1984

**Bostonia: v. 58, no. 5-6**

*Boston University*


http://hdl.handle.net/2144/20051

*Boston University*
the Family
New Perspectives on the Oldest Social Structure

ASTRONOMY
Ancient Star Maps

MANAGEMENT
Revamping Corporate Culture

AN INSIGHT ISSUE
The Metcalf Awards

The Metcalf Cup and Prize and the Metcalf Awards for Excellence in Teaching are presented annually "to establish a systematic procedure for the review of the quality of teaching and the identification and advancement of those members of the faculty who excel as teachers." The Cup and Prize is a $5000 stipend, one of the largest cash prizes for teaching excellence awarded in the United States. The Metcalf Awards each carry a $2500 prize.

1984 METCALF CUP AND PRIZE WINNER
John G. Gagliardo, Professor of History, College of Liberal Arts

1984 METCALF AWARD WINNERS
Peter F. Arenella, Professor of Law, School of Law
William R. Keylor, Professor of History, College of Liberal Arts
Lester F. Williams, Jr., Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine

Dr. Arthur G. B. Metcalf, president of Electronics Corporation of America, is an alumnus of Boston University, a former professor of Mathematics and Physics and currently the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
Search
An inventory of contemporary research highlighting findings in literature, dentistry, psychology and journalism
page 8

The Family
page 15

A Current Overview
The family is both an emotional and a political issue. Several Boston University faculty members offer insight into its current status and future possibilities.
page 16

Behind Shut Doors
The intimate family circle can erupt in violence. Professor Hussein Abdulahi has been investigating family crises in specific neighborhoods to understand the prevalence of this problem.
page 20

The Evolution of Baby Talk
Language, that complex key to communication, is learned in infancy. The Language Indices Study recently followed its development process in 56 children from birth through age three.
page 26

Training Fathers
Under the direction of Professor Ron Levant, the “Fatherhood Project” at Boston University is teaching fathers to deal with and improve their role.
page 29

The Importance of Gender
Sex roles are initiated and reinforced within the family. Five Psychology Department professors are planning a symposium on the importance of learning who's who.
page 33

Gallery
The early astronomers produced beautiful maps of the heavens. Their celestial images serve as valuable scientific records as well as aesthetic art.
page 37

Corporate Clinicians
Culture is an important element in corporate strategy. And many companies are enlisting consultants, such as Professor Stan Davis, to help define who they are and what they should be.
page 40

Poetry
Winners of the 7th Poetry Competition
page 44

The Engineer as Hero
The early engineers, because of their impact on society, served as an inspiration and a threat to the contemporary poets and the writers, according to Professor Cecelia Tichi.
page 45

On Spenser’s Case
A reprint from Robert Parker’s, GRS ‘70, new novel, Valediction
page 49
Trustees
Arthur G. B. Metcalf, Chairman, Winchester, Massachusetts
Earle C. Cooley, Vice Chairman, Hingham, Massachusetts
Richard B. Lombard, Vice Chairman, Lake Wales, Florida
John R. Robinson, Secretary, Rye, New York
John R. Silber, President, Brookline, Massachusetts
Charles W. Smith, Treasurer, Brookline, Massachusetts
Leopold Adler, II, Savannah, Georgia
C. William Anderson, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts
Christopher A. Barreca, Stonington, Connecticut
Gerald W. Blakeley, Jr., Boston, Massachusetts
Judith Ogden Bullitt, New Ithaca, New York
Harry H. S. Chou, Alumni Trustee, Greenwich, Connecticut
Christopher W. Carriuolo, Alumni Trustee, Farmington, Connecticut
Howard L. Clark, Jr., Alumni Trustee, Lincoln, Massachusetts
Howard L. Clark, Jr., Alumni Trustee, New York, New York
Clyde R. Claus, Alumni Trustee, San Francisco, California
Elliot H. Cole, Bethesda, Maryland
John C. Dean, Pomfret Center, Connecticut
Edson D. de Castro, Westboro, Massachusetts
Dexter A. Dodge, Marblehead, Massachusetts
John L. Eavenson, Newton, Massachusetts
Daniel J. Finn, Boston, Massachusetts
Jean Firstenberg, Alumni Trustee, Washington, D.C.
Doris R. Grabosky, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Vartan Gregorian, New York, New York
Theodore W. Griesinger, Nerdham, Massachusetts
George D. Hart, Res, California
Robert S. Hinds, Houston, Texas
James M. Howell, Boston, Massachusetts
Georgiana M. Jagliolo, M.D., New York, New York
Richard R. Joaquim, Scottsdale, Arizona
Harold Kremsky, New York, New York
Robert C. Linnell, Boca Raton, Florida
Edward J. Masterman, Brookline, Massachusetts
Charles A. Mehos, Durham, Connecticut
Melvin B. Miller, Roxbury, Massachusetts
Joseph S. Mitchell, Jr., Newton, Massachusetts
F. Bradford Morse, New York, New York
Elilu Rose, New York, New York
Julian M. Sobin, Boston, Massachusetts
Peter H. Vermilye, New York, New York
Vincent B. Welch, Raymond, Maine

Honorary Trustees
Nicholas E. Alapakis, Stoneham, Massachusetts
Bishop Edward G. Carroll, Baltimore, Maryland
Albert V. Danielsen, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts
J. Newton Esdaile, Melrose, Massachusetts
Joseph A. Ferré, Ponce, Puerto Rico
James Mathews, Washington, D.C.
Alfred L. Morse, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Thomas A. Pappas, Belmont, Massachusetts
John S. Perkins, Boston, Massachusetts
Norman S. Rabb, Palm Beach, Florida
Louis I. Rosenfield, Palm Beach, Florida
Beatrice Sherman, Boston, Massachusetts
Esther Zinkind Weitman, Cambridge, Massachusetts

John R. Silber, President of Boston University
Kenneth G. Condon, Vice President for Financial Affairs
Dean B. Doner, Vice President for Overseas Programs
Richard H. Egdahl, M.D., Academic Vice President for Health Affairs
Robert Feldman, Vice President for Development
Gerald Gross, Vice President for Arts, Publications & Media
Mary-Jane Hempferly, Senior Vice President
Russel C. Jones, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Robert W. Lamb, Vice President for External Programs
J. Joseph Meng, Vice President
Edwin A. Penn, Executive Vice President
Charles W. Smith, Senior Vice President and Treasurer

