

Press-Herald

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Obscenity Is Big Business

The publication and sale of obscene material is big business in America today. Degenerate sex pictures and pornographic literature, covertly peddled and sold in most cities and communities, net greedy smut merchants millions of dollars annually.

It is impossible to estimate the amount of harm to impressionable teenagers and to assess the value of sex crimes attributable to pornography, but its influence is extensive. Sexual violence is increasing at an alarming pace. Many parents are deeply concerned about conditions which involve young boys and girls in sex parties and illicit relations. While there is no official yardstick with which to measure accurately the reasons for increases in any principal violation, we must face reality. Pornography, in all its forms is one major cause of sex crimes, sexual aberrations, and perversions.

Is our society becoming so wicked that we are turning from virtue and integrity to immorality and degradation? Are we becoming morally bankrupt and letting our principles of conduct and decency deteriorate? Are we forsaking the simple teachings of right over wrong and good over bad?

Let us look about us. In the publishing, theatrical, and entertainment fields, are the good, enlightening, and educational qualities of their products being overshadowed by too much emphasis on obscenity, vulgarity, incest, and homosexuality? Many people believe this to be true. But the legitimate productions of these media are rather mild when compared with the "hard-core" pornography flooding the country in the forms of films, "playing" cards, "comic" books, paperbacks, and pictures. Such filth in the hands of young people and curious adolescents does untold damage and leads to disastrous consequences.

Police officials who have discussed this critical problem with me unequivocally state that lewd and obscene material plays a motivating role in sexual violence. In case after case, the sex criminal has on his person or in his possession pornographic literature or pictures. Under these conditions, it is not surprising to note that forcible rape in 1966 increased 10 per cent of the 1965 total, a violation occurring every 21 minutes. Since 1960, forcible rape has increased 50 per cent.

Obviously, all that is being done to combat the sale and traffic in obscene material in the nation is not enough. Sound and workable laws are needed, and, where they do exist, they should be vigorously enforced. Since many courts seem to judge obscenity on the basis of the moral standards in the community, the public has a vital role in upgrading the level of community morality. When obscene material is discovered, it should be exposed and citizens should complain to proper authorities. When pornography is received in the mails, postal authorities should be advised. Citizens should come forward and cooperate in the prosecution of offenders.

Obscene material is indeed evil, but it is not a necessary evil. If the illicit profits in pornography were replaced with stiff punishments for the filth purveyors, this evil would be brought under control.—J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Girl Scout Week

In Savannah Georgia, on March 12, 1912, girl scouting in the U.S. had its beginnings. The birthday commemoration of this outstanding organization was observed this year from March 10-16, during Girl Scout Week.

True to its traditions of more than half a century, the Girl Scouts have a new look. The organization is involved in helping girls understand and deal with problems of urban ghettos. Girl Scouts will have opportunities to learn more about music, dramatics, the visual arts and space exploration. There will be travel and study programs in the U.S. and abroad. The Girl Scouts offer these opportunities to all girls between the ages of 7 and 17, regardless of race, color or creed.

The horizons have never been broader for young people, and the scouting movement offers an opportunity of exploring these horizons to girls who, in many cases, might otherwise not even be aware of them. There is great significance in this, for the girls of today will be the wives and mothers of tomorrow and will, in large measure, hold the responsibility of passing on the torch of civilization—the values, the concern, the understanding and competence—that will be so sorely needed by those who will guide the nation and the world the day after tomorrow.

It's a well-deserved tribute which we pay to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

Opinions of Others

Many political analysts ponder the New York Times, New Republic, National Review, and other double-dome documents for clues to the presidential election.

Not this department. Our guide is Good House-keeping magazine.

On the cover this month, in full color, is Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and his family—the Happy one. If Rockefeller is consenting to family portraits on G.E., you can put it down as certain that he is a candidate.—Stuart Aubrey, editor and publisher of the Hutchinson (Kan.) News.

The Johnson Melon Patch



HERB CAEN SAYS:

Hans Loved the Topless, But Loathed the 'Music'

Add sightings that stick: Symphony Conductor Hans Schmidt-Isserstedt at The Condor Club with a napkin stuffed into each ear, making him look like a lop-eared rabbit. He loved the topless, hated the loud music. . . . Atty. Harry Wainwright is the new owner of 760 acres of Australia, which I guess is nothing in Australia. . . . The Sunday Exonicle reported, among other memorable things, that sky-writing originated in 1922, but Harold T. "Bugs" Moran, a man

with total recall, recalls totally that in 1915, Aviator Art Smith wrote "Good-night" every midnight in the skies about the Palace of Fine Arts on the Marina, and let me tell you that "Bugs" is never wrong. . . . Naturally: City. Sup. Bob Mendelsohn's testimonial dinner at the F'mont March 21 is being billed as "Mendelsohn's Spring Song." . . .

