

Some Parkinson patients helped

Dear Jo:
My father, who is in his late 80s, suffers from Parkinson's disease. I heard on the news that now there is surgery for the disease. Would you comment on this, please?
E.C., Chatham

Dear Mr. C:
Parkinson's disease affects a small group of dopamine-producing cells in the brain called the substantia nigra. Those afflicted with the disease have a number of neurological symptoms such as slow, stiff movements, a shuffling walk, muscle tremors of the hands and a mask-like appearance to the face.

Dopamine is also produced by certain cells in the adrenal gland.

Although this fact has been known for a long time, it wasn't until recently that a team of surgeons in Sweden transplanted adrenal tissue into the brains of people with Parkinson's. Subsequently, a more refined procedure was carried out in Mexico and reported in the New England Journal of Medicine (April 2, 1987).

So far, the procedures have been quite successful in alleviating the symptoms of Parkinson's. This type of surgery will not be appropriate for the majority of people with the disease, whose symp-

toms can be controlled with drugs. Whether it will be appropriate for your father remains to be seen. Brain surgery involves major risks, particularly for the elderly.

At this time it is not known how long the benefits from the surgery will last. So far, no patient has been followed for longer than four years. Nevertheless, it is a major step in the treatment of Parkinson's, and hopefully many will benefit from it.

Dear Jo:
What is the average age of widowhood in North America?
Mary Bolte, Toronto

Dear Mary:
Unfortunately, it's age 56.

Dear Jo:
I would like to suggest an excellent book for your older women readers who live on their own. It is titled "Alone Not Lonely: Independent Living for Women over Fifty," by Jane Serkin and published (1987) by the AARP. I ordered it through Scott, Foresman and Co., P.O. Box 1000, LaPorte, Ind. 46350. It cost me just \$6.95 and was worth every cent. The author candidly discusses the many aspects of living on your own at this time in life.

Readers can write to Jolayne Farrell at 11 Cynthia Crescent, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4E 1J3.

Mere political grumbling is far from disloyalty

gerontology

A. Jolayne Farrell

THE CAR in front of me at the light was paped with bumper stickers. On most the lettering was faded, and the edges were tattered.

One of those weathered statements was "America, Love it or Leave it" — I said they were old stickers. As it stands, that may be a point worth considering.

However, the face of it and the implication are not always the same. The underlying message seems to be that loyalty and love of any institution require agreement with all of its policies and priorities.

DISSENT, for many, is not a popular pastime. It has a tendency to cause many in positions of authority or power to get nervous at the prospect of being challenged. Some are not used to having the wisdom of their ways questioned.

For others, their level of authority notwithstanding, dissent is an equally unpleasant phenomenon. For them it is uncomfortable that the status quo — or that in which they have put their faith — is questionable.

Dissent never has been, nor is it ever likely to be, a process that delights everyone. The very existence of the United States of America is the result of dissent against the Brit-

perspectives



Rev. Robert Schaden

ish crown. Even that hallowed Revolution was not without its opponents. The Tories were alive and well in 18th century America.

IT WILL ALWAYS be true that those who run governments, lead churches, direct education or manage businesses will be subject to the limitations of the human condition. As such they may need to be challenged. History is scattered with the debris of those who were not.

However, as inevitable and as productive as dissent may be, it still remains for those who would take part in such a process to remember that there is a difference between mere grumbling and responsible dissent.

For starters, an ability to discriminate seems to be a welcome ingredient. Those who claim that dissent is disloyal fail to recognize the difference between what is essential to the group or the organization and what is not.

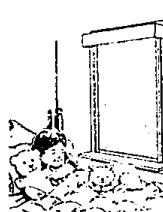
If, for example, I want to throw out the Constitution, my Americanism may well be questioned. However, I may suggest that "The Star-Spangled Banner" is a bit too belligerent to be the national anthem for a peace-loving nation without questioning the very heart of America.

WHEN SUCH a lack of discrimination is beyond those in power, paranoia and even tyranny result. But when that same ability to discriminate is missing in the dissenter, confusion reigns, and the baby goes out with the bathwater.

Along with such discrimination, an open mind can help the dissenter to see that even a system that needs changing or a leader who needs challenging can and often does have some saving grace. It is dangerous when the mind of the dictator is closed. But it is equally dangerous and a bit sad when the closed mind belongs to the dissenter.

