

Getting it together

Love can last only as long as it works

As precious and desirable as love may be, it also causes a lot of fear and disappointment. That's because it seems so unpredictable, so uncontrollable. The more we care about another person, the more we fear losing the love. And often, no matter how strong the love feelings may have been in the beginning, no matter how hard we try to prevent it, we do lose our love.

By
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Ph.D.



"Why?" we ask when it's over. "What did we do wrong?" Sometimes the answer is that the two lovers were essentially incompatible and couldn't work out their differences. Sometimes love is a casualty of the rough emotional storms that go with the beginnings of all relationships. But the endings which are the hardest to understand are the quiet deaths—when love fades from what seemed to be a permanent love relationship.

Actually, there is only one reason that love feelings die in an established love partnership. The love relationship is not working. The partners are not getting their emotional needs met. And so they withdraw their investment from the partnership for which they had such high hopes.

But, if love is to last past the honeymoon period, the relationship has to provide more than just hopes. It has to perform. It has to successfully, consistently take care of the emotional needs of its two participants.

Huffman beings need, for instance, the feeling of closeness that can only be found in a successful intimate relationship. As Erik Fromm explains, we experience our separateness, from each other as painful and lonely. But we find relief when we are in a relationship in which we feel truly known and understood by another person. Then we can relax our defenses and facades. We can just be ourselves.

But getting there takes courage, skills, and a lot of hard work. It means gradually peeling away the layers of public faces and testing whether the relationship can tolerate the real person inside. It means ex-

posing each other to the worst as well as the best of us. For, as long as there is any significant part of us that is not known and understood by our partner, our intimacy will seem hollow and unsatisfying.

THINGS LIKE always being polite to our partner, being the perfect lady and being careful not to hurt each other's feelings are huge obstacles to our attempts to be intimates.

On the other hand, they may contribute to a facade of security and comfort. And partners do hope to get these from a love relationship, too.

In fact, trying to produce security and comfort is where most of the energy of established love relationships is spent. In looking for a partner, we are looking for someone to share the burdens of life, to make our loads lighter.

Doing this successfully means that the relationship takes care of the "little" things, the petty hurts, the childish whims.

All of which is a lot harder than it sounds. Trying to act like self-reliant grown-ups, we too often cover up our petty, childish needs. We don't ask for our whims; and we are hurt when our partner doesn't read our mind and save us the embarrassment of asking. We spend so much time at the serious business of adulthood that we ignore our little, childish needs.

Or, just as bad, one partner takes on the rigid role of providing for these needs, but doesn't get her own needs met. When she finally does ask for her share of comforting, the mountain of resentment is often insurmountable and the division of roles is too firmly cast.

BUT CLOSE BEHIND this divorce-causing pattern in popularity is the feeling that the relationship keeps a partner from meeting his need for adventure. Even though he may feel that his partnership is a comfortable, intimate place, he may still feel stifled. And so he turns to affairs, demanding jobs, and divorce.

Too often, people assume that adventure and stimulation must be sought outside of their love relationship. To be successful, a love relationship must be a source of stimulation rather than an obstacle. Partners should support each other's attempts to develop new skills, to add new experiences. Lovers should be playmates and co-adventurers. A love relationship should be a source of continued romance. Sex should be a playground and a cause of tension, not just a relaxation.

To do this, love partners have to understand that their desire for comfort and security can be their enemy if it dominates their lives. They have to be prepared for anger and anxiety. They have to be ready to stretch them-

selves and to give their relationship new challenges. Love partners can't just sit back, after their love is established, and

hope to ride the momentum of their love feelings. If love feelings are to be kept alive, lovers have to be ready for a lot of hard work.

Orchard Lake head resigning

The Rev. Walter J. Ziemia, head of the Orchard Lake schools in Michigan, rector of S.S. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, president of Saint Mary College, and superintendent of Saint Mary Preparatory, will leave these posts June 30.

Fr. Ziemia, who was appointed to the faculty of the Orchard Lake schools complex since 1968. After a sabbatical period, he will continue on the faculty in an administrative position to be determined in the future, eventually returning to full-time teaching.

