

Month. It may be a bit of a stretch, but a case could be made that failing to immunize children against serious diseases is a form of abuse.



"WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT THE BREAK-UP OF THE AMERICAN FAMILY? ... MY FOLKS ARE ALWAYS THERE FOR ME WHEN I FAX MOM AT WORK OR SEE DAD ON VISITATION DAYS!"

atters

Moral decay

Editor:

Daniel B. Martella in a recent news article attempted to instruct us about the correct relationship that should exist between our government and religion, both at present and as it was in the past. His view that they were completely separate in the past and should be kept separate today is not in accord with historical truth and must be challenged in terms of what is right for today.

Our Constitution has been the most effective and enduring democratic constitution ever written. Christian morals and values helped unite the framers of the Constitution and played a major role in the structure and substance of the Constitution.

John Quincy Adams said, "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: It connected in one indissoluble bond, the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity."

A report (1854) by the House of Representatives on the Judiciary stated: It (Christianity) must be considered as the foundation on which the whole structure rests. Laws will not have permanence or power without the sanction of religious sentiment...in this age there can be no substitute for Christianity.

Since 1962 and 1963 when decisions of the Supreme Court banned prayer, the use of the Bible and Christian influence in general, from public places, the influence of Christian morals and values have been replaced by sectarian atheistic Marxist and Humanitarianism concepts. Decisions of the Supreme Court have legalized in our schools; profanity, blasphemy of the names of God and Christ, types of pornography, intimate detailed sex education, etc., etc..

The greatest problem in America today is not the national debt it is moral decay which is present everywhere.

The criminalization of heterosexuality

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When it is not flouting the ethics of contract negotiation, the Utah Education Association acts as a clearing house for many varieties of political foolishness. During October's UEA convention, for example, teachers were treated to a lecture by Shirley McCune of the McREL Center for Education Equity, which pursues social transformation through public education.

McCune urged UEA members to become paladins of political correctness. She said that teachers must become "agents of change" by introducing "gender and culturally relevant materials" into classroom use. She also advised UEA members that they must also be vigilant against sexual harassment, lest their inattention leave their schools vulnerable to lawsuits.

Of all the offenses recognized by feminism, "sexual harassment" is at once the most ambiguous and the most politically useful. This is because the offense includes everything from physical assault to "sexist" remarks and "sexually suggestive looks" — anything that creates a "hostile environment" for properly "empowered" women.

Last December, several Utah ski resorts were ordered by the U.S. Forest Service to remove suggestive posters whose display was said to constitute sexual harassment. If such posters were displayed in a lodge's public accommodations, they could be considered offensive, if not illicit. (Ski lodges are hardly as ascetic as Calvin's Geneva, in any case.) But the poster that attracted the attention of District Ranger Michael Sieg) yes, that's Seig as in "Sieg



At Home and Abroad

Heil!") was displayed in a maintenance shed.

Thus the directive was designed not to eradicate an offense to women, but to reconfigure private attitudes. This impression is fortified by the fact that the Forest Service demanded that lodge employees be enrolled in feminist attitude-modification programs.

Perhaps because adults are less malleable than children, feminist attitude-adjusters have decided it is easier to bend the young twigs in public school than to have agencies like the Forest Service deal with deeply-rooted adult attitudes. Minnesota's public schools suspended or expelled more than 1,000 children for sexual harassment in the '91-'92 school year. (The specific offenses include such acts as tickling.) California is considering a similar policy.

Regrettably, Utah is ahead of the curve in this disreputable trend. All 40 Utah school districts have sexual-harassment policies. The Sevier School District, which has a policy forbidding "verbal or physical conduct" that results in "a hos-

tile, abusive or intimidating work environment," has been sued by former Sevier High coach Ron Winegar. Winegar recently lost his job as a result of sexual harassment allegations. He contends, plausibly, that his constitutional rights were violated by the district: school board members have refused to specify the charges against Winegar.

Last fall, Seventeen magazine linked forces with NOW and Wellesley College to conduct a poll about sexual harassment in school. Seventeen, whose revenues depend upon articles and ads intended to make young girls appealing to young boys, informed its readership that sexual harassment "has probably happened to you." The publication explained that behavior often dismissed as flirting is "illegal" and that girls "don't have to put up with it" — unless the offender has the "'90210" look, of course.

Predictably, the poll found that unspecified harassment is "rampant" in American schools.

The decline in moral discipline has probably created an increase in all types of rudeness toward women of all ages; however, feminists hardly long for the restoration of chivalrous manners. Newsweek has described the objective of the anti-sexual harassment campaign: "While there may not be a man today who can honestly say he never spent most of a math period staring at the prettiest girl in class instead of a blackboard, someday there might be." It is a very mild exaggeration to say that the concept of sexual harassment is being used to criminalize heterosexuality.

Senate probes boxing's ties to organized crime