Alumni Officers
President
Robert S. Hinds, Houston, Texas
President-Elect
Esther A. H. Hopkins, Framingham, Massachusetts
Vice Presidents
Stephen F. Hall, Dedham, Massachusetts
Leo Dunn, Boston, Massachusetts
Ruth A. Hunter, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts
Lesler Williams, M.D., Boston, Massachusetts
Secretary-Treasurer
Daniel J. Finn, Boston, Massachusetts
Chairman, National Alumni Council
Howard A. Baker, Commack, New York
President—School and College Alumni Association Boards
School for the Arts
Stephen Vernick (interim), West Lake Village, California
College of Basic Studies
Marc A. Kelberman, Natick, Massachusetts
School of Education
Claire Zalewski, Lexington, Massachusetts
College of Engineering
Ruth A. Hunter, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts
School of Law
John R. Robinson, Rye, New York
College of Liberal Arts and the Graduate School
Vicki L. Carolan, Quincy, Massachusetts
School of Management
Gerald S. Elberg, Needham, Massachusetts
School of Medicine
Michael H. Malamud, M.D., Haverhill, Massachusetts
Metropolitan College
Curtis M. Gifford, Wollaston, Massachusetts
School of Nursing
Marcia DePece, Needham, Massachusetts
Practical Arts & Letters
Virginia T. Tierney, Hingham, Massachusetts
School of Public Communication
Diane Willin, Watertown, Massachusetts
Sargent College
Doris Off, Wellesley, Massachusetts
School of Social Work
David R. Selden, Waltham, Massachusetts
Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry
William Lane, D.M.D., Weymouth, Massachusetts
Graduate School of Management
Richard Forrest, Weymouth, Massachusetts
School of Theology
Ralph B. Husston, Lakeland, Florida
Program in Artisanship
Robert L. Cardinal, Boston, Massachusetts
Dear Reader,

ASKED TO REFLECT ON THE experience of his generation in 20th Century Europe, philosopher Manees Sperber remarked “none of us belongs solely to one generation.” The essential influences, he continued, are twofold. Part of us belongs to the previous generation, the one our parents grew up in. And only the second part of ourselves belongs to our generation. His words serve as a vivid reminder of the experience and power of the family in Western culture.

Views on the nuclear family, the family that consists of two generations, parents and children, present an incredible display of contradictory claims. Ever since the Industrial Revolution, the family has undergone tremendous change. Some scholars contend that the family, our most ancient social structure, is responding slowly but appropriately in a turbulent culture. Others argue that the family is unraveling at the seams at a fast and destructive pace.

Whether one is an alarmist or an apologist, radical or conservative, there is a consensus that the intensity of passion and relationships that pulse through families are pivotal to our experiences. In fact, sometimes it feels as if we are living a script predetermined by our family history.

In this issue, we touch upon several topics that are relevant to the family. In retrospect, we could have used at least three times the space, and I suspect we will be readdressing this theme in the future. Our lead article explores several perspectives on the family, including those of University Professor Peter Berger and his wife, Professor Brigitte Berger, authors of The War over the Family: Capturing the Middle Ground. A defense of the traditional family, they argue for privacy and a return to individual decision making on family matters. Their perspectives are countered by several sociologists and a theologian who feel there is a need for external influences, particularly in times of flux.

Although many of the problems faced by the family in contemporary society are difficult and traumatic, nothing seems more poignant than the problem of family violence. Most of us consider the family to be a source of protection, the place where emotional needs are met and values reinforced. Victims of family violence have similar notions, and face crimes of passion with confusion and embarrassment. Paralyzed by fear, isolation and social stigma, many of these victims remain silent in the face of abuse and misuse. Professor Hussein Abdallah has spent the past few years analyzing family violence occurrences. His findings indicate that there may be ways to break the chain of this paradox of intimacy.

It is difficult to talk about the family without addressing the issues of gender and equality. Essentially, people are divided into two groups—male and female. Unfortunately, due to a lack of imagination, many cultural wizards have experienced difficulty recognizing differences in kind. Differences are often reduced to better or worse. As a result, we are often tempted to muddy gender differences and roles in the name of equality. It is refreshing to discover that the work being conducted in the Psychology Department on family roles serves to clarify and illuminate the issues.

Many historians contend that the most significant change in the family has been the expanding role of women outside of the home and the atrophying role of fathers. Once the supreme authority figure, breadwinner and source of external information, the father now shares his position with many others. Emotional guidance is now offered by school counselors, therapists and agencies; information and news are provided by newspapers and the media; and mothers often share financial responsibilities. Although the traditional role is shrinking, the father’s role as caretaker and participant in child rearing is increasing. This emerging role is being addressed by many parents who feel that they are pioneers in an area their own fathers really didn’t share. School of Education Professor Ronald Levant is among those professionals offering guidance, this time to fathers who are interested in learning how to develop more substantial relationships with their children.

Our ability to communicate across generations is what separates us from other animals. Unfortunately, language is so central to our daily reality that we often take it for granted. There are ways, however, in which parents can improve communications with their children, starting from birth. One of the findings of the Language Indices Study (L.I.S.) was that parents need to give their babies time to respond, even if they cannot talk.

Communication, argues L.I.S. investigator Paula Menyuk, is a two way process. Her argument reminds me to urge you to continue your correspondence with us. We cannot publish all of the letters we receive, but I can assure you that they are read.

In closing, I would like to illustrate how your letters, comments and opinions influence our editorial decisions. During discussion following the publication of the Heart Risk, Stress and Nutrition issues of Bostonia, many readers asked about the role of hormones and sex differences. These topics, our readers argued, were mentioned but not explored in Bostonia’s In-Depth issues. Hormones initiate, control and give shape to the most basic processes of life, including the determination of an individual’s sex. During the last decade, advanced technology has enabled medical professionals to make tremendous strides in understanding the endocrine system, which is in many ways a map or blueprint for the body. I am pleased to inform you that the September–October issue of Bostonia will be devoted to Sex and Hormones. Much of the information we are now working on has never been presented in non-medical language, and I look forward to sharing it with you. Coincidentally, it will provide an interesting complement to this issue on The Family, for I think you will be amazed to discover just how much of what we consider to be our individuality is directly related to our parents, from the combination of the genes that determines our sex to the hormones that regulate our behavior. I sincerely hope that this issue and the In-Depth issue that follows it, piques your interest and reaffirms your appreciation for the family.

Laura Fiedl,
Editor-in-Chief
When was the last time you learned the ins and outs of a product from a sales clerk? Tools for Living gives you high information value shopping. The products here have been researched, used and evaluated carefully and we provide all the relevant information. You can buy with the confidence of knowing exactly what you are getting—high quality, good value and satisfaction guaranteed.

**PUMPING RUBBER**

The Lifeline Gym is the most space efficient, time efficient home fitness device on the market today. It allows you to simulate just about any of the exercises done on the expensive machines found in health spas and gymnasiuums. The reason is rubber—a stretchable rubber cable of the type used to stop planes landing on aircraft carriers. With this rubber cable, resistance increases with movement—your muscles are challenged through their full range of movement. And because you have to resist its tendency to snap back on the return move, you gain a double benefit from your effort. You overcome positive and negative resistance in the course of each exercise. The Lifeline Gym is adjustable for individual strength levels and for different body-shaping intentions. $36.00 ($3.95) A748.