Report From Our Man In San Francisco

Men's Tailor Ron Postal, who left S.F. to make good in L.A. (he did), is now No. 1 with Zsa Zsa Gabor. "We stay home every night and order Chicken Delight," he reports. "That's how much in love we are." Gad. White meat every night?

Quote

I want to see that our country continues to lead the nation in developing new concepts and approaches for better law enforcement.—D. A. Evelle J. Younger on announcing plans to seek reelection.

I just can't believe that the people of the State of Washington, if the problem is properly presented to them, would be so narrow-minded as to say they would rather waste the water into the ocean than to see the southwest part of the U.S. develop properly.—Mayor Sam Yorty.

It always has been my strong desire to stay in Sacramento and devote myself to resolving the many problems which confront California.—Speaker Jesse Unruh explaining his decision against seeking U.S. Senate nomination.

In today's society, the security of citizens in big cities is with well-trained police officers who are able to make instant decisions in time of stress.—Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

I have another alternative—that we don't have any candidate and just vote yes or no on Johnson.—Governor Reagan on GOP Presidential choices.

My Neighbors



"Look at 'em scurry about—everyone a potential ulcer patient."

Dr. Christiana Barnard, is a real showboat (but in a nice way). Asked if he thinks there's a connection between smoking and heart disease, he slowly and elaborately lit a cigarette, took a deep drag and grinned: "Does that answer your question?" Actually, he smokes and drinks "only occasionally, but usually at the same time."

Police Capt. Charlie Barca, the commandant of North Beach, refuses to be conned by the Bawdway joints that are switching from topless to "All-Nude!" "In the first place," he says, "they aren't all-nude, they're wearing patches. And secondly, I'm not going to dignify them with an arrest when that's what they want, for the publicity. Only an absolute flood of complaints will move us." Remove finger from dike, Hans.

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(Messages for state officers may be addressed to them at the State Capitol Building, Sacramento, Calif. 95814.)

FROM THE MAILBOX

Assemblyman Seeks Aid For Rapid Transit Bill

To the Editor: Assembly Bill 11, which I introduced on Jan. 9, 1968, would authorize the Southern California Rapid Transit District to issue general obligation bonds following approval by a simple majority of the voters in the District rather than the 60 per cent approval that is now required.

At present, the State Constitution, in Section 18, Article 11, requires that city, county, and school district general obligation bonds receive a favorable two-thirds vote. Statewide general obligation bonds, however, under Section 1, Article 16 of the Constitution, require only a majority vote for approval. For example, the following bonds have been passed by a simple majority of the voters:

California Water Resources Development Bonds — adopted Nov. 8, 1960.
Veterans Bond Act of 1962.
State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1964 — adopted Nov. 3, 1964.
State School Building Aid Bond Law of 1966 — adopted June 7, 1966.
Bonds to provide State College and University Facilities — adopted Nov. 8, 1966.

Where special districts are concerned, as is the case with the Southern California Rapid Transit District, the vote requirement to authorize approval of bonds is set by the Legislature which has, on several occasions in the past, allowed approval by a simple majority. The Legislature, for instance, set the vote requirement for the Metropolitan Water District at a simple majority. In June of 1966, a majority of the voters approved an \$850 million bond issue for this District.

It is clear that the changes proposed in A.B. 11 have the sanction of both law and precedent. The most

compelling reason for supporting this bill, however, lies in the absolute necessity for Southern California to develop a balanced system of transportation. This need is pointed up by the following facts:

By 1980, DMV estimates there will be 6.2 million motor vehicle in Los Angeles County—an increase of 49 per cent over current levels.

Between now and 1930 the number of vehicles in the County will increase twice as fast as population.

Every eight seconds a new or used vehicle is registered in the County.

A report issued last year by the Citizens Advisory Committee on Transportation states that the freeway system planned for Los Angeles in 1980 will be able to handle no more than one-half the peak hour demand.

Robert Tishman, president of Tishman Realty, recently warned Los Angeles Businessmen that failure to provide adequate mass transit will cause the City of Los Angeles to strangle in its own traffic. Tishman has already cancelled two projects in Los Angeles because of its transportation dilemma.

Any one of these reasons would seem to me to be sufficient to justify support of A.B. 11. The cumulative effect will almost surely lead, as Mr. Tishman suggests, to a Southern California strangled by its own traffic.

