

# Marriage: Society poses challenges to its traditions



RABBI IRWIN GRONER

**MORAL PERSPECTIVES**

At a lecture conducted for a group of married women in Long Island, the subject was "A Happy Married Life." At the conclusion, there were questions and answers, and finally, the lecturer asked, "Are there any more questions?" From the back of the room, one heard a voice cry out, "Are there any more answers?" We live in an age when marriages seem fragile, under great stress and subject to disintegrating forces. We consider ancient words of wisdom on this theme.

A Roman matron of the first century asked a venerable rabbi, "What has God been doing ever since He completed the work of creation?"

He responded, "The Almighty has been sitting in heaven, arranging marriages."

But a wise man, in commenting on this passage, noted that

matches are made in heaven but marriages are made on earth. We all know that it's only in fairy tales that we encounter the phrase, "They were married, and they lived happily ever after." On behalf of all who are successfully married, we offer collective testimony that a fulfilling marriage is created, nurtured and developed.

The traditional conception of marriage is challenged by ideas and forces that are achieving wide circulation in our culture. The very spirit of the modern age challenges and undermines the stability of marriage. According to the judeo-Christian tradition, marriage is more than a biological union, an economic partnership, a legal entity, or a psychological association. Marriage is a consecration, a sanctification of life intended to endure. It links us with the past and the future. It enables us to experience sacred qualities of the human spirit.

Several years ago, a book titled "The Temporary Society" achieved wide circulation. The author believes that we need to find new social forms that are

consonant with the transient quality of our society. Manufacturers are developing clothes that are disposable. You wear them once and throw them away. Similarly, he argues that we ought to design social structures that allow us to throw them away when they are no longer useful to us. Our task is to help people learn to develop intense and deep human relationships quickly, then learn how to let go; learn how to get love and how to lose love; learn how to enter relationships and how to leave them.

Ilka Chase used to tell the story of the aftermath of her divorce from Louis Cather. His next wife was Julia Hoyt. Ms. Chase, going through a trunk, found a box of handsomely engraved cards, bearing simply the name, "Mrs. Louis Cather." Feeling ashamed that they should go to waste, she wrapped them up and sent them to her successor with a little note: "Dear Julia, I hope these reach you in time."

Something of that spirit pervades this book. The author is wrong conceptually, morally and scientifically. Life becomes

cheapened and trivialized without commitments that endure and loyalties that persist, without friendship and love that grow and blossom with the passage of time. Every couple who has lived well together over the years develops a sense of shared history. It's like a sea anchor in the turbulent sea of life, holding them steady in the face of life's storms and high winds. The richness of joint memory creates for them a special kind of tenderness.

To spend a lifetime with another human being is an incredible thing to contemplate. Marriage partners intermingling their energies and experiences and dreams over an entire life span. It gives them both a living history that pervades their time together with the fragrance and essence of their past. It increases the richness of the present and the promise of the future.

Rabbi Irwin Groner is with Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield. If you have a question or comment, call him at 953-2047, mailbox number 1862, on a touch-tone phone.

■ From the back of the room, one heard a voice cry out, 'Are there any more answers?'

## CONNIE'S HERE!

formerly of Men's Quarterly

<b>Men's</b> <b>\$4.00 OFF</b> Shampoo • Cut • Blow Dry Now \$11.00 Make Design SALON 1300 W. 10 Mile Rd. at Oakridge • Farmington Hills 471-0160	<b>Women's</b> <b>\$2.00 OFF</b> Shampoo • Cut • Iron • Blow Dry Now \$18.00 Make Design SALON 1300 W. 10 Mile Rd. at Oakridge • Farmington Hills 471-0160
---	--

## CHIMNEYS

- Cleaned
- Screened
- Repaired
- New



## ROOFS

- Repaired
- Re-Roofed
- New
- Leaks Stopped

Karney Dorderian's

CROWN CONTRACTING, INC.

42910 W. 10 Mile, Novi

427-3981

SINCE 1952

- LICENSED
- INSURED
- GUARANTEED

Senior Citizen Discount

## BATHTUB REFINISHING

10 YEAR WARRANTY AVAILABLE

SAVE 80% OVER REPLACEMENT

<b>SPRING SPECIAL</b> <b>\$179.00</b> STANDARD TUB QUALITY Free Estimate Expires April 30, 1994 with this coupon	<b>CERAMIC TILE</b> We refinish your tubs Appliances • Sinks • Tile and Countertop Refinishing • Chip and Scratch Repair <b>427-3838</b>
---	---

# The only thing as pleasant as buying a Saturn is leasing one.

We hope you've heard how *unstressful* we try to make it for you when you visit a Saturn showroom. (Because who needs *more* stress, right?) Anyway, we take the same approach to leasing as we do to everything else. So if leasing a Saturn is better for you than buying one (and we can help you figure that out), then great. The only important thing is to find out how pleasant *driving* a Saturn can be.



can help you figure that out), then great.