**CALCULATED SHRINKAGE**

The pocket calculator has shrunk to a shadow of its former self—barely thicker than a pair of ordinary credit cards back-to-back, easily slim enough at 1/4 to slip in your wallet. This state-of-the-art Tools for Living calculator card operates on available light, so it never needs batteries (the new solar panel is so efficient it requires only one-third the light of earlier solar-powered models). Easy, accurate film keypad with four functions plus percent, square root and 3 memory keys. 8-digit LCD display. Automatic on and off. The price is $15.00 ($2.95) A1079.

**ELECTRONIC LIFEGUARD**

Household wiring normally carries an electrical current of 120 volts. But every so often a “spike” occurs where voltage suddenly jumps to 1200, 2500, even 6000 volts for a fraction of a second.

The cause can be external (lightning strike on a power line) or internal (arching as a refrigerator, food processor or oil burner goes on and off). These instantaneous transients can damage or destroy expensive solid-state electronic equipment: computers, video decks, stereos, televisions. The Solid State Protector eliminates the danger by dissipating the excess voltage harmlessly as heat. $12.00 ($1.95) each, #A988.

**BREATHE BETTER**

Indoor air quality can get abysmally low—especially in offices, rooms where people are smoking, houses buttoned up tight and stuffy overheated city apartments. Here are two newly developed tools that do a bang-up job of improving indoor air—and along with it your comfort, your health and your mood.

Tool #1 (shown below right) takes out of the air all the things you don’t want: dust, cigarette smoke, soot, pollen, animal dander, 90% of all particulate pollutants. The Bionaire 500 air cleaner scrubs 45 cubic feet of air per minute, the average room three times an hour. The unit includes switchable ion generator and fragrance dispenser. Tool #2 (shown above) puts back into the air the one thing you do want—moisture. Low household humidity correlates with a higher incidence of winter colds and respiratory infections. The Douglas humidifier uses ultrasound to break water particles into a mist so fine it diffuses through a 1500 sq. ft. area. Operation is virtually silent, the unit holds one gallon of water, is easily filled at any sink and the cold steam is perfectly safe. It is also ultra-portable—measures only 16 x 6 x 12”, weighs under 8 lbs. and can be situated almost anywhere. The ultrasonic humidifier costs $139.00 ($10.95) #A887. The model 500 air cleaner costs $150.00 (9.95) #A1227. A larger model 1000 is also available (3 speeds, 118 CFM cleaning capacity) for $289.00 ($12.95) #A1229. All units are UL-listed and fully guaranteed. See how your houseplants thrive with these air improvers at work and you’ll get some idea of the benefits the humans in your household are receiving.

**KEEPING UP WITH CLEANING**

When you work with the right tools jobs are done better, in less time, with less energy expended. Here are three of the best around-the-house cleaners we’ve ever worked with. Tool #1 is our lambswool duster, 27” long and perfect for furniture, bric-a-brac, china, crystal and pictures. The static charge in the New Zealand lambswool causes dust to literally leap off surfaces. Tool #2 solves the problem of how to clean venetian blinds efficiently. This blind cleaner has 7 roller fingers, 4” long and covered with a synthetic lambswool that picks up and holds dust and dirt. Pull the trigger and the fingers spread enough to slip over the blind slats (6 mini-blind slats or 3 conventional slats). Release the trigger and move the cleaner back and forth along the blind. The rollers can be removed and washed. Tool #3 is an incredible cleaner called Simple Green. Use it in the bathroom, on windows and floors, as a stain remover or laundry presoak, on rugs, upholstery, leather, even engines. Simple Green is non-abrasive, non-caustic, low-phosphate and biodegradable. It can be used on anything you use cold water on. We offer this cleaning group, duster, blind cleaner and one 16 oz. bottle of Simple Green for just $17.00 ($3.95) A1071.
TOOLS FOR LIVING

FINGERTIP STRESS CONTROL

The beauty of biofeedback is that it detects and amplifies the hidden body signals of stress. It first puts us in touch with our stress levels and second helps produce the deep levels of relaxation needed to wash stress from the body. The GSR2 gives a very precise reading of our relaxation state (accomplished by monitoring the electrical resistance of the skin). When you sit comfortably with your hand curved around the GSR2 unit and your fingers on the stainless steel sensing plates, you hear a humming sound that corresponds to your level of stress and tension. The accompanying cassette tape (or written instructions) teaches you how to reduce the humming through 9 levels, each corresponding with a progressively greater degree of relaxation. With regular use a few minutes a day you will get to the point where you achieve deep conscious relaxation at will, anytime, anywhere. The GSR2 biofeedback system comes complete with earphone, instructions, cassette tape, replaceable 2-year battery and 1-yr. warranty for only $50.00 ($4.95) #A1035. If you have a personal computer and are intrigued by the idea of having it help you relax, try the Calmpute program. This ingenious piece of software combines biofeedback monitoring with a sophisticated "personalized" programming that enables you to improve your relaxation abilities interactively. Program develops your individual stress profile. Road racing game rewards a ability to stay calm, teaches relaxation under pressure. The Calmpute software with GSR monitor costs $79.00 ($5.95) #A1174 and is available for Apple II Plus and II, Commodore, Atari and IBM PC home computers.

RAIN MAKER

A Omaha, Nebraska man went looking for a control to turn his lawn sprinkler on and off automatically while he was away on vacation. He couldn’t find anything short of installing an expensive underground system. So he invented the RainMatic computerized water control unit. It screws in between faucet and hose and allows you to program up to eight different watering periods per day for each day of the week. At each programmed interval the RainMatic turns the water on and off automatically. You’ve never had such freedom from lawn and garden watering chores. The RainMatic has a manual bypass, operates on 4 alkaline D-cells (not included) and costs $69.00 ($4.95) #A1080. It is especially convenient for drip-irrigation systems. One year limited warranty.

REINVENTING THE CHAIR

Conventional seating positions the body so the angle between torso and legs is 90° or less. This posture puts pressure on the lower back, and cramps breathing and circulation. The Cloud Chair represents an entirely new concept of seating. It redistributes body weight using the knees and lower legs so the back and upper body automatically find a relaxed position of perfect balance. The chair frame is oak laminate shaped by a "bentwood" process. The seat and knee rest are padded and upholstered in a neutral brown color. The chair positions you at the exact same height as a regular office or table chair and has been used successfully in homes and offices by people 4'6" to 6'9". $90.00 ($8.95) #A925.