For these reasons, and others of which I have become aware as a member of the Assembly Transportation and Commerce Committee, I am convinced it is vital, and certainly in the interest of the people, to lower the vote requirement for bonds to construct a rapid transit system.

For the same reasons, I respectfully urge support for A.B. 11. The passage of the bill will, I believe, enable us to complete an efficient and balanced trans-

portation system in the shortest possible time.

JOE A. GONSALVES,
Assemblyman

Rules Issued For 'Bal Week'

To the Editor: Spring Vacation or "Bal Week" is just around the corner. We here in Newport Beach welcome the young people who swarm to our area for a week of fun. All we ask is that they are considerate and appreciative of the rights of others, and remember that conduct that is unacceptable at home is equally unacceptable in Newport Beach.

Last Easter Week, the police department called 440 parents at all hours of the day and night requesting that they pick up their children and take them home. Although this was an improvement from the year before when they called over 1,000, please parents, don't let this happen to you. Remember these rules:

The State Housing Act governing the use and occupancy of structures will be enforced; there is a 10 p.m. curfew for those who are under 18 years of age; no sleeping in cars or on the beach; no drinking by minors; disturbing the peace through obscene language, unreasonable noise or offensive conduct is a misdemeanor.

Please, above all, make sure that your children are "properly chaperoned" and that they have personal identification and enough money.

We are proud of Newport Beach and are happy to share its beauty and recreational facilities with all visitors as long as they bring with them their good manners and a proper respect for themselves so that we may all enjoy their stay.

The Junior Ebell Club of Newport Beach

SACRAMENTO SCENE

Reagan Still Isn't Sold On Withholding Tax Need

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO—Governor Ronald Reagan still insists his "feet are in concrete" as far as his opposition to a payroll withholding of state income tax but he admits a lot of Californians may be wanting it when they have to pay the higher income taxes next month.

Reagan repeated his statement that the only thing which could convince him to sign into law a withholding tax bill would be a firm showing that the people's opposition to it had diminished.

"If the people make a great change in their thinking, it's only natural to say that I can't stand in their way," Reagan said.

However, Reagan still would not commit himself to signing a bill. He was asked that, if the legislature is representative of the people, and if it passed a bill, would not this be an indication of a change of heart.

"I might sneak into a few of the districts to check on it," Reagan said.

The governor said he felt there were a number of ways he could keep up with the public sentiments on withholding. His statements on withholding came only a few days after some comments from Senator George Deukmejian, R-Long Beach, who carried Reagan's huge tax increase bill in 1967. Deukmejian said he realized a lot of people were unhappy about the big jump in income tax this year.

"The big problem is that the people have to pay in a lump sum," Deukmejian said. "It's the same as prop-

erty taxes and people holler when they have to pay in a lump sum.

"If we had a withholding, it wouldn't be so drastic," he said. "You don't hear people screaming as loudly about the federal income tax, even though it is much bigger, because it's taken out each week."

Review of Major News On the Sacramento Scene

Reagan always has insisted the people would not be quite so aware of tax increases if there was a withholding. He used the current round of complaints about the higher income tax as a good example.

Had there been a withholding tax, there probably wouldn't be any complaining about the tax increase at present.

Reagan also said he'd like to see it made more difficult for the legislature to pass tax increase bills. At present, a two-thirds vote is required to increase taxes on

banks and corporations and on insurance premiums. However, general consumer taxes, such as sales tax, and those on cigarettes, liquor, income, gifts, and inheritance can be approved with a simple majority.

The governor was asked if he would not have been in a very difficult position in 1967, when tax increases were imperative, if it had required a higher vote for their passage.

"I'm not going to make it easy on myself," Reagan said. "But I think when the people have the information, they will pass it."

Reagan said that following approval of the tax increases in 1967, public opinion polls showed that 70 per cent of the people "regretfully were in favor of it."

Reagan corrected any misimpression that he would not have a tax reform bill this year but said its introduction had been delayed because of a number of problems yet to be worked out.

Morning Report:

Abe Mellinkoff

Loyalty comes high these days. Russia is pouring a million bucks a day into Cuba and Castro still refused to attend the big Communist Party meeting in Budapest. Even though Premier Kosygin invited him a couple of times.

It's enough to forge a warm bond of mutual sadness between us and the Russians. We surely have learned allies aren't what they used to be. They don't build them along the old lines with long-term dependability. What I mean is that they don't stay bought.

Of course, maybe it's inflation that's causing all the trouble. Russia set the million-dollar-a-day figure when that would buy a lot of beans and rice. Now, if Mr. Kosygin would double the payment, maybe Mr. Castro would become loyal again.