

**Moral perspectives**

# Is power good, conflict natural?

I have signed up for a week-long course in which I will study personal power and conflict. Because of this I have become more aware of how issues in our news center so much around power and conflict.

We live in a highly competitive world. In this world we experience constant stress and strain. Power and conflict are of more importance in our lives than most of us realize. We need to understand these factors in a positive way.

Marriage and family life require that we deal with power and conflict. Counselors tell us that we need to learn how to "fight fair" in order to have a happy marriage. Many try to avoid facing this truth. One gives in to the other and then is unhappy, bitter or frustrated. The marriage and the family suffer as a result.

FOR MANY, "power" is a dirty word. Such persons hope for a world without "black power," "gay power" or conflict. This is neither realistic or healthy. Power is a realistic and positive aspect of life.

I recommend an essay, "The Power Tactics of Jesus Christ" by Jay Haley in a book of the same title. Here we see a person identified with peace and a love of persons using power in effective ways.

The opposite of power is passivity. The life of Jesus and many of the other great persons in our religious heritages dealt with power and conflict in the context of love.

## Organ recitals planned Fridays

St. John Episcopal Church announces its 30th annual series of free, noon-time Lenten organ recitals on Fridays commencing weekly through Good Friday, March 24.

Each of the 30-minute programs will begin at 12:15 p.m. in the beautiful old church sanctuary at Woodward and the Fisher Freeway in downtown Detroit.

Huw Lewis, organist and choirmaster at St. John, will play on Feb. 10 and 17, March 3, 10 and 24. On Feb. 24, Todd Gresick will be featured and on March 17, organist Arthur Vidner and trumpeters Byron Pearson and David Brown will present a joint recital.

Good Friday services will follow the organ recital on March 24 and will include the Faure "Requiem" performed by the choir and soloists.

## Fashion show will benefit student fund

The second annual fashion show sponsored by the Billy Daniel Jr. memorial scholarship fund committee will be held at Mercy College of Detroit at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19, in the college conference center, 8200 W. Outer Drive, Detroit.

The benefit, sponsored by a group of black students, will raise funds for a memorial scholarship believed to be the only one initiated by students in a Michigan college. Proceeds will aid a needy student.

Billy Daniel, 22, was a Mercy student in the law enforcement program and a campus leader when he was killed in an automobile accident in 1976. Both his parents are members of the Mercy faculty. William Daniel Sr. is director of the college prep program and Beverly Daniel is the college nurse.

Students will model summer and winter wardrobes at the benefit show, which is open to the public.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, with a student rate of \$6.50 or two for \$12. Contributions are tax deductible. For ticket information call the college at 531-7820, ext. 534 or 536.



By REV. DAVID T. STRONG  
Fellowship United Methodist Church

We honor those who effectively deal with power and conflict. Most recently, Anwar Sadat of Egypt has won such great respect for his daring bid to deal with national conflict.

An outstanding film on television, "See How She Runs," starring Joanne Woodward, recently portrayed a divorced, middle-aged woman who discovers her power and capacity in training and in running for the Boston Marathon. Her decision is made against the objections of her children and her former husband.

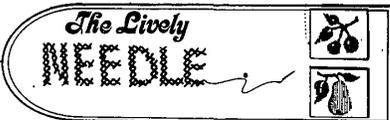
She is considered crazy by some and even physically attacked by another. Her victory is a victory for the human spirit. It is a discovery of her power.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS once said: "A man without power is without the essential dignity of humanity. Human nature is so constituted that it cannot honor a helpless man, although it can pity him."

Dougllass was a black man who lived nearly 100 years ago, yet his insights rings very true today.

Many live in ways that deny their personal power. Others consider power a dirty word to be ignored or avoided, in doing this they deny their basic worth and the worth of others.

Judaism and Christianity affirm power as good and conflict as natural. These faiths affirm the importance of dealing with these aspects of life in effective and caring ways.



The book publisher has decreed. There is to be an author-publicity tour for "More Needlepoint from America's Great Quilt Designs." God help everybody concerned.

I have experienced only one such tour, but this kind of travel is not all it's cracked up to be. Feel charitable toward authors you watch on TV. They're playing traveling salesman and they're ill-equipped for the role. The first tour went something like this: Helen and I were sent off in two different directions. We each were to cover five cities in five days, enlightening newspapers, television audiences and book stores as we went. The fact that I have a non-existent sense of direction, and had never before set foot in any of my five cities added excitement to the trip. Would she get there. Would she get there. Would she even know where there was.

Television appeared to be the biggest hurdle. I'd never seen the inside of a studio before and what on earth did they expect me to do. The wisdom of writing the book had never seemed so questionable. I paid too much for an Ultrasuede dress to hide my sagging morale, and set forth.