WELL-WROUGHT WIZARDRY

We tried White Wizard cleaner on a rug stain of several months' standing. The rug came clean. We tried it on the grass-stained knees of the kids' blue jeans. They came clean. We tried it on a necktie gravy stain. It came clean. We have found White Wizard exceedingly mild-mannered — odorless, neutral Ph, non-abrasive, biodegradable, compound of 9 non-toxic quality chemicals. Two 10-oz. tubs of White Wizard cost $12.00 ($2.95) #A1083.

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS AND GUARANTEE:

We ship via United Parcel Service wherever possible to assure prompt delivery. The price of each item is shown followed by its shipping and handling charges in (). Be sure to add the item price plus shipping and handling charge for each item ordered to arrive at the total price of each item. If you are not satisfied for any reason, return the article to us within 30 days, and we’ll exchange it or refund the cost, per your instructions.

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFER...

For fastest service on credit card orders phone our 24-hour toll-free number:

800-228-5505

In Nebraska call 800-642-9500.

DEPT. BSF04; 400 S. DEAN ST.; ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631

SEND TO: PLEASE PRINT

ITEM NO. QUANTITY DESCRIPTION/COLOR ITEM PRICE SHIP. & HANDL. TOTAL PRICE

ACCOUNT #

TOTAL AMOUNT

(Sorry, we cannot handle Canadian, foreign or C.O.D. orders.) Please allow 30 days for delivery from our receipt of your order.

© ISP, Inc.
Designed at Boston University and created at the Couroc Art Colony in Monterey Bay, our burnished satin black trays make excellent gifts. Each tray features a Boston University Corporate Seal, hand inlaid with brass. Our satin black servingware trays are available in 10" round or 18" rectangle shape. See order form on page 14.

Price: Round—$25.00  Rectangle—$40.00  Shipping and handling: $2.75
Vacations don’t have to be expensive to be memorable.

Rio* $599  
Dublin* $439  
London* $499  
Athens* $599  
Rome* $549


This fall Boston University Alumni Travel is really going places. Our charter program spans the globe from Europe to the Orient and offers a variety of exciting vacation opportunities. You can, for example, choose from a one-week fiesta in Rio de Janeiro, a two-week exploration of Athens and Rome or a three-week European extravaganza. Air fare and hotel accommodations are included in the one low package price (tax and service extra). Departures are conveniently available from Boston and New York. Optional side trips and hotel upgrades let you vary your package deal. And the roving traveler can take advantage of our reduced air-only rates.

So this fall, vacation with Boston University Alumni Travel and let us help make your memories.

Boston University Alumni Travel

For your free brochure and for more information, contact

*and other vacation prices
Literature—Beatrix Potter’s Classics Continue to Entertain

To children everywhere, Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter Rabbit will always live with their mother in a sandbank at the root of a big fir tree. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, was created by Beatrix Potter nearly a century ago, but she continues to charm new generations of children and adults with her timeless stories, watercolors and drawings. Potter’s work endures because she was one of the first authors to treat children as an intelligent audience, according to Jane Crowell Morse, an instructor of English in the College of Liberal Arts, who has spent the past several years researching Potter’s life and writings.

Morse believes that young people continue to cherish the tales of Peter Rabbit and other classic Beatrix Potter characters such as Mrs. Tiggywinkle, Jemima Puddleduck and Benjamin Bunny because Potter “doesn’t talk down to children.” Youngsters also love the fact that Beatrix Potter storybooks are small and easy to handle, said Morse. Potter’s works have been published that way, in accordance with her wishes, since they were first marketed at the turn of the century.

“Images and words go together” said Morse. “She was the original author/illustrator—understanding that pictures and text are one.” Beatrix Potter’s literature wasn’t always given the serious attention it deserved, especially in England where booksellers saw her stories and drawings only as “toy” books. In the United States, however, Potter’s contributions encouraged a new appreciation of children’s books as a literary genre and gave rise to the establishment of children’s book sections in American libraries. Beatrix Potter responded to the outpouring of admiration and affection said Morse, by welcoming many American visitors to her home in the English Lake country and by exchanging letters with American families and librarians.

In *Beatrix Potter’s Americans: Selected Letters*, published in 1982 by the Horn Book, Inc., editor Morse has gathered and presented a collection of correspondence between Beatrix Potter and her American friends. The letters, written between 1921 and 1943, the year of her death, reveal a complex and talented woman and offer a glimpse into Potter’s feelings about her own life and work. The writings also demonstrate the author’s diverse interests in environmental conservation, sheepraising, science and politics.

Before beginning her research, Morse had channeled her long-time interest in children’s literature into writing reviews and articles for *The Horn Book*, a 60-year-old, Boston-based magazine about children’s literature. In 1977, on the occasion of Peter Rabbit’s 75th birthday, *The Horn Book* published *Beatrix Potter’s Watercolors* entitled “Departure,” appeared in *A Rabbit’s Christmas Party*. It is reprinted with permission from Beatrix Potter’s Americans: Selected Letters, 1982, by JANE CROWELL MORSE and published by the Horn Book, Inc., Boston. The pen and ink drawing of Herwick Sheep is part of the Milton Public Library’s Collection.
Children t book sect'íns

WaS a real artist and took those her drawings. They responded Bertha Mahoney Miller and other country, Where her home, Hill sheep. Morse wrote In her introduction. "It is also her own record of the 'purposeful life of achievement'" Beatrix Potter strove for.

Because she is associated mainly with the little books, it is not well known that Potter had a great love for science and produced botanical drawings of fungi, lichens and mosses with outstanding accuracy and detail. "Her great contribution in art has come through her scientific drawings," added Morse, who predicts that more recognition will be given to these in the future.

In fact, the author/illustrator originally wanted to be a scientist and once presented a paper on fungi to a London scientific society. Although it was accepted for publication, Potter was not permitted to formally read the paper because she was a woman, so she withdrew it. "She was very independent," said Morse. "She turned from scientific studies to what were known in those days as 'toy' books. But she was a real artist and took those 'toy' books and moved them a step up."

Beatrix Potter was also a conservationist and deeply cared about the preservation of the English countryside. The Lake Top Farm, was located, served as the setting for many of her best-loved stories. In an attempt to raise money to preserve land for the National Trust, she asked Bertha Mahoney Miller and other American friends if they would be interested in buying some of her drawings. They responded enthusiastically, said Morse. "The whole impetus for the Americans going to see her began with the drawings she sent here to save the land," she explained. "The kind of people who like to read are also the kind of people who like the outdoors and want to keep it. I think these go together—appreciation of the arts and appreciation of nature. She found she had a lot in common with the Americans."