This may be too much to fit on a bumper sticker, but it may provide a context in which to read the next sticker on loyalty on the car in front of you.

The Rev. Robert Schaden is with the Newman House at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

GREENE AND ASSOCIATES
Home and Commercial Improvement Product Representatives
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
Bradford

Window Quilt
makes your rooms warm and cozy in winter
We cure window "pains".
TROCAL
Certainteed

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office. It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

RETIRED?
PUT YOUR WEALTH OF WISDOM TO WORK
Retired Volunteer Men and Women Provide Counseling Service at No Cost to Small Businesses
Rewarding Service for Qualified People
PHONE 313-226-7947
SCORE
477 Michigan Avenue
Room 515
Detroit, Michigan 48226
SCORE
SERVICE CORPS OF RETIRED EXECUTIVES
Sponsored by U.S. Small Business Administration


David Jensen and his staff have been designing and remodeling kitchens throughout the Birmingham/Bloomfield area for more than a decade, as a result we can confidently tell you:
• no home is too small or too large, no matter how available (from period traditional to contemporary)
• only the best appliances displayed: Jenn-Air, Thermador, Sub-Zero, Chambers, Amana, Gaudinax.
• outstanding design ideas to make your kitchen unique and convenient
• installation available by our expert craftsmen
WOOD MODE cabinetry
kitchens by jensen
Showroom Hours: M-F 9-5
1563 S. Eldon, Birmingham, MI 48206-340-4860

AMERICA'S ONLY NATIONAL HOME FURNISHINGS SALE SUPPORTS THE MARCH OF DIMES

BUY YOUR CARPETING FROM BECKWITH EVANS AND YOU'LL HELP FIGHT BIRTH DEFECTS
Thank you! When you make a carpeting purchase at Beckwith Evans during this National Floor Covering Sale, part of your purchase price will be donated to the March of Dimes and help prevent birth defects. Buy today, beautify your home and help prevent birth defects.
HERE'S JUST A PARTIAL LISTING OF THE FAMOUS BRANDS PARTICIPATING IN THIS NATIONAL SALES EVENT
• Alexander Smith • Lees
• Armstrong • Solari
• Bigelow • Karastan
• Cabin Crafts • Mannington
• Carpet One • Mohawk
• Congoleum • Robertex
• Evans Black • Tarkett
• Galaxy • Wundwove
• Gulletan • Bruce Floors
... and many, many more
Select CARPETS 20% TO 50% OFF!
A large selection of famous maker carpets at tremendous savings. Beautiful plushes, cut n' loops, Berbers, Twists and more from Lees, Karastan, Cabin Crafts and other fine brands. Special price reductions on every Starmaster carpet.
Choice NO-WAX VINYL 15% TO 33% OFF!
Lovely patterns and colors from Armstrong, Mannington, Congoleum and Tarkett on today's best no-wax finishes. Manufacturer rebates also available on selected floors. Beckwith Evans expert, guaranteed installation at 10¢ off with your vinyl purchase.
All AREA RUGS 40% TO 60% OFF!
Every rug in stock is huge savings. Handmade and machine made from around the world. You'll find classic Oriental designs, as well as casual country patterns and contemporary Berbers in a large array of colors and sizes. Selection varies by store.
All REMNANTS An Extra 20% OFF!
Over 6,000 quality remnants bargain priced until October 12th. Hundreds of colors and patterns from all of our fine carpet makers. Clearance prices (sizes up to 12' x 19') are already reduced 30% to 40% from their list prices, but now you get an extra 20% off every one.
Beckwith Evans CARPET ONE
• TRINITY WAREHOUSE 1001 Maple Rd. 545-7000
• PLEASANT RIDGE 24242 Woodward 547-7190
• CLINTON TOWNSHIP 4620 Clinton 924-1310
• REDBORN 24401 W. 8 Mile Rd. 558-1990
• DEARBORN HEIGHTS 2440 Ford Rd. 274-7990
• EVANSVILLE 4315 Hiramwood Rd. 422-6600
• TAYLOR 24077 Taylor Rd. 781-2500
• SE. CLEAR SHORES 24020 Mack Ave. 779-8000
Buying carpet has never been easier!
SPECIALIZING IN COMMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS
Call Our Customer Reps. (313) 545-7000
STORE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 10 am to 9 pm. SATURDAY 10 am to 6 pm. SUNDAY Noon to 5 pm.