

FAMILY COUNCIL

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of a family disagreement presented to the Council. The Council deals with problems, major and minor, encountered by guidance counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denny. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Kate S. - I love to be alone. Joseph S. - Then why did she get married?

Kate S. - Married or not, isn't everyone entitled to some time to call her own? My husband is like a little boy. He wants me at his side 24 hours a day.

I was an only child, with a room of my own. I'm used to lots of quiet and solitude. Even now I enjoy closing my eyes and thinking deep thoughts, without interruption. But this annoys my husband. He'll break in to ask me the time, even with clocks all around him.

We've been married six months. I know marriage means sharing, and I enjoy sharing my time with Joe. But he wants all of it. I feel like a full-time baby-sitter, not a wife.

Joseph S. - What did Kate expect? A diamond ring, a wedding, a honeymoon, a new home, and then - back to life as usual?

I thought marriage means two become one. You don't go your separate ways any more. Kate says she loves me, but having me around seems to annoy her. If you love someone, you can't get enough of him, can you?

Walk in the park, go to the movies, take a boat ride - everywhere you see people in pairs. But Kate likes to go alone and tells me to do the same. Once in a while she gives me a break and we go for a drive or play cards together. Is she a wife or a prima donna?

The Council: It's fear, on both sides here, that's causing such extreme demands by one mate upon the other. Kate fears for her precious island of privacy. Joseph sees the one thing he wanted most in marriage - a constant companion - slipping away.

Naturally, extreme and almost hysterical demands bring extreme and almost childlike reactions. Let's calm down.

It's true, Joe, that marriage makes two people one, but one what? One couple with one set of goals. One of those goals is to make the other half more fulfilled and effective than he or she could possibly have been alone. Each is still a separate person as well as a mate. Joe must show his recognition of that fact, through respect for Kate's request for time in which to ponder and meditate. Thus far he has frightened her with his possessiveness. She is gasping for some free air.

Kate, on the other hand, has the new task of learning how to share - not just her toothpaste, her closet and her time, but herself! A successful marriage doesn't just happen; it must be labored over. If she truly loves Joe, she will sense his shyness and sympathize with his "loneliness" when alone among others. In these early years of their marriage, she will stay close to him, helping him to grow in social poise and self-confidence. This is the small sacrifice she must make, temporarily we hope, in return for the added richness marriage brings to her own life.

Chances are that this mutual determination to meet each other's needs will lead to Joe offering Kate large jobs of time for herself, and to Kate accompanying him, in turn, to meetings, classes and hobby clubs. It'll be more fun to be together when it's optional.

When two people marry they remain two people. But love makes them two less selfish people.

Five OSU Forestry Short Courses Set

Corvallis - Five forestry short courses are planned during the 1962-63 school year by the Oregon State university school of forestry as a service to foresters and the forest industry of the Northwest.

Planned for the coming year are courses in variable plot cruising, aerial photography and their uses in forestry, federal income taxes and forestry planning, forest regeneration, and lumber drying.

Cooperating in planning and presenting the courses with the school of forestry are many other OSU schools and departments as well as representatives from forestry agencies and industry.

The federal income tax and forestry planning short course, presented jointly by the school of forestry and the school of business and technology, will be held Dec. 13 and 14.

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