Through her exploration, Morse began to see Beatrix Potter as "a real pioneer," who pursued her many interests and made achievements in a male-dominated society. "For example, she proved she knew a lot about raising sheep and she knew how to manage a farm," Morse pointed out. "She broke through many barriers."

Morse is currently researching material for a new book that will focus on Beatrix Potter's accomplishments and her friendship with an eccentric American writer named Rebecca Owen. Morse also serves as American Secretary of the newly formed international Beatrix Potter Society and writes a column called "Letter From America" for the group's publication. Recently, she traveled to London for the society's International Convention and delivered a paper on major collections of Beatrix Potter books, drawings and manuscripts held in the United States. "It's very difficult to find first editions," Morse noted, "because kids just loved them and they wore out." When she approached the Library of Congress, for example, they reported that the Beatrix Potter books held there are so tattered that they were reluctant to list them. But interest in Potter's writings and drawings continues to grow, said Morse. "We're moving into the computer age and a lot of people feel that we mustn't lose the art of the story or the art of storytelling," she commented. "You can't cuddle up with a computer the way a child can with a book. So certainly her books will continue to entertain."

CHERYL COLLINS

Dentistry—Jaw Imbalance May Cause Chronic Pain

Millions of Americans are afflicted with chronic headaches, backaches, neck, shoulder aches and other kinds of muscular discomfort. For many, the pain never goes away, leading to a continuous cycle of tension, anxiety and depression. The typical chronic pain sufferer has often been tested by a variety of physicians and has spent years taking prescription and over-the-counter medications in unsuccessful attempts at relief. Although the pain seems very real, they are often told to see a psychiatrist—that the problem is "all in your head."

In a way, it just might be. Many chronic pain sufferers have not been tested or treated for what some health professionals believe to be one of the most common and most misdiagnosed causes of chronic discomfort: TMJ Syndrome. According to some estimates, 75 million Americans are affected by this dysfunction, but only within the past decade has it been recognized as a potential culprit in chronic pain.

TMJ refers to the temporomandibular joint, or the hinge connecting the upper and lower jaws. When this joint is out of alignment, the entire jaw is unbalanced and muscle contraction and tension problems can result. This causes head, neck, shoulder and back pain characteristic of TMJ Syndrome, according to George Atkins, D.M.D., assistant clinical professor of Prosthodontics at the Henry M. Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry. Atkins teaches a course in TMJ and in private practice in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, treats patients seeking relief from chronic pain. He has also spent the past several years researching TMJ dysfunctions in search of effective treatments. Understanding TMJ Syndrome first requires an understanding of the functions of the jaw. In addition to chewing, the jaw serves as a center of body balance. Alignment of the head and shoulders depends upon a normally positioned jaw. When it is in the correct position, the head can sit comfortably on the shoulders and

DR. GEORGE ATKINS, D.M.D., examines TMJ sufferer NORMA CALABRO at the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, as DR. CELESTE KONG looks on.

neck. When the lower jaw is forced out of position, however, the head can be thrown off balance and its supporting muscles must strain to keep it in place. All the muscles in the head, neck and shoulders may then tense up, forcing the rest of the body to share the strain. Aggravated further, muscles may go into spasm.

Symptoms of the syndrome are varied. An unbalanced jaw can create a "clicking" sound upon opening and closing the mouth, said Atkins, or a "screeching" sound in the ears. Some people experience dizziness, frequent sore throats, sharp pains behind the eyes and around the temple, earaches, sore jaws, neck pain, back pain and intense headaches, which are commonly misdiagnosed as migraines. Less tangible symptoms include varying degrees of psychological stress. In some cases, noted

Photograph: Educational Media Support Center/Boston University Medical Center

BoSToNIA • INSIGHT • July 1984 • 9
According to some estimates, 75 million Americans are affected by TMJ, but only within the past decade has it been recognized as a potential culprit in chronic pain.

Atkins, the pain becomes so severe that even day-to-day living is an unbearable strain, and some patients have considered suicide. “There is a pain-stress cycle,” Atkins pointed out. Not only is the pain aggravated by the accompanying stress, but physical and psychological stress can help bring about the symptoms of the syndrome in the first place. Not everyone with a jaw imbalance experiences pain or other TMJ symptoms, however. “Some people can go through their whole lives without any difficulty,” Atkins emphasized. But when your upper and lower jaws don’t meet properly, you may be predisposed to the symptoms. The causes of TMJ Syndrome are many and controversial. A blow to the head, neck or jaws can force the jaws out of alignment easily. Other types of acute trauma, such as fractures, disc perforations, tendon and ligament tears, whiplash injuries and tumors can also contribute to the development of TMJ symptoms, said Atkins. More commonly, however, the jaws become incorrectly positioned as a result of nutritional, psychological and behavioral factors or by changes in the gums and teeth.

The jaws are used for a variety of stress releasing activities and strain can easily result. People may work off tension by chewing fingernails or pencils, for example, or by subconsciously grinding their teeth, especially while sleeping. Tense jaw muscles can be aggravated by poor posture as well, said Atkins. Even regularly popping a tired head with a hand can contribute to jaw strain.

Surprisingly, dentists themselves frequently exacerbate TMJ symptoms rather than relieve them, Atkins pointed out. Because not enough dentists know enough about TMJ Syndrome to recognize and treat it properly, various dental procedures can reinforce, rather than correct, a jaw imbalance. Some dentists, without adequate knowledge and experience, will attempt to treat a TMJ problem and create even more pain for the patient, he added.

Atkins, as well as faculty and staff at the Henry M. Goldman Dental Clinic, who regularly treat a significant number of TMJ cases, favor a multi-disciplinary treatment approach. They also stress that additional research is necessary on TMJ dysfunctions. Successful treatment depends upon a cooperative relationship among neurologists, orthopedists, psychiatrists, biofeedback clinicians, social workers, physical therapists and other physical and mental health professionals. “It is a very complex problem,” said Hyman Smukler, director of the graduate dental program in Periodontology. Since therapy for this multi-faceted disorder often depends upon the help of professionals in various disciplines, he added, the strong liaison the clinic maintains with other Boston University departments has been beneficial. Although there is no such thing as a TMJ specialist, said Atkins, the professional perhaps best able to treat a TMJ problem and relieve some of the associated chronic pain is a dentist “with good insight into how the head, neck and shoulders should function.”

After accurate diagnosis, the dentist first focuses on relaxing the muscles to alleviate the pain, Atkins explained. “Reducing the pain also helps reduce stress and allows the patient to take control of his or her own situation.”

Once the painful muscles are relaxed through muscle therapy and anesthetics, treatment to correct the jaw imbalance can begin. This usually consists of using hard or soft acrylic bite appliances, said Atkins. Finally, stabilizing the condition involves “seeing that all of our patients have a harmonious jaw, muscle and tooth relationship.” Changing bad oral habits and developing better methods of coping with stress help prevent the symptoms of TMJ Syndrome from recurring.