The only important thing is to find out how pleasant driving a Saturn can be.

GMAC must approve lease. Mileage charge of \$0.10 per mile over 45,000 miles. Lessee pays for excessive wear and use. See your participating retailer for qualification details. You must take delivery from retailer stock by March 31, 1994. Payments may be slightly higher in Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii, New York, Texas, and Virginia. If you'd like to know more about Saturn, and our new sedans, coupes and wagons, please call us any time at 1-800-522-5000.

**SATURN of ANN ARBOR**  
 500 Autowall Drive  
 313-769-3591  
**SATURN of PLYMOUTH**  
 9301 Manassas Dr., 1275 &  
 Ann Arbor Rd. 313-769-3591

**SATURN of FARMINGTON HILLS**  
 24750 Haggerty Road  
 313-473-7230  
**SATURN of SOUTHFIELD**  
 29929 Telegraph Road  
 313-354-6001

**SATURN of TROY**  
 1804 Maplelawn, Troy Motor Mall  
 313-643-4350

**SATURN of WARREN**  
 7830 Convent Road, 131/2 & Van Dyke  
 313-979-2000

**SATURN of NORTH**  
 8400 Dixie Hwy. at I-75, exit 93  
 313-600-8800  
**SATURN of SOUTHWEST**  
 16600 Fort Street  
 313-446-3300

A DIFFERENT KIND OF COMPANY. A DIFFERENT KIND OF CAR. ©1994 Saturn Corporation

The Saturn SC1



**\$184/Month \$1,000/Down 36/Months**

SmartLease payments based on 1994 Saturn SC1, 5 speed, AC, MSRP \$12,910 excluding title, taxes, license fee and insurance. First month's lease payment of \$184.00 plus \$225.00 refundable security deposit and down payment of \$1,000.00 for a total of \$1,000.00 due at lease signing. Option to purchase at lease end for \$8,581. Payments total \$6,651.00.

The Saturn SL



**\$168/Month \$1,000/Down 36/Months**

SmartLease payments based on 1994 Saturn SL Sedan, 5 speed, AC, MSRP \$12,210 excluding title, taxes, license fee and insurance. First month's lease payment of \$168.00 plus \$225.00 refundable security deposit and down payment of \$1,000.00 for a total of \$1,000.00 due at lease signing. Option to purchase at lease end for \$8,061. Payments total \$6,061.00.

The Saturn SW1



**\$187/Month \$1,000/Down 36/Months**

SmartLease payments based on 1994 Saturn SW1 Wagon, 5 speed, AC, MSRP \$12,210 excluding title, taxes, license fee and insurance. First month's lease payment of \$187.00 plus \$225.00 refundable security deposit and down payment of \$1,000.00 for a total of \$1,000.00 due at lease signing. Option to purchase at lease end for \$8,254. Payments total \$6,732.00.

AMERICA'S SUMMER GOLF CAPITAL

**FREE**

**Central Lodging & Tee Time Reservation Service**

**SIXTEEN COURSES!**

FOR VISITOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CALL:

**1-800-TRAVERS**

Traverse City Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Heating & Air Conditioning**

**SUN**

**Quality High Efficiency**  
 Heating + 92% AFUE.  
 Cooling - 10 SEER

**335-4555**

**Carrier**  
 We're The Inside Guys.

**Financing Available**  
**0 DOWN\***  
 Upon Credit Approval  
 & Month-Start as Cash

**Carrier LEADERSHIP DEALER**

**Ask about our Preventive Maintenance Program**

- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Quality Installation
- 23 Vehicles • Radio Dispatch

**JEFFREY J. COLTON, M.D.**  
 a professional corporation

IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE  
 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIS NEW OFFICE  
 FOR THE PRACTICE OF  
 FACIAL PLASTIC AND COSMETIC SURGERY

**31350 TELEGRAPH ROAD**  
 Just North of Thirteen Mile Road  
 BINGHAM FARMS, MICHIGAN 48025

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT

**810.642.1770**  
**FACSIMILE 810.642.2674**