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President's Page

John M. Malone

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One of the most controversial subjects of the present time is that of "family life education," sometimes referred to as "sex education." All aspects of the subject are involved in the controversy and are questioned. Should such programs exist? For whom should they be given? By whom should they be taught? Where should they be taught? What subject matter should they include? Many groups such as PTA's, school boards, parish councils, etc., are looking at these questions and are trying to answer them. Some have already begun to implement programs.

We as Christian members of the community should be interested in them for what is taught and, perhaps more important, how it is taught will undoubtedly influence the behavior of coming generations. We who are parents should be interested because of the natural right of parents to control the education of their children. We as physicians rightfully should be interested in these programs for this matter is definitely medical in character though obviously there are other aspects to it.

It should be made clear that I do not claim to know the answers to any or all of the above questions. Furthermore, I doubt if very many of my readers do either. What then should all of us do?

To begin with we should learn all that we can about the subject by the usual methods of obtaining knowledge. One of these methods is attendance at seminars. The National Federation will sponsor a seminar on this subject at its annual meeting in Denver on November 28th, 29th and 30th. The speakers as listed elsewhere in this issue are of national prominence and are recognized as authorities in their field. Quite possibly some of their views may conflict with yours but this does not detract from the basic knowledge that they possess and will share with us. I sincerely hope that as many as possible will attend for I am certain it will be worthwhile for any physician and their spouse or anyone interested in this particular problem.

Whether you attend this program or not I urge all of our members to become interested in this subject and active in their home areas. Many individuals and many Guilds want a new project, new areas of commitment and involvement. Here is one where with your special knowledge your influence can be great. Will our children be taught human sexuality based on a true Christian morality or not?

Don't fumble the ball!

John M. Malone M.D.
President