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October 11, 1985

3 POTPOURRI

This page's stories will vary from week to week. This week, the perils of being short, Sissy Spacek stars in the title role of "Marie" and rock group Mr. Mister hits the charts.

4 First decisions not always best

Bette Davis and Errol Flynn as Scarlett and Rhett?

The original casting choices are not always the ones that make the movie a hit.

4 Kiri Te Kanawa records misty music

The New Zealand singer has a new album out.

WENDY JOHNSON

5 National commission studies pornography's effects.

Attorney General Edwin Meese appointed this 11-member commission in May 1985 to determine pornography's effects on human behavior.

5 Woman dyes dogs' hair to make clothes

A Minnesota woman takes loose dog hair, dyes it with Kool-Aid and then spins the hair into yarn for clothes.

GIGI SHAMSY

6 Local activists try to rid area of porn

The Citizens for Decency are talking to local store managers and trying to convince them to stop carrying adult magazines. They also picket Adult Video every Friday, hoping to close it down.

TRICIA PARKER

**7 Only degrading and dehumanizing porn harmful
A&M researcher says violent porn desensitizes men and women.**

Dr. Wendy Stock says pornography is increasingly more violent and more dehumanizing.

STACEY ROBERTS

8 Porn is dirty for some, but not for Adult Video

Adult Video on Texas Avenue is the only adult bookstore in town. Manager Sue Bute says, that despite what some people might think, sexually explicit material can have a healthy effect — for instance it can relieve boredom in a couples' sex life.

MARY McWHORTER

**10 'After Hours' a welcomed departure
for Martin Scorsese**

This new black comedy film rates four stars out of five.

KARL PALLMEYER

11 RECORD REVIEWS

Neil Young's "Old Ways," The Boomtown Rats' "In The Long Grass" and Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble's "Soul to Soul" are all reviewed.

12 NBC's 'Misfits' misses prime-time hit

The new series "Misfits of Science" takes a shot at prime-time, but misses.

about this issue

The law on pornography says pornographic material is that, which, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value. But what is pornography to one man can be art to another.

Not only is the law on pornography vague, but community standards set the definition for pornography. So what is considered pornographic in one community could be accepted in another.

With no real definition for pornography, and with people being as varied as they are, it's no wonder pornography is such a controversial subject.

We tried to cover all the sides, and the middle, of the pornography controversy in this issue of At Ease.

At the far left is Adult Video. It's the only adult book store in town. Adult Video's manager defends sexually explicit material. Sue Bute says, while she's not for child pornography, some pornography can have a healthy effect on people. Married couples sometimes grow bored of each other, and sexually explicit materials can put some "zing" back into their love life.

In the middle, is A&M sociologist Wendy Stock. Stock says not all porn is harmful. It's only when porn becomes violent or dehumanizing, Stock says, that it becomes harmful. Stock says about 15 percent of all porn is violent porn, about 70 percent is dehumanizing or degrading and the rest is classified as erotica. She says erotica is sexually explicit material which depicts a natural, consensual relationship.

At the right are the Citizens for Decency, member Patty Jones says the group wants to get porn out of the community and away from children. The group pickets Adult Video every Friday, and has been trying to convince local store managers to stop carrying adult magazines. Jones says magazines such as Playboy or Hustler can induce such criminal behavior as rape. She says she's concerned because people are growing accustomed to pornography.

And over it all, is Uncle Sam. At the verbal request of President Reagan, Attorney General Edwin Meese appointed an 11-member commission in May 1985 to study the effects of pornography on human behavior. Dee Kuhn, spokeswoman for the commission, says Reagan requested the study because he had heard from so many segments of the country on the issue.

The commission will report its findings to the Attorney General in June 1986, but until then, you've got At Ease. □

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