"The past nine years as head of Orchard Lake schools have been for me challenging, trying, demanding, and rewarding," said Fr. Ziemia. "For the Orchard Lake schools, I feel, they have been the same."

Fr. Ziemia emphasized the importance of and the continuing need for the work of the Orchard Lake schools. "The Orchard Lake schools, since their founding in 1885, have always tried to respond to the needs of their constituencies: the church, the United States, Poland," he said. "In recent years, especially after Vatican II, these needs have expanded, changed in emphasis, demanded more extensive participation of greater numbers in the planning, discussion, support, and implementation of new ideas and new programs."

The 51-year-old educator carried the Orchard Lake schools through the period of post-Vatican II reform and expanded the activities and services of the schools through the establishment of three new services—the center for Polish studies and culture, the Polish-American liturgical center, and the center for pastoral studies. He also expanded significantly the

public relations and fund-raising efforts of the schools during the years of leadership. "As I leave these responsibilities, I feel a heavy but sweet burden of gratitude to the many countless individuals who cooperated with me and supported me in all that I did or tried to do," he commented after his resignation was accepted by Cardinal John Dearden.

Moral perspectives

Gilmore couldn't handle failure

In the last recorded interview with Gary Gilmore before he was executed, he was asked whether he felt remorse for killing two persons. His reply was "I ain't going to tell you how I feel about it. I ain't going to ask you to forgive me and I ain't going to ask the priest either."

Gary Gilmore would not talk about his remorse or bad feelings. Some would say that he is different from most of us. I suggest that everyone of us faces this human problem of how to deal with our moral failure.

Religion and moral thinking are of value to us when they help us to deal with a sense of failure and guilt. Highly religion and morality will help us to see that everyone does wrong, hurts others and fails morally at times.

A religion or moral system which only looks at a life in a positive way fails us when we need help in dealing with our own weaknesses and failures.

Gary's father was teaching his son to deal with his own moral failure. The ultimate results came for Gary last week.

Denying failure or wrongdoing only leads to greater problems. Acknowledging failure or wrongdoing can lead to change and growth.

Good religion and good morals ex-



pect the negative to be a part of life. It provides ways to admit to the negative in one's life and then move on to a positive change.

Gary Gilmore did not believe this is a useful or good thing to do. His father, and possibly others, taught him

to avoid admitting wrongdoing or moral failure.

No one taught him how to deal with his sense of failure, to be forgiven and move on to a higher and nobler effort. His own moral failure, unchanged, led him into greater destruction.

TODAY-RELIGION and moral language may often fail to communicate how useful it is to be able to deal with failure and wrongdoing.

When people hear the words "sin," "confess," "forgive," or "reconcile," they often hear judgment or feel they must grovel on the ground. This is wrong.

Properly understood, these ideas can spell health, growth and new beginnings. They are time-tested ways to break the power of the negative.

It is sad that persons like Gary Gilmore have learned to avoid the means of moral and human renewal.

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Your Invitation to Worship

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Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. R. L. Schell, Minister

St. John American Lutheran Church
2225 6th Road Farmington
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

First Apostolic Lutheran Church
2620 Grand River Road Farmington
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sundays 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

The Franklin Baptist Church
20109 Cerrito Mill Road at Franklin Rd.
Franklin, Michigan 48025
Rev. Ronald E. Leon, Pastor
Phone 851-0332
We enthusiastically welcome all new Christians from the Billie Graham Crusade
"Where Christ is Proclaimed"
Sundays School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian
1669 WEST MAPLE at CHESTERFIELD (644-2040)
BIRMINGHAM
The Reverend F. Morgan Roberts, Pastor
Associates: Charles A. Sommers, Edward E. Craxton, Gerald S. Crawford
Worship and Church School 9:30 and 11:15 A.M.

First Baptist Church of Farmington
Richard Duncan, Pastor - Phone 474-0350

Franklin Community Church
United Methodist
on Franklin Village Green
Sundays at 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.
Nursery care at both services
Sundays 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.
Junior High at 10:15 a.m.
Junior High at 10:15 a.m.
Adult Education at 10:15 a.m.
Family Hour at 10:15 a.m.
Senior Minister, Frank & Cowick
Associate Minister, J. Chester Shabaz

The Congregational Church of Birmingham, U.C.C.
Woodward at Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills
MI 48311
Worship and Church School 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Minister: Rev. Charles O. Erickson
Minister of Education: Rev. Verna E. Aron, Jr.

