

The devil doesn't make us do it



Management courses offered by WSU center

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Dear Gandella,

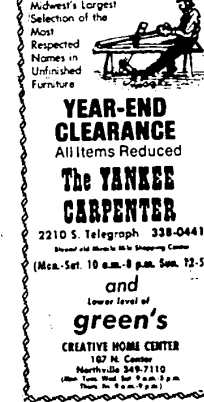
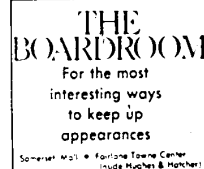
In recent years, there has been a rash of movies on the birth of a satanic child—*"Rosemary's Baby"* and *"The Omen"*—among others. The generally agreed upon time of birth is about 1965, give or take a few years.

Do you have any knowledge of the predicted birth of such an Evil One? Do you believe there is a Satan? What do you think of these books?

N.R., Livonia

Dear N.R.,

No, I do not believe in Satan with a capital "S." *"Satan"* is an English translation of a Hebrew word for "adversary." Someone once said that evil is not the opposite of good, but the absence of perfection. If that be true, there is a bit of it in the best of us.



Jesus Christ even referred to St. Peter as Satan. Matthew 16:23 reads as follows: "But he turned and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence to me: for thou savorest not the things that be of God, but thou that be of men." From a New Testament apostle, the words of "Satan" (small "s" and plural), that is, Devil.

I readily wish that I could honestly believe in the entity "Satan." I think it would be terrific when I did something wrong to be able to share the blame and ease my conscience with the thought that "the Devil made me do it."

But to me, it seems like a bit of a cop-out. All power is from one source with great potential. It is needed by men and women that power. When we intentionally use the power granted us to bring pain and suffering (either emotional or physical) to one fellow being, we are, indeed, devils.

If, as you suggested in your letter, a satanic child was born in 1965, then he or she would be around 11 or 12 years old now. Looking at the behavior of some 11- and 12-year-olds being arrested for major crimes today, it would be hard to decide which one is "it."

I tend to believe, however, that it is we ourselves, the parents, the teachers, the citizens of society, who produce children with a warped sense of right and wrong who lack the ability to love. Some of these are bound to grow up and burn churches, lo-

che riots, and murder millions of their fellow men.

There have been countless others in the past, and there will be more in the future. But to not Satan nor the Devil with a capital "D" that's to blame. It's the devil in ourselves, because when we cheat, lie, ignore, and hurt each other, and set examples which are copied and expanded.

What do I think of such books as *"Rosemary's Baby,"* and *"The Omen?"* They are interesting bits of fiction which should be read only by those stable enough to recognize them as such.

Dear Gandella,

Where can be found the ingredients for the pot pourri recipe recently published in your column?

H.W., Bloomfield Hills

Dear H.W.,

The lavender flowers, powdered iris root, rose buds, and rose oil can be purchased at the Goodwill Candle Co., 380 E. Milwaukee, Detroit. The coriander, cardamom, and nutmeg beans may be obtained at my well-stocked spice corner, or at any of the various herbs shops at Eastern Market.

Note: You may write Gandella at: Box 64, Garden City, 48133. For a personal reply, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

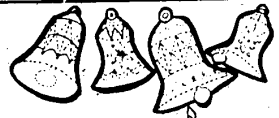
Finding a job and planning for the future: hotel/motel management, management principles, real estate appraisal and industrial physics are some of the courses offered this winter by Wayne State University's Applied Management and Technology Center.

Classes begin the week of Jan. 17 and usually meet one night a week for 10 weeks. AMTC courses are offered in Trenton, Romulus, Birmingham, Oak Park and on the Wayne State campus.

AMTC is a division of WSU's College of Lifelong Learning. It offers practical, non-credit, career enrichment courses in the areas of supervision, management and technology. There are no admission requirements. Classes are open to anyone interested in enriching occupational skills.

AMTC students never fail a course. Once a student enrolls in a course, he or she can repeat it as often as desired at no further cost.

For the past 25 years AMTC has helped Metro-area people enhance job-related skills through career enrichment courses. To begin registration, call an AMTC counselor.



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High school drug usage levels out, researchers say

Despite somewhat liberalized views on marijuana, the great majority of American young people continue to disapprove of the use of other illicit drugs, report University of Michigan researchers.

Two-thirds of high school seniors have never used such drugs and a third of those who have used them were just experimenting, since their use of the drug was limited to one or two occasions.

U-M scientists revealed that among this year's high school seniors there has been practically no change in usage levels of illicit drugs other than marijuana when compared to last year's class—a stability which stands in marked contrast to the meteoric rise in drug use among American young people over the previous seven-year period.

The report was prepared by Drs. Lloyd Johnston, Gerald Bachman and Patrick O'Malley, research scientists at the U-M Institute for Social Research. The nationwide study of 17,000 1975 and 1976 high school seniors in some 125 schools was conducted under the auspices of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Although the use of the more serious drugs may have stabilized, that does not mean that only a small number of young people are involved. The U-M authors point out:

Quite the contrary, they said. "By the time they left high school, nearly 60 per cent of this year's seniors had used some illicit drug at least once, one in three has used an illicit drug other than marijuana—such as amphetamines, psychedelics, cocaine, or narcotics—and more than one in five had gone beyond experimenting with one of the more serious drugs."

These basic figures, the researchers noted, are the same for the class of 1976 as they were for the class of 1975, except that the number of seniors using marijuana has increased somewhat. The proportion who reported using marijuana rose from 43 to 51 per cent.

Frequent use of marijuana also seems to have increased appreciably. The report stated: "In fact, for this age group we now show more people using marijuana daily (or nearly daily) than there are using alcohol."

Attitudes and beliefs about marijuana use appear to have shifted in parallel with use, it was pointed out. Fewer young users risk harming themselves. Forty-eight per cent now disapprove of occasional use, compared with 55 per cent last year. Regular use, however, is still viewed with disapproval by a full 70 per cent of high school seniors.

The U-M researchers found that most young people still feel, in the face of marijuana decriminalization in several states, that there should be some legal prohibitions against the use in public of any of the currently illicit drugs, including marijuana.

Only a quarter of the age group still think the use of marijuana should be a crime.

Half of the high school seniors continued to say they would not use marijuana themselves, even if it were legal to purchase and possess.

Nine out of 10 seniors say they disapprove of even trying heroin or LSD, and eight out of 10 disapprove of trying barbiturates or amphetamines, or cocaine.

These attitudes about "hard" drugs are

fully as strong in this year's class as they were in last year's, despite their somewhat liberalized views of marijuana.

U-M report concluded: "The majority of seniors also believe that the users run a substantial risk of harming themselves."

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