

THREATS TO THE FAMILY

I. LACK OF RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION GREATEST THREAT TO FAMILY

- A. Judeo-Christian values foundation of the family
- B. Family responsible for teaching and upholding these values
 - 1. Deut. 6:4-25
 - 2. II Tim. 1:5-6
- C. Major threats to family
 - 1. Humanism
 - 2. Feminism
 - 3. Television

II. THREAT OF HUMANISM

- A. Humanism as a religion
- B. Humanistic view on ethics
- C. View on the individual
- D. Humanism in the Public Schools

III. THREAT OF FEMINISM

- A. Creates unnecessary competition between husband and wife
- B. Blurs distinction between the sexes
- C. Creates unnecessary dissatisfaction with being housewife and mother
- D. Destroys femininity
- E. Causes insecurity in men
 - 1. Men don't fight it; but ignore it
 - 2. Possible increase in depression and suicide of 40-45 year old former feminists
- F. Makes children insecure
 - 1. Creating a unisex or antifeminine society makes children insecure about themselves, their sexual identities, and their sex direction
 - 2. When parent feels comfortable in his own gender, child will accept his
 - 3. If feminists reject their feminine characteristics, girls will conclude being a woman is second-rate

IV. THREAT OF TV

- A. TV greatest threat to family
 - 1. Thief of time and family life
 - 2. Affects school work
 - 3. Affects spiritual growth
- B. Destroys basic values by preaching humanistic values
- C. Television is an educator
 - 1. Not depicting life as is, but as it is going to be-- Bing Crosby
 - 2. Preaching a message of values

- a. People learn best through humor--Norman Lear
 - b. Comedy utilized as effective vehicle for ridiculing those who oppose homosexuality, swapping
- lesbanism, and wife
- D. No positive portrayals of Christians
 - 1. Not one network program in modern setting depicts Christians as a warm, compassionate human being
 - 2. Presented as scoundrels, undesirables
 - 3. TV portrays preachers in 3 ways:
 - a. Stupid, prejudiced, biased, out of touch
 - b. Fast-talking, con-artist, money grabbing Elmer Gantry type
 - c. Cult leaders (Jim Jones type)
 - 4. Christians either dimwitted, dishonest, or dangerous--narrow-minded and judgmental
- E. What does TV teach?
 - 1. Adultery is acceptable and approved lifestyle
 - a. Adultery never shown as immoral
 - b. Infidelity and premarital sex as accepted patterns of behavior, suggesting everyone is doing it
 - c. 80% intercourse scenes between unmarried
 - d. Homosexuality presented as presentable lifestyle
 - 2. Violence is legitimate way to achieve one's goals or resolve conflict to
 - 3. Profanity is language of the respectable
 - 4. Deeper messages
 - a. Hardly anyone goes to church
 - b. Few people in our society are Christian or live by Christian principles
 - c. Do so by censoring Christian characters, Christian values and Christian culture from programs
 - i. teaching that people who claim to be Christians are hypocrites, cheats, liars, or worse
 - ii. does so by characterization
- F. Biased reporting of news
 - 1. Church growth the sociologicval phenomenon of the past 3 decades
 - 2. 300,000 march on Washington receive no attention
 - 3. humanistic control of media by small minority
- G. Need for alternatives

V. TIME TO MAKE CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH AND THE CENTER OF THE FAMILY

- A. This is a Christian nation
- B. We are the salt of the earth

REASSURANCES FOR THE FAMILY

I. ATTACKS ON THE FAMILY

II. THERE IS ENCOURAGEMENT

III. IMPORTANCE OF PARENTING

- A. Recognize your God-given responsibilities
- B. Parent-child relationship has more potential for fulfillment than any relations.
- C. Parents most important influence in children's lives
 - 1. Have them first
 - 2. Have them longest
 - 3. Don't abdicate your responsibilities
- D. No substitute for parents who love and care and take parenting seriously

IV. REARING CHILDREN LIKE GARDENING

- A. Children are the fruit of our body
- B. We are the garden of the Lord--takes great care in us.
- C. Creating conditions for growth
 - 1. Can not create life, cannot control growth, but can create conditions
 - 2. Learning more about children--their needs, wants, and growth patterns
 - 3. Sensitive to "insects and diseases" which keep them from blossoming and having a fruitful life
- D. What greater joy than to see fruit of labor in a happy, whole, effective adult who is the product of your home?

