shoes were completely soaked. I paused for a minute trying to figure out how my shoes could have gotten so wet. Oh yes! I had taken a walk through the field. Then I recalled all the wonderful elated feelings I had had about life. I didn't know where those feelings had gone, but one thing I did know was that I was late for school, and that I'd scarcely studied for my test.

"Come Shelly, let's go. And for pity sakes don't break a leg over those roller skates. I don't know why you never put things away."

Oh well, what does it matter. I guess life for me will always be school work, grouchy kids, dirty laundry and a messy house.

## Humor a big business

Psychologists have discovered that a person's sense of humor tells them a great deal about the mental health of people. What you laugh at is somewhat like a Rorschach inkblot or an I.Q. test as a way of delving into one's psyche.

Innocuous jokes suitable for telling in mixed or any age company may be knee-slapper or groaners. Sexual, scatological, political, demeaning, sick, just funny, jokes will indicate where your mind is as quickly as the tests mentioned above.

### The laugh clinic®



by Joe Lee  
Columnist

Kids like nonsensical humor. Some adults enjoy the play on words in humor passed around by young people. Joe Miller of years gone by compiled the first joke book and it was the standard for years. A whole series of "Truly Tasteless Jokes" sold in the thousands within the last five years. There is no end to the funny stories compiled by comedians and humorists. Laughter is a growth industry.

Silly, laugh producing poetry seems to stick in memory long after the source is forgotten. Where I learned these following rhymes will forever be lost, but the poems are still hanging around:

If the bats in your belfry flut  
and your comprenez-vous  
rope is cut;

If no-one's at home at the top  
of your dome

your head's not a head, it's a nut.

Pure nonsense and suitable for any occasion.

In the land of the midnight sun  
it must be a lot of fun

to spend six months in beedie-bo

with a charming, laughing Eskimo.

More nonsense with a mild, sexual over tone.

The cosmic urge of the Egyptian camel

is not what every one thinks for in moments of amorous passion

It's been known to make love to the Sphinx

But the Sphinx's posterior entrance

is plugged by sands of the Nile which accounts for the hump on the camel

and the Sphinx's inscrutable smile.

How do these bits of humor hit you. If you laugh and are amused by them, you have a fairly well balanced attitude for the ridiculous, mildly sexual humor. On a scale of one to ten, they rate about a five for being risque. Jokes rating a ten would be pretty raunchy and slightly out of line in some all male company and most female gatherings.

We have only touched on the psychological aspects of humor very slightly. To learn more about your sense of humor, we recommend "The Antioch Humor Test: Making sense of humor," written by Harvey Mendes, with associates Carolyn Miller, Ph.D.; Joy Turek; Amanda Bender and Suzanne Corbin. All are in the psychology department at Antioch University in Los Angeles.

A good sense of humor, and easy laugh, a well-balanced sense of the ridiculous may become requirements in the work place. It is not without reason that psychological tests are given to job-applicants. Employers like to know as much as possible about prospective employees. Humor tests such as Mendes' et. al., have compiled may well become standard in the near future.

The Laugh Clinic is suggesting that the daily practice and exercising of one's humorous or funny side will pay off. Laughter has been the subject of many papers on its health-producing effects. A conscious effort will make you feel better about yourself and garner friendships as a result.

In another time we shall describe in minute detail the physiological effects of a good resounding laugh, the anatomy of a laugh, as it were. When you learn what happens to our organism when you laugh you will make sure that you double or triple the occasions each day that we laugh. It is very good for you and will improve your healthful living style.

## Letter to Editor Slimness earned

Dear Print Editor,  
I am writing in response to the Domestic Issues column in the Jan. 27 issue. I'll get right to the point. I didn't like it!

THIN (not skinny) people don't need anyone's pity. We are people just like anyone else, who are happy about themselves and the way they look. We do though, expect a little respect. We are all equal, so from now on, we will refer to skinny people as thin and fat people as heavy.

Most of us weren't born with a size five body. We've earned it! We've had the willpower to sweat it out, diet, and watch our weight go up and down on the scale. We must constantly watch what we eat so we can maintain our thin appearance.

What does the size of a person have to do with what they talk about? You can't really believe that 90 percent of our time is spent talking about your diets. What a fool! I think it's great if you want to diet. I'm all for it, but no matter the size of the person we all talk about the same things: guys, the newest fads, and our interests.

I myself went from a size 11 to a five! I surely know the joy of having to shop for all new clothes, get lots of compliments, and feel great about myself!

As the depression goes, don't worry! At least we'll conserve on material supplies and leave food for you heavies.

I really resented the way you put down thin people. Heavy people, like you, feel the only way to like yourself the way you are is to put us down and to stereotype us. If you haven't got the willpower or guts to diet, then fine, but leave us alone!

(Skinny) Minny

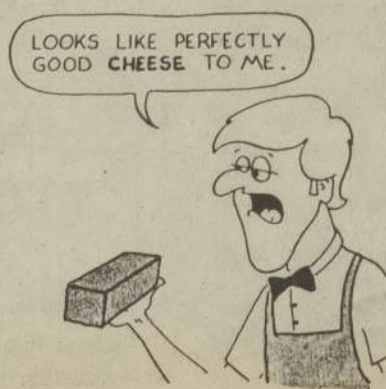
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Page 2