MY FIRST TV host was charitable. I think he was afraid that I'd die on camera. But all interviewees were not so kind.

While many of my hostesses liked needlepoint, others seemed to feel that it was a giant step backward in the march of feminine enlightenment.

Pittsburgh was an interesting city.

"Helping Parents Help Kids," a special series of nine programs for parents of children between the ages of 5 and 18, will be held 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Feb. 22, in the Oakland Center Building on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester.

Designed to provide parents with ways they can facilitate their children's

The publisher's public relations department is enamored of Holiday Inns. In Pittsburgh the Inn was on the "wrong" side of the tunnels. I don't think that either the PR girl or I knew that Pittsburgh had tunnels. But when you're trapped in one during morning rush hour en route to an early, live interview, your adrenalin gets a workout.

In another city a taxi driver delivered me, at the right time, to the wrong TV studio. I only knew it as WWWW. He only knew it as Channel 17. It's a lively kind of life, if you don't weaken.

AND THEN THERE was "the man" in Nashville. As I waited my turn, I noticed that all his interviews centered about "controversy." Everyone and everything was controversial but me and my book.

Soon after my segment began, the host mentioned that anyone in the audience could phone in questions for me to answer. Nobody'd told me about that before, so I crossed my fingers and prayed that no one was watching.

Somebody was. The questions came and came. They crackled across a cavernous sound stage over a tiny public address system. And they arrived clothed in deep southern accents. I couldn't understand a word.

I looked at my host for help. He at least spoke southern. And he grinned like a satisfied oyote. Suddenly I knew where the "controversy" in this interview was to come from.

So I answered the questions. To this day I don't know if they were the ones being asked. But fast talk on any subject kept more questions from popping up. I hope that this coming tour does not include Nashville. They'll remember me there.

—MARY KAY DAVIS

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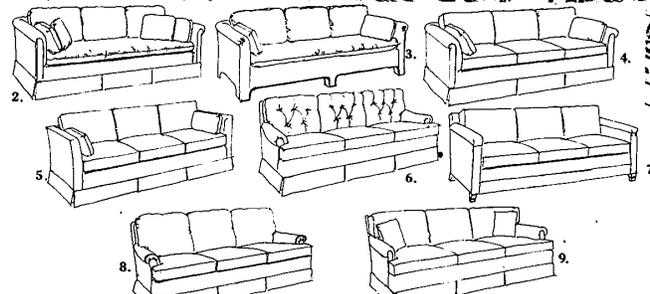
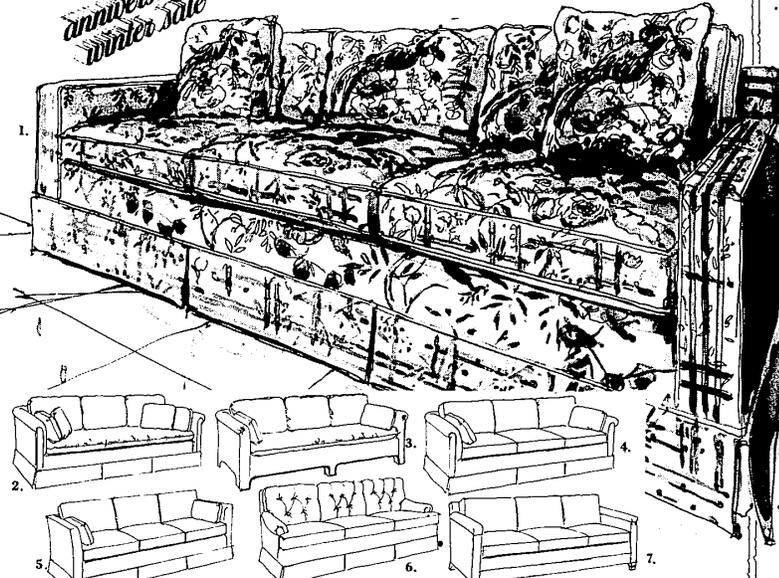
## Parenting series scheduled

growth and development in the social, emotional and intellectual areas.

Parents may attend one or all of the programs. Registration fee is \$5 for each program or \$40 for the entire series. For registration information, call the conference department, Oakland University, 377-3272.



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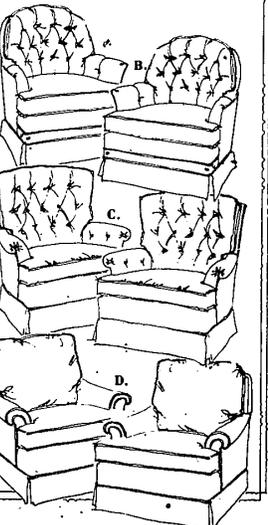
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