V. GOALS FOR CHILDREN

- A. Goals of hebrew fathers for sons
 - 1. Prepare him for the law
 - 2. Fit him for wedlock
 - 3. Teach him a trade
- B. What are our goals?
 - 1. Have vital faith in God
 - 2. Develop God-given abilities to fullest and use them for good of others
- C. Way to accomplish
 - 1. Guide through discipline
 - 2. Communicating values
 - 3. Spend time with family

VI. ALLIES OF THE FAMILY

- A. Groups with common goals and common enemies who have resources to pool to help one another
- B. Some allies
 - 1. Fellowships of love
 - a. The church
 - b. Other families
 - 2. Christian School
 - 3. Pro-family organizations
 - 4. Books and other materials

VII. WAY TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS OF FAMILY

- A. Realize not too late
- B. Identify problems
- C. Identify root causes--accept responsibility

- D. Seek forgiveness
- E. Believe for restitution

THE FAMILY

I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY

- A. Basic unit of society which undergirds all else
- B. If family fails, all other institutions will fail
- C. Overdependence on other institutions
- D. All that is done to build strong, healthy, happy and effective families will increase the possibility of a strong and healthy society

II. WHAT IS A FAMILY?

III. THE PURPOSE OF THE FAMILY

- A. Raise children
 - 1. Be fruitful and multiply
 - 2. Ps. 127:3,5 - Children are an heritage of the Lord
 - a. Have your own career
 - b. Delay a family as long as possible
 - c. Don't let children inhibit your freedom
- B. Place for individual development
 - 1. Place of safety and security
 - 2. Need for identity, love, acceptance, encouragement to obtain potential in life
 - 3. Individual care and attention
- C. Place to teach moral values
 - 1. What you are morally is what you are
 - 2. Morals affect judgment, attitudes, values, motivation
 - 3. Authority and personal freedom
 - a. Child that never learns to obey parents in home will not obey God or man outside home
 - b. Discipline
 - 4. Time honored moral values of integrity, virtue, honesty, industry, and self-discipline
 - 5. Self-giving love

IV. ENEMIES OF FAMILY

- A. Humanism
- B. Government
- C. Public schools
- D. TV
- E. Media
- F. Feminism
- G. Materialism
- H. Urbanization
- I. Easy Divorce
- J. Women in Work Force
- K. Pornography
- L. Free Access to Drugs
- M. Rock Music
- N. Homosexuality
- O. Ignorance of Family-Life Principles

THE FAMILY - PART II

I. EVERYBODY HAS DESIRE FOR SUCCESS

- A. Nobody wants to be a failure
- B. Greatest area of success is family life
 - 1. Source of greatest happiness
 - 2. Source of greatest conflict and pain
 - 3. Area of most sensitive relationships

II. FAMILY A PLACE TO LEARN AND GROW

- A. A place to learn
 - 1. Learn to develop life's most meaningful relationships
 - 2. Learn to interact and live together in family
 - 3. Learn to love sacrificially
 - 4. Learn to share and become less self-centered
 - 5. Setting for problem solving
- B. Children learn through modeling
 - 1. Important to have proper role models
 - a. The role of the Father
 - i. son has model to emulate
 - ii. daughter has someone to measure all men by
 - b. The role of Mother
 - 2. Importance of proper relationship between mother and father
 - 3. Confusion of roles creates uncertainty in children
 - a. Traditional
 - b. Alternate lifestyles

III. STRONG FAMILY BEGINS WITH STRONG BOND BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE

- A. Commitment
- B. Need to demonstrate stability, permanence of relationship for security of child
- C. Faithfulness vs. infidelity
- D. Detriment of pornography

IV. SATAN'S PLAN TO DESTROY HOMES

- A. To create frustrations to distract from purposes of God
- B. To create deep-seated problems in children that will be carried through life
- C. to destroy influence and ministries

V. GREATEST THREATS TO FAMILY

- A. Study by Better Homes and Gardens - 200,000 responded
 - 1. Lack of religious and spiritual foundation is greatest threat
 - 2. 1978 - Inattentive parents greatest threat to family life
 - 3. 1972 - Materialism primary threat to the family
- B. Well-laid plan of humanism
- C. Humanism
 - 1. Man is his own god
 - 2. No need for God or religion
 - 3. Ethics
 - 4. The individual
 - 5. Man is an animal