

Love, sex in '80s

Prof says cultural heritage causes our dilemma

By M. BRIDGETT KEOUGH
Reporter



Dr. Joseph LoPiccolo

Americans' sexual dilemma — whether we should have sex or not — is caused by the nation's cultural heritage, a Texas A&M professor of psychology said Wednesday night. Dr. Joseph LoPiccolo told over 100 people in Rudder Auditorium while the nation's cultural heritage dictates that women be sexually active, it insists that only bad girls are sexually active. At the same time, cultural heritage dictates that men be unemotional and independent, LoPiccolo said.

He said actual sexual behavior has changed for only one group — higher-educated women have doubled their participation in premarital and extra-marital relationships since the 60's. In a study conducted while LoPiccolo was on staff at Oregon State University, LoPiccolo said college students were able to predict their

parents' answers to sexual permissiveness questions.

But parents were way off base when predicting their children's responses to the same questions, he said.

LoPiccolo said as parents grow older, they also grow more conservative.

Parents, even if they had engaged in premarital sex, didn't want their daughters to do so.

Acting as a kind of Dr. Ruth Westheimer but without the accent, LoPiccolo later opened the floor to questions that lasted as long as his presentation.

LoPiccolo stressed that drugs and alcohol reduce sexual performance, but they induce sex crimes.

Yes, LoPiccolo said some sexual diseases, herpes and gonorrhea, can be transmitted by hot tubs, wet towels and wet toilet seats.

Asked if oysters are an aphrodisiac, LoPiccolo replied liking your partner is the best aphrodisiac.

Anthropology department now to offer Ph.D. program

By BECKY BARRET
Reporter

Texas A&M is on a roll, says Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, head of the anthropology department. The Aggies on the Cotton Bowl, and his department just received permission to offer a Ph.D. program in anthropology.

The Ph.D. program marks the culmination of a year for Bryant.

When he came to A&M in 1971 as the first anthropologist on the faculty, anthropology was a combined department with the sociology department, and the University is far behind many other Texas universities in the study of anthropology, Bryant says.

"We were essentially the last kids on the block," Bryant says. "The University of Texas started its anthropology program in 1912 and offered a Ph.D. in the 1930s."

Now, after 15 years, A&M has a separate anthropology department with 12 archaeologists compared to the four, and has gained international recognition for its program.

The crowning touch for the department came in 1976 when the American Institute for Nautical Archaeology decided to move its headquarters, which had been in Pennsylvania, to A&M.

The addition of the institute brought several more departments on ancient shipbuilding and maritime culture to the campus, making A&M the only school in the

world offering a degree in anthropology with a specialization in nautical archaeology.

Quest magazine calls the anthropology and archaeology programs at A&M "the most unusual and productive in the nation with its rare blend of both land-based and nautical research."

The 1981 article follows the success of the department's many excavations and discoveries, including the program's excavation of a site in West Texas dating as far back as 8000 B.C., providing the best documented study of prehistoric diet, hunting and living habits in North America.

With the international reputation in anthropology that A&M quickly gained, a Ph.D. program was all A&M lacked to make the sky the limit, Bryant says.

The department spent more than a year compiling a document to submit to the State of Texas Coordinating Board of Higher Education for permission and funding for a Ph.D. program.

After a team of professional anthropologists, hired by the state, studied the program and strongly recommended it, the board unanimously approved the program. The board is very important, Bryant says, because they determine what schools have the strength to offer a program worthy of state funds.

"The program has only been approved for a week," he says, "and people are already writing and asking about it."

And Bryant believes the new program could provide a new meaning to A&M.

Tornadoes rip across Texas, killing two

Associated Press

A fast-moving line of thunderstorms spawned at least a half-dozen tornadoes across eastern Texas Wednesday, shredding roofs, uprooting trees and blowing out windows as it weaved back and forth across the state.

A twister ripped through the outskirts of Tomball near Houston shortly after 4:15 p.m., killing one person as it smashed into apartment houses, homes and a doctor's office, police said.

One person died in a trailer park in northwest Harris County when the storm front roared through in the late afternoon, county Sheriff's Cpl. Joe Hughes said. He did not know the person's identity or any other details.

High winds cut power to about 3,000 homes and business in the Tomball-Katy area of Harris County, but Geri Konigsberg, Houston Lighting & Power spokeswoman, said power was expected to be restored by mid-evening.

Tornado watches were posted in 43 counties in Northeast Texas.

Jurors being selected for assassination trial

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Forty potential jurors were questioned Wednesday for the retrial of Elizabeth Chagra, charged with plotting the 1979 assassination of U.S. District Judge John Wood Jr.

Only four members of the panel said they had never heard of the May 29, 1979, shooting in San Antonio and the following trials.

U.S. District Judge William Sessions, who estimated the trial would last from two to four weeks, led defense and government attorneys in questioning each potential juror. Defense attorney Wilson Burnett estimated before the trial began that a jury could be seated by Friday.

Before jury selection began, Sessions denied a defense motion that he disqualify himself because he had presided at previous trials involving Wood's killing.

Chagra's retrial was moved Tuesday from San Antonio to Austin at the request of government attorneys.

She was convicted of conspiracy in 1982 in connection with Wood's slaying. But the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the conviction last year and ordered a new trial.

Wood, known as "Maximum John" for the tough sentences he

gave drug dealers, was gunned down outside his San Antonio home May 29, 1979. He was to have presided in the drug trafficking trial of Chagra's husband, Jamiel "Jimmy" Chagra.

Earlier testimony was that Jimmy Chagra was afraid he would be sentenced to life in prison by Wood and therefore hired Charles Harrelson to kill the judge.

Jimmy Chagra was convicted of obstruction of justice in Wood's murder. He is serving a 47-year term on that and other convictions, as well as a concurrent life sentence for plotting to kill former assistant U.S. Attorney James Kerr.

Harrelson was convicted of murder in the Wood case and sentenced to life. His wife, Jo Ann, was convicted of perjury. The federal appeals court upheld the convictions of Chagra, Harrelson and Mrs. Harrelson.

The indictment read by Sessions on Wednesday accused Chagra of conspiring with her husband in arranging Wood's death. It alleges she delivered \$250,000 in Las Vegas to pay off Harrelson.

Chagra had been held in the El Paso County jail since last November, when she appeared in San Antonio at a bond reduction hearing. Sessions agreed to lower the bond of \$1 million, set in 1982, to \$250,000.

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