

Exorcist is hogwash says clergyman

By ROSE WEBER.
Hogwash.
That's the Rev. Louis Gerhardt's reaction to the message of the film "The Exorcist."
"God made man good and created a good world. Man isn't basically evil and tempted by devils," he said.
Man, explained the minister of North Congregational Church in Southfield, "is lazy."
"He wants to make someone a scapegoat because he gives in to impulse and lacks discipline," he added.
Most frightening to the minister is the suggestion that man can't solve

his problems by goodness, but must use incantation and rituals and other people.
"There is a thin line between faith and superstition. A return to Biblical literalism could be damaging to the development of a mature faith consistent with reason and knowledge," he said.
He doesn't feel that he is tilting at windmills to be concerned about the impact of a movie on people's lives.
He pointed out that in book form "The Exorcist" is in its 31st printing. It is the largest reprint in history with 9,265,000 copies in paperback available.

"The good in people is not recognized. All the damn headlines are about lines at a movie theater," Mr. Gerhardt said.
HE SAID it is a sad comment on the times that people will spend millions of dollars and get excited about the devil and not about the love of God.
"It's booze, drugs and pills that cause suicide, not the devil," he said forcefully.
The minister said man feels that he has lost control of circumstances and is tempted to look outside of himself and turn to magic and the super-

natural for solutions.
"What we need is for someone to say to us, 'listen, you're a good person,'" Mr. Gerhardt explained.
He emphasized that people need to stop being afraid of themselves and their impulses for good. "They need to trust themselves and others," he added.
IN HIS COUNSELING and ministry, Mr. Gerhardt shares his personal philosophy that it is a good world and people are basically good.
"I won't deny we are all fouled up,

but it is because we aren't living in harmony with God and not because of an external force," the minister admitted.
"But," he added strongly, "the devil is a cop-out for our failure. We already possess all the qualities to be perfect, but fail to lead disciplined orderly lives."
Mr Gerhardt prefers to believe that it is a great world and not one with a devil running around. "That's hogwash," he said. "The real power is the message that you are a good person."



Fashions, boutique at donor

The sisterhood of B'nai David Synagogue will sponsor its annual champagne donor luncheon at 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 24.
Before lunch, a boutique sale will feature pottery, hand-blown glass, dough sculptures, jewelry and gourmet cookware.
Also featured will be boutique items from the sisterhood gift shop.
After a noon luncheon, the Jacqueline shops will present a fashion show.
For tickets, call Mrs. Melvin Herner, 557-4640.
Reservations can be made by calling Mrs. Morris Levine, 547-6878.

Dr. Brothers to speak in Southfield

Dr. Joyce Brothers, nationally syndicated columnist and television personality, will appear as guest speaker at Congregation Shaarey Shaarey Zedek's Women's World '74 at noon on Monday, April 22.
The sisterhood's eighth annual event will also feature a catered luncheon.
Woman's World '74 will have boutique shopping for attic treasures, a bake shop, L. B. King Company, The Paper Place and more.

Mrs. Robert Brody, president of the sisterhood has named Mrs. Carl Bayer vice-president of fund raising as chairman of the day.
Mrs. Robert Steinberg, vice-president of membership will serve as co-chairman.
Others on the committee are: Mesdames Philip Elkus, Milford Neuner, Abe Katz, Davis Benson and Murray Shekter.
Also Mesdames Alvin Robinson, Jules Meskin, Philip Sheiner, Myron Milgrom, Paul Gould, Harvey Stein, Edwin Moss, Allen Kraft and Arnold Feuerman.

Champagne brunch honors Fishmans 50th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Fishman were honored at a champagne brunch in honor of their golden anniversary.
Hosting the event at Congregation Shaarey Zedek were the couple's children, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Fishman, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nussbaum and Dr. and Mrs. Joel Hamburger.
The Fishmans have been active in Jewish communal affairs.
To commemorate the occasion, the Fishmans' children planted 1,000 trees in a Morris and Ethel Fishman Grove in Israel.

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