

Faith in God.  
Prayer.  
Family members laughing together.  
Hope.  
Now then, can you think of some things to be thankful for?

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Public Safety to quiz said individual as to his religious affiliation? If so, then one may ask, "Is the church or the individual on trial?"

The answer I'm sure would be, "Why the individual of course." Then if this be the case, why is the man's religious affiliation mentioned at all? What bearing on the case does his religious affiliation have?

In the course of my reading of the various accounts of heinous crimes being perpetrated upon the public, it is most always mentioned in light of the fact that said individual is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Are not the lay members of the other religious denominations capable of committing sin? Maybe we should pause momentarily and reflect back to the biblical account of the woman, caught in the act of adultery, who was about to be stoned to death by her accusers, when the Pharisee appeared on the scene and emphatically remarked, "...let he who is without sin be the first stone..."

When we find ourselves caught up in a similar situation today? "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone." It would be as though the lay members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are the only ones capable of committing sin in a previous nature. Why?

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## Washing the season

On the other day I drove down University Street in Provo, and was shocked that the Christmas greetings and Santa faces are all over the street already.

After that night I passed several houses with decorative lights — on! The same day, I heard on the radio and saw flyers in the streets for Christmas specials; I love Christmas, I love it in December!

Thanksgiving is the only holiday that is made to say thank you! And we have so much to be thankful for! It is sad to think we take one day and say thanks! Why rush the Christmas season? It will be here in a few weeks, can't we wait 'till then to deck the halls? Where has Thanksgiving gone?

Thanksgiving just shows that we are no longer grateful, and have lost respect for our forefathers and the sacrifices they made. Let's take one day to say thank you, look back on the things we have and be grateful for them. Celebrate Christmas, but that will come in



## Perversion by any other name still reeks

Today's epigram comes from one of Cicero's philippics against the tyrant Antony: "Senators, my opponent has the advantage of me, as he has done things that a gentleman cannot discuss in public."

Misgivings similar to Cicero's inform any discussion of contemporary sexual depravity.

A wire service story dated November 16 reports the indictment of a Roseburg, Oregon man on charges of attempted murder. The HIV-positive man is accused of exposing no fewer than five children — the oldest of which was 8, the youngest of which was 2 — to the AIDS virus through molestation. A second wire service dispatch filed two days later reported that two other adults (a woman and a man) are being sought in connection with the alleged sexual abuse.

Earlier this year in New York, an 11-year-old boy was abducted on his way to school and raped by a 27-year-old ex-con with AIDS. The January 16 New York Times reports that the assailant, a convicted burglar, had been charged with a similar offense in 1982. At the time of his latest episode the man was living at public expense. Through contacts with the Gay Men's Health Crisis, the accused assailant had obtained a monthly rent voucher from the Department of AIDS Services.

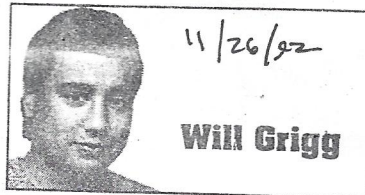
According to neighborhood witnesses, the infected man often brought 14- and 15-year-old boys to his apartment. Under police questioning the accused allowed that he had frequent sexual contact with underage boys, but insisted that none of them

## Government has role in strengthening families

Family is back on the agenda again. As the angry battle over Dan Quayle and Murphy Brown fades into a dim election-year memory, it's time to leave our bunkers and search for some common ground. An avalanche of statistics shows the stunning and sudden (one generation) collapse of the American family.

There's no longer much doubt about the crisis. But what can be done? Though faith in government is probably at an all-time low, here is a list of useful things that government can accomplish, some modest, some not:

- Go after deadbeat dads. (Listed first



### At Home and Abroad

was younger than 17.

While the neighborhood dealt with the horror and the police continued their investigation, the "homosexual community" saw fit to inveigh against "homophobia." The Times noted that "gay groups in the city expressed concern that the suspect's right to confidentiality about his infection had been violated by the police." An ACT-UP representative declared, "I am concerned about sensationalism and homophobia in the press coverage and prosecution."

In August of this year, Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire fired a drama teacher who was found in possession of 650 videocassettes of child pornography; some of the videos include Exeter students. The school, which prides itself on its "progressive" attitudes about sexuality, had not carefully examined the teacher's resume. His Ph.D. dissertation included two plays that examined what the New York Times described as "The bit-

tersweet plight of male teachers who seduce students into homosexual relationships."

Even as what remains of our civilization is ulcerated with such scandals, there are those who seek to redefine our sense of the acceptable. Dr. John Money of Johns Hopkins University, who did much to hasten the academic acceptance of homosexuality as an "orientation," has written that "Pedophilia is not a voluntary choice and there is no known treatment" — and therefore it is yet another "orientation." Money urges that we formulate an "enlightened" policy towards this new sexual minority.

But of course, that "minority" is neither new nor entirely distinct. A recent book review found in The Advocate, a publication of the "Gay Rights" movement, contained this revealing aside: "How many gay men ... would have missed out on a valuable, liberating experience — one that initiated them into their sexuality — if it weren't for so-called molestation?"

In the light of incidents like those in Oregon, New York and New Hampshire, the following declaration takes on a terrifying significance:

"... it's too bad that straight people are getting AIDS, but justice will only be served when the same proportion of heterosexuals suffer and die of this disease, or some other such conflagration (sic)." This sanguinary sentiment is found in a letter to the Daily Utah Chronicle written by a University of Utah staff member who is a self-described homosexual activist.

### John Leo Syndicated Columnist

and impressed to learn about research showing the importance of fathers to children. Several asked to see the studies.

- Make divorces harder to get for couples with children. A British commission calls it "throwing sand in the machinery of divorce." This sand-throwing, including counseling and waiting periods, would sig-

better and fairer, because a tax cut discriminates against families that dedicate more time to their children and therefore have less taxable income. A direct allowance, like those in Europe, does not discriminate.

- Work on policies to increase the amount of time parents are able to spend with children. For instance, child allowances make it possible for one parent to go back temporarily on work outside the home. Costs could be kept down by making allowances (or large ones) to parents who are asked to stay home with the child.