

(the story so far...)

by thomas deeny



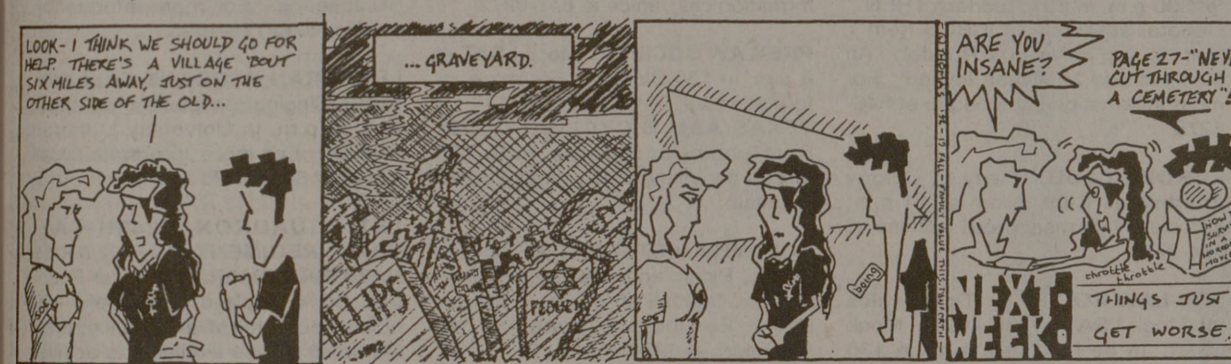
The Food Chain

by george



KoZY "k"

By Clay Welch



Boy seeks divorce from his mother

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Squirming and chewing a gum drop, a 12-year-old boy went to court Thursday seeking a "divorce" from his parents in a case that could help give children more protection against parental abuse.

Gregory Kingsley, brown-haired and pale, sat in the back of the courtroom with members of the foster family he hopes to live with permanently.

His mother, Rachel Kingsley, cried as she denied allegations that she abused, neglected and abandoned him for most of his life. In the past eight years, Gre-

gory has lived with her only seven months.

Mrs. Kingsley also denied that her fiance, Steve Hack, had recently beaten her in the presence of her two younger sons, who live with her in St. Louis.

A former sister-in-law, Jeanette Glenn, detailed instances of abuse and neglect, accusing Mrs. Kingsley, 30, of being an alcoholic, a drug abuser and even a prostitute.

Sobbing, Glenn said she hoped the two younger boys also could be taken from her "because nothing's going to change.... That's the pattern for her."

Gregory said he felt unloved and unwanted most of his life. He

smiled occasionally in court, chewed on a gum drop and whispered to those around him.

The trial was shown live on CNN and Court TV.

Charmaine Crouse Yoes, policy analyst with the conservative Family Research Council in Washington, said, "The ramifications are huge.... You're looking at a fundamental shift at the way we view children."

Howard Davidson, director of the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law, said it was unlikely that many children would be hiring lawyers to sever parental custody in the future. He said the case was mainly significant because it had

Tilton

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the organization contends Tilton's show has reported:

- Anthony has lied to the public about his background to bolster his credibility;
- Anthony took LSD and advocated use of drugs;
- Anthony advocated pornography and had sex with members of the Trinity Foundation;
- the Trinity Foundation is a cult.

In the statement and in a multi-page document released to the media, the foundation disputes each claim and called the allegation that Anthony had sex with foundation members "the most sensational charge."

That charge was made by a woman who was a member of Trinity's Bible study 15 years ago who, according to a signed affidavit, became sexually involved with a member of a family that took her into their home as part of the Dallas Project, which finds shelter for the homeless.

"When confronted... she chose to leave the group.... She has become another hurting woman taken advantage of by Tilton and his ever-present 'adviser' J.C. Joyce in their attempts to keep their multi-million dollar business afloat," Guetzlaff read from the statement.

The "PrimeTime Live" segment, broadcast in November, alleged that Tilton used a sophisticated telemarketing and direct-mail scheme to raise millions of dollars.

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Survey depicts black wives as breadwinners

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Working wives bring financial success to America's black families, the government said Thursday. Even so, they and their husbands together earn only 85 cents for each dollar earned by a similar white couple.

Working couples were the only kind of black family to see their income rise sharply compared with whites over the past two decades, said Claudette Bennett in a Census Bureau study.

Black single-earner couples and families headed by men or women alone failed to better their incomes compared with whites.

"Black married couples today are far more

likely to have wives in the paid labor force," Bennett said.

Two out of three black wives work. When they do, they double the median family income to more than \$40,000.

Black family incomes lag behind that of white families even when husband and wife work because of "the kind of job that the person has," Bennett said. In 1990, black men and women were nearly twice as likely as whites to work in low-paying service jobs.

Black families in general had median incomes of \$21,548 in 1991, \$125 more than the year before. That amounted to only 57 cents for every dollar earned by white families.

Young black families earn far less than whites their age — around 49 cents to the dol-

lar for people in their late 20s and early 30s.

Although things seem to improve with age, blacks' incomes never come close to whites. By age 35, their income has leveled off at about 60 cents for every dollar earned by white families, and it stays there through retirement and old age.

Why have black families overall fared so poorly if working couples are doing so well? It's because blacks are less likely to live as married couples today, said Isabel Sawhil, senior fellow at the Urban Institute.

Fewer than half of blacks families have a husband and wife living together today, down from two-thirds 20 years ago.

So the families with high income have less impact on the average.

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