Atkins has also taken steps to help his patients develop more effective methods of dealing with
the psychological stress accompanying the pain. "Pain makes even everyday living harder," Atkins pointed out. "These people's lives have been tremendously disrupted. A social worker can understand some of their daily needs and has insight into daily events."

Consequently, Atkins works closely with Daniel Carter, an associate professor of Social Work and chairman of the University's Social Work Practice Sequence. Carter helps educate TMJ patients on the role of stress and effective ways to control it. "One of the ways I can help these patients is to help them recognize that the pain is not imagined," he said. "It can be very reassuring to be told how stresses can aggravate this condition."

Atkins and Carter favor less rigid treatment philosophies and conduct joint research into the relationship between social functions and health, including the benefits of professional cooperation among disciplines. Noted Carter, "We believe much more research has to be done about the relationships among the biological, the social and the psychological."
November, it was requested by Representative Jack Brooks (D-Texas), chairman of the House Government Operations Committee, because of escalating political debate surrounding polygraph usage. Specifically, in 1982, the Department of Defense (DOD) proposed controversial changes in its polygraph regulations allowing pre-employment and periodic polygraph testing of high security employees. With the exception of intelligence agency personnel, government workers could be fired for refusing to comply. In addition, President Reagan issued a National Security Decision Directive last March instructing federal agencies to use polygraph examinations to investigate specific leaks. The agencies were later authorized to conduct dragnets to identify employees responsible for leaking information.

An amendment to the defense spending bill stalled the implementation of the DOD proposals until the OTA report could be completed and some portions have since been withdrawn. But government use is still reportedly widespread. The report revealed that nearly 23,000 tests are administered by the federal government annually, mainly by the DOD. With the upcoming election, however, the issue remains at a stand-off.

"The people who are going to provide information are not going to be ones who have been trained by the KGB or other hostile intelligence services," explained Saxe, who testified on the proposed use of polygraph examinations by the DOD before the Senate Committee on Armed Services in March. "You're going to miss the foreign intelligence agents, and because of the way in which the polygraph operates, you may catch only those people most concerned about their own honesty and about doing a good job."

In essence, it is incorrect to refer to a polygraph as a "lie detector," he continued. "Essentially, the polygraph is a relatively simple physiological recording device, and it only records changes in autonomic arousal."

"What is often called the 'polygraph' refers not only to the machine, but to a whole set of complex procedures for asking questions and measuring these changes. Lying is inferred from changes in reactions like heart rate, breathing and perspiration. But because people are psychologically and physiologically different, the device cannot distinguish between lying and what might be anxiety or nervousness," said Saxe. The polygraph test, therefore, depends heavily on the examiner's skill in making the subject think the test works, he explained. "One person may fear detection more than another, and if you think the machine can work, then in fact it may be able to—it's a placebo."

What's being measured, Saxe and the OTA researchers concluded, is this fear of detection and not necessarily deception.

What makes polygraph use in tests for national security breaches especially unreliable, said Saxe, is that guilty individuals undoubtedly have access to information that will enable them to pass a polygraph examination. Research shows that mental training, drug use and other tactics can be used to alter responses and "beat" the machine. Deceiving a polygraph examiner may be as simple as maintaining a disbelief in the examination, Saxe pointed out.

There are several kinds of polygraph tests that differ according to the type of questions asked and how the results are scored. In a type of test used in screening, for example, participants are asked a broad range of questions about their past honesty. When a particular incident is being investigated, examinees are asked questions dealing with their knowledge of or involvement in a specific event. A successful examination depends not only on the examiner's ability to convince the subject that the test is valid, but on his training and skill in asking the right questions. The more specific the questions, such as those posed in typical criminal investigations, the higher the probability that the test results will be accurate.

Available studies, however, indicate that findings in these investigations still vary widely. Saxe pointed out. The OTA research revealed that some studies had accurate examination results only 65 percent of the time, while others showed correct guilty detections of 98 percent. Innocent persons were wrongly judged as guilty an average of 19 percent of the time, and in some cases more than 70 percent.

"I think the basic theory is flawed, and I think that anyone who has had the polygraph can beat the polygraph," said Saxe. "While there is some evidence that polygraph tests are being used in situations where they have the right person, I don't think even in criminal cases they have a great deal of validity."

Although virtually no field studies on polygraph testing effectiveness have been conducted in the area of employee screening, according to the OTA report, polygraph use by businesses is proliferating. According to some estimates, about one million polygraph tests are administered annually—most of them in the workplace.

Almost 20 states, including Massachusetts, have laws limiting or making the administration of polygraph tests by private employers illegal. "But that's not to say it doesn't happen," said Saxe. "It happens all the time."

The report produced for the OTA served to educate government officials and dispel some of the myths about polygraph tests and their capabilities. "The debate about polygraph testing has been a debate about ethics and privacy," said Saxe. "I don't think people have had a good understanding of what the test is and how it operates."

"One of the things we've done is to make the public debate about polygraphs more intelligent. In that sense I think we've been successful. Rarely do scientists get into a position where Congressmen come to you and ask for information."
"My car's outside."

What does that statement mean to you? What if it were prefixed by the question, "Would you like a ride home?"

Suddenly, "My car's outside" takes on new meaning.

Double meaning in language falls into the realm of sociolinguistics. The study of meaning and language in the context of sociology and psychology, sociolinguistics is "linguistics without the blinders on," according to Dr. Paul Jalbert, CLA '84, and Jalbert, who recently received his Ph.D. from the Department of Psychology, believes that *double-speak* exists not only in our everyday language, but also in the media. His doctoral thesis, "Structure of News Speak: U.S. Network Television Coverage of the Lebanon War, Summer 1982," focuses on the Orwellian themes of *newspeak*, *double-speak* and thought control through subtle uses (or misuses) of the English Language.

In 1984, George Orwell illustrates how people's thoughts can be influenced through language. By the end of the novel, Orwell's main character believes that "war is peace," "freedom is slavery" and "ignorance is strength." From June through September 1982, Jalbert reviewed the network evening news programs using videotape. He studied the different "meaning options" of reports on the Lebanon War. And his analyses lend credence to the dark visions depicted in Orwell's 1984.

"The purpose of the study," Jalbert said, "was to encourage people to be more critical of what they hear and to question what's being reported." In addition to this practical goal, Jalbert sought to examine the relationship between ideology and linguistics. "Ideology is accessible to people through language," according to Jalbert, "and the words that become paired even though they have different meanings."

