

moral perspectives Rabbi Irwin

10 Commandments . then, now and forever

The greatest statement of moral conduct in the Western World is the Ten Commandments. These fundamental privileges have been accepted, taught and transmitted by Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Indeed, they embody the shared moral idealism of Western re-

shared moral idealism of Western re-ligions.
Up until modern times, there was lit-tie controversy about the validity of the divine commands. True, there were those who rejected God's dictates, but they were prepared to accept the con-sequences.
Because the Almighty was regarded as the absolute authority, he had the right to command that we abide by his moral code. Did we not accept his so-vereignity at Sinai?

THEN THE mood of modern man changed this traditional conception. So-phisticated and educated people ques-tioned whether God, or anyone, for that matter, could issue commands without

matter, could issue commands washed our veto.
They preferred to replace the Ten Commandments with 10 suggestions. Let the individual decide for himself if he wants to follow the Biblical code, or any code for that matter.

he wants to follow the Biblical code, or any code, for that matter. These modernists brought up their children in the same atmosphere of relativism. They would not command them to do anything. They would not be suggest and employ gentle persuasion. These elders remembered only too well that when they were told that God commanded, or when their parents imposed prescribed behavior, they resented the restrictions and promised themselves they would do nothing more than suggest without being authoritative. They would want their children to enjoy freedom and latitude in making up their own minds on moral issues. This, they believe, is how true respect is gained.

UNFORTUNATELY, the results have not been altogether encouraging. Those who grow up without clearly defined rules and respect for authority encounter great difficulty. Some become delinquest, others do not internalize standards of right and wrong. Many are contised, lacking

clearly defined goals and a sense of dis-cipline.

Meanwhile, the statistics on crime and violence continue to mount in all

Meanwhile, the statistics on crime and violence continue to mount in all the countries of the free world. The streets of our major cities are no longer considered safe as night falls. Fear has become a way of life for those who live in the deteriorating sections of American's urban centers.

To live in constant dread of authority and its demands can cripple the mind and stunt the spirit. By the same token, to live without the fear of external authority, to ignore the consequences of disobedience and normlessness, to establish oneself and one's desires as the sole arbiter for right and wrong can be equally destructive.

I OFFER to you a parable of our

times.

It seems that in the year 2000, the world was still in a state of war, violence in the streets, increased crime, and widespread social upheaval.

The greatest scientists of the world met at the United Nations. They were enthralled with a new computer recently created that could answer any questions submitted to it, even questions relating to complex human problems.

tions retaining to communication the second to request an answer from this glant computer on how to find a solution for peace, for a decrease of violence, for the elimination of corruption, stealing,

and murder.

After days of assembling the proper material to feed the computer, the moment had come to receive an answer that would bring stability to the world. Scientists carefully programmed the information into the computer and waited for the answer.

The wast machine began to aputter and smoke and the tape gradually emerged. All the scientists gathered around and began to read the print-out message to the assembled world leaders:

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gerontology ሻ A. Jolayne Farrell

Insomnia: find cause and cure may follow

Dear Jo:
What do you think of over-the-counter sleeping pills such as Nytol, Sominer, or Sleep-eze? I often have a problem sleeping and think I might give one of these a try.

Mrs. I. M., age 67.

Mrs. L.M., age 67,

Dear Mrs. M.:

Before you try any sleep-including medication, I suggest you try to find out why you are having a problem sleeping and then do something about

it.

There are many causes of insomnia, including excessive mental stress, depression, drinking too many caffeinated beverages during the day, lack of exercise, a change in your nighttime routine and over-excitement before equing to bed.

chercise, a change in your inguinter routine and over-excitement before going to bed.

Perhaps your bedroom is not dark enough, or you are disturbed by noise. It your mattress too soit?

If you saffer from any discomfort or pain, you should speak to your doctor specifically about it and its relationable to your sleeping pattern.

Are you aware of the many "non-drug" ways of inducing aleep? Some are avoiding eaffelies, drinking a cup of wording the properties of the days, warm bath (see presented to present the corrections of the properties of the days, and the properties of the pro

Hopefully, you will find the cause of your insomnia and the eventual natural cure so that you can avoid taking any medication (chemical) at all.

Dear Jo:
Would you please recommend a film
for our family night at our nursing
home? We would like to see something
on healthy, happy, sging.
E.S. Toronto

Dear E.S.; A very good film on this subject is "Ruth Stout's Garden." You should be able to get it through your local li-brary, or a film rental service in the Yellow Pages.

Do older persons have more injuries in the bome than persons under age 65?

Dear Mr. G.P.

No, older persons have fewer injuries at home than any other age group. According to the National Center for Health Statutes, only 12.5 per 100 home injuries occur in persons aged 85 and over compared to 14 per 100 for persons under age 85. The home injury rate is very high for children under age 6, which is 26 per 100.

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(As a public service, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will pub-lish announcements of class reun-ions. Send the information to Marie McGes, 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.)

class reunions

● FARMINGTON
Farmington High School class of
1943 will hold its 40th reunion Aug. 20
at the American Legion Hall in Farmington. For more information, contact
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