St. James Episcopal Church
355 W. Maple
Bloomfield Hills
SUNDAYS SERVICES
9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Church School (through 8th grade)
WEDNESDAYS
7:00 and 10:00 a.m.
No Communion

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
A.L.C.
5631 North Adams Road
1 1/2 Miles North of E. Long Lake Rd.
SUNDAY
9:15 A.M. Masses
9:30 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
Service
Fred W. MacLellan, Pastor
Duane F. Schaller, Pastor
MI 6-5041 MI 6-5124

First United Methodist Church
1589 West Maple at Pleasant
Ministers: James W. Wright, G. Bryn Evans
John H. Beuce, Thomas H. Beuce
Worship Services 8:30, 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Church School 9:30 and 11 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided

Farmington Hills Baptist
On Middlebelt Road Between 12 & 13 Mile Rds.
Worship 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Bible School 9:45 a.m.
Family Night—Wed. 7:30 p.m.
Rev. Fred G. Farris—Pastor 851-0910
Rev. Donald White, Assistant Pastor
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Birk in the Hills
PRESBYTERIAN
1240 W. Long Lake Rd.
MINISTERS
James F. Anderson
Robert L. Lindley
Ross H. Goodrich
Worship Services and Church School
Sundays at 9:30 and 11:30 A.M.

Nativity Episcopal Church
THE NATIVITY CHURCH
1225 W. 12 Mile Rd.
1 1/2 Miles West of Oak Ridge
SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
Stroz and Church School at 10:30
Monday through Friday
Morning Service 11:00 A.M.
Rector: John C. Friesenburgh

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
The Community House
380 South Bates, Birmingham
Sunday: 10:10 A.M. Bible School
11:00 A.M. Worship
6:00 P.M. Praise Service
Wednesday: 7:15 P.M. Bible Study
Joseph P. Lukaczki, Pastor
851-8516

St. Martin's Episcopal Church
The Rev. Robert D. Kelly, Rector
2569 Grand River Avenue
St. Martin's Mid Road District
Hennepine, Indiana 47424 and 14 a.m.
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Clergy: Rev. Robert D. Kelly, Rector
Clergy: Rev. Robert D. Kelly, Rector

Covenant Baptist
New Bedford Ministry
Located at West Maple Jr. High on West Maple Rd. North of Maple Rd.
SUNDAY SERVICES
Church School 8:45 A.M.
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
35300 Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills
Sundays 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Worship and Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
Clergy: Rev. Robert D. Kelly, Rector
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
644-5836
SUNDAY SERVICES OF WORSHIP
9:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.
YOUTH BIBLE CLASSES
9:00 A.M.
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL
10:30 A.M.
The Reverend Gordon H. Light, Pastor

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
LCA
6255 Tappan Road
Birmingham North of Maple
Worship Services
Sundays Church School
10:30 A.M.
Thursday Church School
10:30 A.M.
7 P.M. Sunday School
Clergy: William Baker 646-3071

First Baptist Church
Bates and Wilkes, Birmingham, Mich.
Robert G. Madison, Minister
David M. Swink
Glen H. Aquino, Jr.
Home of Armstrong, Inc. 101-101
Church School 11:00
Worship Service

First Church of Christ, Scientist
191 Chester at Willis
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:00 P.M.
CHILD CARE ROOM Sunday 10:15 A.M. — Wed. 7:45 P.M.
READING ROOM — 355 East Maple — 644-7535
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Wed. & Sat. 9:30-5:30, Thurs. & Fri. 9:30-10:00
except Sunday and holidays.
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Maple at Inlander
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:15 P.M.
CHILD CARE ROOM Sunday 10:15 A.M. — Wed. 8:00 P.M.
READING ROOM — in Pine Lake Mall — 851-7740
Clergy: Late Rd. at Lape Road
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