They include: "vision/hallucination," "belief/knowledge," and "lying saucer/UFO." In the Lebanon War, pairs such as "terrorist/freedom-fighter" and "invasion/retaliation" are used to categorize particular groups or activities. The Palestinian combatants, for example, consider themselves "freedom-fighters" and view Israelis as "terrorists." Conversely, the Israeli combatants call themselves "freedom-fighters" and call the Palestinians "terrorists."

The word games became more interesting, perhaps more threatening, when American newscasters use the same conflicting terms.

One example he used, is "disjunctive category pairs" or words that become paired even though they have different meanings. Jalbert noted that several different ideological positions were made available to viewers of the Lebanon War broadcasts.

The second sample includes the words *patrol* and *cleaning.* Said that often commentators tacitly display their own beliefs. In addition, the language is tailored to mask an event or issue that could cause controversy.

As Jalbert explained, "This treatment allows for activities, that could be viewed as violations of the cease-fire, to be constituted as non-breaches of the cease-fire." And while the cease-fire allegedly was underway, the following reports were given:

"As mop-up operations continued today, three suspected guerrillas were captured in the town of Nabatiyeh, near a regional headquarters for the PLO."

"While Israelis patrolled the streets looking for terrorists, they also looked for ways of winning over the Lebanese people."

Jalbert's task as a media analyst is to offer the meanings that the text may embody.

Drawing on examples that he believes are being applied for the first time in this context, Jalbert noted that several different ideological positions were made available to viewers of the television broadcasts.

"The only qualifications for an analysis of a text are that the producer and the recipient (the reader or the viewer) are both 'competent' members of the same culture," noted Jalbert.

A competent individual is one who is able to comprehend meaning. And Jalbert's task as a media analyst is to offer the meanings that the text may embody.

As Jalbert explained, "This treatment allows for activities, that could be viewed as violations of the cease-fire, to be constituted as non-breaches of the cease-fire."

In conclusion he said, "I'm trying to tell people that this *double-speak* is not just fiction. It is happening now."
Our specialty gift items designed for Boston University alumni are now available. Consider the limited edition Couroc trays, blazer buttons, ties or scarves as a gift for a friend or yourself. Send us this coupon with a check or use your MasterCard or Visa. Allow four weeks for delivery.

Boston University Limited Edition Couroc Trays
Designed at Boston University and created at the Couroc Art Colony in Monterey Bay, our burnished satin black trays feature a hand inlaid Boston University Seal. These trays are available with or without brass accents (please specify) in 10" round or 18" rectangle shapes.

- #9831/B 10" round with brass, $25.00
- #9832 10" round, $25.00
- #9833/B 18" rectangle with brass, $40.00
- #9834 18" rectangle, $40.00 ($2.75)

Boston University Blazer Buttons
Boston University's seal is hand-crafted in cloisonné enamel and 24-karat gold-plate. Each set consists of three large and four small buttons. #9835—$40.00 ($2.75)

Bostonia Magazine
With your voluntary subscription, this tax-deductible donation will entitle you to be considered a contributing reader of Bostonia Magazine. #9841—$25.00

Cooking By Degrees
The Boston University Cookbook, edited by Laura Freud, editor of Bostonia, and Terence Janerico, proprietor of Boston's La Cuisine Cooking School—Hard cover, 400 pages—More than 570 recipes submitted by members of the Boston University community. #9839—$12.95 ($2.00)

Bostonia T-shirt
Non-shrink polyester/cotton blend, available in navy with white lettering or tan with navy lettering. S, M, L, XL (Please specify.) #9840—$8.95 ($1.00)

Boston University Scarf
Hand-screened 100% silk, 27" square #9838—$15.00 ($2.75)

Boston University Ties
100% silk Repp stripe tie in the University colors, 3" width. #9836—$15.00

University Shield Tie
Polyester/silk blend. #9837—$10.00 ($2.75)

Make checks payable to Boston University. Send orders to: Bostonia Marketplace, 10 Lenox Street, Brookline, Mass. 02146.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM NUMBER</th>
<th>ITEM DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>ITEM PRICE</th>
<th>SHIPPING COST</th>
<th>TOTAL CHARGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Shipping and handling charges for each item appear in parentheses.

☐ CHECK
☐ VISA
☐ MASTER CARD

ACCOUNT #
EXPIRATION DATE
INTERBANK # (MC only)
SIGNATURE

Name
Address
City State Zip

Name
Address
City State Zip

Add your information to the form above and proceed with your order.
INTRODUCTION

THE FAMILY IS OUR OLDEST AND TOUGHEST SOCIAL structure. The fundamental building blocks of human experience—relationships, love, hate, aggression or the instinct to control, conflict, security, communication—are all rooted in the family. In fact, the family is so necessary to human culture that it has been viewed in a mythical way. It is comforting to consider the family an eternal element; secure and resistant to change. Unfortunately, that view is not realistic.

For the past two centuries in Western culture, the family has not been secure. Contemporary commentators argue that the family is shrinking, collapsing and maybe disappearing. Their cries of alarm, echo those of Frédéric Le Play and Wilhelm Riehl, the men who founded family sociology in the 1800s. These two men argued that the traditional extended family was being destroyed by the newly emerging nuclear family. This stripped-down version of family, reduced to parents and children, was, in their opinion, unstable, isolated and self-centered. They predicted a shattering of the family as children married, ignored their siblings and became indifferent to the plight of their aging parents.

Perhaps the family has never been as secure as our imaginations would have it. Adam and Eve certainly struggled, and Cain and Abel represent only one of hundreds of Biblical references to family upheaval. Yet, despite the prevailing and threatening culture surrounding it, the family has always been a persistent organizer of passions and preserver of beliefs.

In many ways the family is a symbol of our intelligence. Our ability to learn from experience and communicate from generation to generation makes us different from other animals. Intelligence can be understood as the ability to understand experiences and pass on information. Our first experiences or encounters with the world are rooted in the family, as are our first communications. By the time we enter the world outside of the family, parental advice has a very firm place in our minds. As historian Peter Gay reminds us, by the time children enter school, they are little “living anthologies” of their culture.

Precisely because the family is so essential to our existence, changes and upheavals are threatening. Alarm about the changing role of the family is substantiated with references to falling birth rates among “highly educated people,” rising divorce statistics and the emerging role of women and consequently men. Can the American nuclear family transmit values in an age of accelerated mobility, instability, change and the plague of “over-choice”? Has the erosion of parental authority created a confusion between discipline and affection? Is the family a private sanctuary from the world? Or does the modern world intrude at every point from birth to death, obliterating privacy? Is the new intimacy comforting or confining? And most important, what, if anything, can be done about all of this?

Historians remind us that despite its crises, the family has persevered. The family has outlived the Greek gods, the Roman empire and hundreds of corrupt and inhumane political controls. And, despite all of the definitions—biological, situational, nuclear, extended, polygamous, tribal—we all seem to know when we are home. For as Robert Frost wrote, “Home is the place where, when you get there, they have to let you in.”

