

...supplementary payments. To many of these folks, 70 cents would provide a meager meal or two — a can of soup, a loaf of bread.

Coincidentally, Chase Peterson's \$113,000 parting gift would more than cover the 70 cents a month for a year for the 12,000 elderly, blind and disabled.

Is something wrong here?

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would call this mind-set one of action and decision orientation rather than "objective arrogance"; the creative use of a variety of approaches in dealing with different problems rather than a blind effort to quantify the non-quantifiable.

Roger also correctly observes that aggression, or at least individual initiative, serves the manager better than passive inaction. There is no reason a person with initiative cannot also be a nice person, but it is true that nice all by itself probably will not make you an effective manager.

There are many careers where aggressive individual initiative are far less central to success — for example, where contemplation and patience are more important than time-action. The key is to choose a career that matches one's temperament.

But to imply there is something intrinsic-evil about management, or that "strategic misrepresentation" is an essential element in corporate success, just is not consistent with the many very fine people I've known who are successful managers. A undiced view is not an untypical companion to disillusionment. Possibly Roger's path would have been rosier had he confined his effort to those areas that suited his interests and temperament.

certainly, managers are guilty of their share of improper conduct, as are doctors, lawyers, and the rest of the cross section of society. Those who are less than upright will always be with us.

The real lesson of Roger's story, however, should be true — to yourself and to others. Would you ever be tempted to "strategically represent" yourself to make yourself marketable," remember grief comes from a wrong approach. If it is not your thing, run the other way.



**BRISIE**  
6411 The Daily Herald

# Men and women are 'equal but...'

A feminist scholar (this is today's entry in the dictionary of oxymorons) has insisted that while "Our biological differences are self-evident, our human similarities are exciting." That pronouncement provoked this response from liberal commentator Christopher Lasch: "On the contrary — it is our biological differences that excite us. That progressive men and women have lost sight of this obvious point suggests that they are dangerously out of touch not just with middle America but with common sense."

Almost three decades into the feminist revolution, feminists still can't get their story straight about gender differences: Are men and women fundamentally alike, or are women endowed with distinctive traits, abilities, and perceptions? The current party line appears to be that women are just like men save for those distinctive female traits — whether genuine or spurious — that harmonize with the imperatives of victimology.

Julie Croteau of St. Mary's College is a case in point. Croteau became the first woman to play college baseball this spring when she became a reserve first baseman (first baseperson?) for the St. Mary's squad. Presumably this desecration was justified as an object lesson about the "human similarities" of men and women. However, Croteau proved to be too fragile a blossom to withstand the gamy environment of the dugout. She has quit the team, citing "sexism" among her male teammates — some of whom were given to bawdy humor that dealt explicitly with the anatomical differences between the sexes.

Granted, there are more appropriate ways to express excitement over our "biological differences"; but the vulgarity of



**Will Grigg**

ABROAD

boys being boys isn't sexism (satyriosis, maybe).

The defilement of baseball by politics, although tragic, is not a mortal blow to the republic. (Although if baseball becomes "Politically Correct", what will be left of America to defend?) A more formidable danger is presented by the evolving feminist ethos in civil and criminal law.

Ruth Jones, a lawyer for the so-called National Organization of Women, has defended the emerging "reasonable woman standard" regarding sexual harassment. Jones contends, plausibly, that women have different sensibilities regarding sexual innuendo. However, Jones argues that the recognition of a "reasonable woman standard" cannot be used to buttress traditional divisions of labor and gender roles. Once again we confront the contradiction: men and women are somehow fundamentally alike yet sufficiently different to be governed by different standards of law.

One ascendant variety of feminism dispenses with the concept of gender equality altogether; it portrays all men as predators and all women as victims. Currently in vogue on college campuses, this strand of feminism is distorting dialogue regarding rape.

In the June 3 issue of Time a college senior (and rape victim) named Ginny defends those who falsely accuse men of rape. "Penetration is not the only form of violation ... if a woman did falsely accuse a man of rape, she may have had reason to. Maybe she wasn't raped, but he clearly violated her in some way." (Merely by being male, perhaps?) In Ginny's case the unspeakable trauma of rape appears to have been compounded by "consciousness-raising."

Catherine Comins, assistant dean of student life at Vassar College, explains that the suffering attendant to a false accusation of rape is a positive growth experience for men. "They have a lot of pain, but it is not a pain that I would necessarily have spared them. I think it ideally initiates a process of self-exploration." But punishment of the guilty, not politically-mandated "self-exploration," should be the objective of discipline.

A related principle of punishment — or non-punishment — applies in the acquittal of some battered wives who murder abusive husbands. Writes Gerald Caplan of George Washington University: "Some courts, relying on expert-witness testimony from feminist psychologists, have enlarged the (self-defense principle) to allow acquittals in cases that otherwise would have ended in manslaughter or murder convictions ... reduced to its essence, the battered-woman syndrome is not a physician's diagnosis but an advocate's invention. It means: blame the deceased."

Caplan has successfully extracted the essence of contemporary feminism — a philosophy whose current icons are the foul, murderous "heroines" of the film "Thelma and Louise."

# Lithuania won't be provoked by Soviet attacks

VILNIUS, Lithuania — Soviet army troops forcefully took over two Lithuanian airfields here recently. They said it was a defensive move against a potential threat



Jack

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