

Family Council

Fay O. - My niece is ruining her health and being unfair to the children.

Maxine R. - It's none of Aunt Fay's business. We want lots of kids.

Fay O. - My niece, Maxine, is only 25 and has six children after eight years of marriage. And none of them are twins. What alarms me is that although our religion does not frown on birth control, and although Maxine and her husband know all about it, they just keep on having babies without taking proper care of the ones they have.

I think they're being reckless and exhibitionistic at the expense of innocent children. Maxine says this is none of my business, but she's wrong. I offer my views both as her aunt and as a social worker who sees what happens to youngsters who get lost in the shuffle of a big family.

It's true her husband helps her and they have a cleaning woman in twice a week, but the care of this little brood falls mostly on Maxine, who has neither the physical stamina nor the emotional equipment that's needed to cover the territory.

For instance, how can she possibly know what resentments are forming inside Number 3 and 5? She's too busy wiping Number 4's nose and bawling out Number 1 for not watching Number 6!

Maxine R. - We love kids, especially my husband who was an only child. He grew up in a big house that was always quiet and when we married he said he never wanted to be lonely again. He wanted a big house full of children.

Well, we have a small house full of them and we're looking for a big one. Harry's in the luggage business and doing all right. We're not rich but we can keep our kids in shoes, stake them to square meals and give them lots of fun and loving.

My aunt visits me and all she notices is the diapers and the mess. She doesn't realize that I must do what is important to me, not to her. I rest a lot. I sing to the children and play with them. She is comparing me with the mothers she meets in her work who just have babies to stay on relief. Harry and I have them because we love them.

As for worrying about what's happening inside each of my children, what good would that do? You never know anyway. Aunt Fay forgets that children can speak up and that mothers understand them when they do. Besides, in a big happy family the kids help the parents by bringing each other up. It's not all up to me.

The Council: Taking sides here is dangerous because big families can be happy and small families can be miserable. It all depends upon the skill of the parents and their full understanding of their role.

But in this case we're inclined to agree with Aunt Fay that Maxine and Harry may be biting off more than they can chew. Bringing babies into the world is the easiest part of the job, when compared to the challenge of bringing them up. Here there is no such thing as too much know-how, too much energy, too much imagination, too much devotion. Even with two or three children, there may be far from enough of these essentials.

In a large family, no matter how thin a mother spreads herself the arrival of a new baby means there's less of her to go around. And maternal deprivation, psychiatrists tell us, is at the root of most mental illness and delinquent behavior.

Maxine's notion that the children can bring each other up is slipshod evasion. Ever watch a 7-year-old "bringing up" a 6-year-old? It's usually by the roots of his hair! In a new book from the University of Michigan, the sociology department disagrees with Maxine's view that people who love children should have lots of them. American mothers, they say, are having fewer because they love them too much to neglect them!

The deciding factor in family planning should be not love alone, not finances, but the amount of mothering available per child. At Maxine's pace, there won't be much. She can't count on relatives, neighbors and teachers to take up the slack properly. Each child is a complex organism and one can't assume he's happy just because he's smiling. He may merely be biding his time to explode! He needs patient understanding. (Copyright 1960, General Features Corp.)



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Cash Value of This Coupon 1/10 of One Cent Good at Safeway Thru Dec. 14, 1960

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U.S. No. 1, Premium Sizes, Hand-Graded
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Cash Value of This Coupon 1/10 of One Cent Good at Safeway Thru Dec. 14, 1960

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Stock up NOW! Three packages of 4 rolls.

Mrs. Wright's for lunches
Fruit Cake Slices 1 lb. 5 oz. pkg. 93¢ Mrs. Wright's Fresh! Fruit Cake Slices 14 oz. pkg. 67¢
Stoneridge Bread White or Wheat 15 oz. 27¢ Breast 'O Chicken Chunk Tuna 6 1/2 oz. can 31¢
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BEEF SWISS STEAK LB. **79¢**
"USDA CHOICE" beef that has been scientifically aged for peak tenderness, flavor, and eating pleasure.
FULL OR HALF BONE-IN CUTS

Heel of Round Roast "CHOICE" boneless beef lb. 79¢
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Morrell's Sliced Bacon "Yorkshire" flavorful 1-lb. pkg. 49¢
Steer Beef Liver Sliced the thickness you like it, lb. 49¢
Safeway Beef Sausage Delicately seasoned 3 1-lb. rolls \$1
Fresh Ground Beef It doesn't cook away, lb. 49¢
Frozen God Fillets Captain's Choice 1-lb. pkg. 45¢

FRITOS Corn Chips King size 49¢
SNOW'S Clam Chowder 15 oz. can 29¢

TREND Dry Detergent 12 1/4 oz. pkgs. 2/39¢
HERSHEY Instant Cocoa Mix 1-lb. can 45¢

ROUND STEAK

"USDA CHOICE" aged beef. Carefully trimmed.
Full or Half Cuts lb. **89¢**



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When You Buy TWELVE 6 1/2-oz. Cans of
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CAPTAIN KITT
Fine Quality, Balanced Ingredients
Cash Value of This Coupon 1/10 of One Cent Good at Safeway Thru Dec. 14, 1960

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Cash Value of This Coupon 1/10 of One Cent Good at Safeway Thru Dec. 14, 1960

BIRTHDAY BONUS COUPON
50 EXTRA Gold Bond Stamps
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When You Buy a 3-lb. Jar of
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REAL ROAST, Creamy or Chunky Style
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