The following articles are grouped together to provide a sampling of perspectives on different aspects of the family. They barely touch upon, and never answer, the questions we all have about the family and its future. For that we have to look to the artists and the poets. For as Sigmund Freud remarked, poets are in an enviable position, because they have the ability to grasp intuitively what it takes years for social scientists to establish.
LATTER-DAY NORMAN ROCKWELL would be hard-pressed to paint today's "typical family." The contemporary imagination would be bombarded with choices: the childless couple, the unmarried live-togethers, the single-parent households, the divorced parents who share custody, even gay couples who now choose to adopt children. Some observers have noted that the family as we once knew it has not only changed, it has deteriorated.

The family has become an intensely emotional issue. With all the outside pressures on the traditional structure, many people feel much is at stake—personal fulfillment, equality, children's values and more. Dr. Merle Jordan, associate professor of Pastoral Psychology at Boston University's School of Theology, counsels couples and individuals who try to deal with the stresses of changing family patterns. Chief among them is the age-old conflict between men and women, but with a new twist. "Men are struggling with the new roles women are finding." Today a wife who traditionally stayed home with the children may now be better educated and make more money than her husband. "Ideally, the liberated woman will not only give her daughter a positive role model to follow, but also help men become more mature. Nevertheless, men still have trouble with that."

Many women who work also seek help from Dr. Jordan and other counselors at the Danielsen Institute at Boston University, when they have to deal with the dilemma of child care. Single parents, for example, approach such agencies with overwhelming problems of loneliness, economic pressures and emotional responsibilities for their children. Some wrestle with the predicament of remarriage to another single parent, the "blended family" situation. "That raises even more issues," continued Jordan. "How much authority can you exercise toward children who aren't biologically yours?"

Modern times have also produced the phenomenon of what was once politely called "the common-law marriage." Despite the sexual revolution, some couples still feel guilty about living together and try to hide their relationship from relatives. Others try cohabitation as part of a responsible strategy before they get married, not wishing to repeat the mistakes of their parents or friends. But "not all couples are suited for marriage. Sometimes new conflicts arise if they do marry, such as feeling trapped." On the other hand, some couples who avoid marriage fear commitment and "prefer to play house. They don't want to assume the responsibilities in a contractual relationship."

Sociologists Brigitte and Peter Berger have gone so far as to label the struggle surrounding the family "a war." And in their third book together, The War Over the Family: Capturing the Middle Ground, they review and take stands on issues of divorce, feminism, extremism, government bureaucracies and "hyper-individualism." In the final analysis, they believe the traditional structure will endure, but it's going to be a hard-fought battle.

"In the public mind," said Brigitte, who holds a faculty position at Wellesley College, "there is a family crisis. On one end, there is the view that the family is going to disappear any minute. On the other, people marry, have children, divorce and get married again." "Many people think the family is deteriorating," added Peter, a University Professor at Boston University. "Often that can be a self-fulfilling prophecy."

The Bergers believe the family has become an "ideological battleground" with right and left-wing alignments. Among these are the "critical" camp, filled with proponents of feminism and members of the New Left; the "neo-traditionalists," who advocate "negative positions" against abortion, pornography, homosexuality, etc.; and the "professionals," who include government and social service workers, psychologists, even sociologists.

Along these battlelines, there is no clear cut victor. But each has had its influence. "There has been a change in marriage patterns," noted Brigitte. "We now have a postponement of marriage, which I think is healthy. We also have a declining commitment to raising children, which is not good." While the United States Census reported the number of single people rising, the marriage rate has climbed back to 90 percent (after hovering at 87 percent in the early 1970s). Ninety percent of married couples are also choosing to have children. Despite changes, the "middle ground" that the Bergers wish to "capture" is still the province of a large sector of the population.

"The family has become a hot political issue," continued
Brigitte Berger. "We want to depoliticize some topics related to it." Chief among these is abortion, the emotional issue in recent decades, which according to Peter Berger "should not be a political issue. Abortion is a philosophical issue. No one has really established when the fetus becomes a person." While not taking sides on the issue, the Bergers maintain that the final decision rests with the woman.

Support for personal decision making guides most of the Bergers' views on matters relating to the family. Should parents be informed when their adolescent children request birth control or counseling? Again, it's up to the parents. Said Brigitte, "I feel parents should say 'I don't want to be informed.'" Although this takes the burden off some parents, it may also be argued that the issue remains, allowing others to say, "Yes, I do want to be informed."

The Bergers call for "the restoration of the private" domain, especially in morality and sexual matters. "Here a public attitude of 'benign neglect' would be helpful," write the authors. Taking what they term a civil libertarian stance, they believe the state has no right to use its power to control private choices. For example, both Bergers believe that homosexuals should be allowed to adopt children, if the court deems them fit guardians.

The Bergers call for "the restoration of the private" domain, especially in morality and sexual matters. "Here a public attitude of 'benign neglect' would be helpful," write the authors.

**THE FAMILY HAS BECOME AN INTENSELY EMOTIONAL ISSUE.** With all the outside pressures on the traditional structure, many people feel much is at stake—personal fulfillment, equality, children's values and more.

A powerful sub-theme runs through the Bergers' logic: a profound distrust of bureaucracies and government programs. For example, they criticize large-scale, day-care facilities because they frequently involve long periods of separation from "intimate family contacts." But when asked if they opposed day-care per se, Brigitte Berger replied, "No. Different children have different needs. Parents should make the decision about what's best for the child." "We're for day-care," added Peter. "But what kind of day-care? Who's going to control it and what's going to be the role of the government?" "You can't have the family abdicate its responsibility to its children," concluded Brigitte. "It's too easy to say 'let the state take care of this.'"

Although Peter Berger is a registered Republican and Brigitte a Democrat, they share neither party's vision of America. They feel social policy is the last thing on the Republicans' minds, "except not to have too much of it," quipped Peter. Similarly, the Democrats have failed in their experiments with social policy, such as Lyndon Johnson's Great Society and FDR's New Deal.

"No social policy will have the same impact on all families," said Dr. Steve Antler, associate professor at Boston University's School of Social Work. "If the government increases child care allowances for the poor, for example, resultant tax increases will affect the wealthy." Antler does believe, however, that lack of funding has been one reason why the government has failed with family social policy. "Although actual dollar cuts have been minimal," he said, "government doesn't adjust its social budget to keep pace with inflation and the rising number of unemployed families."

It's hard to measure the effects of real dollar decreases upon social programs. "We don't have a public policy toward families per se. Economic policy takes precedence," said Antler. The government sees programs in terms of what's good for the economy or business. Rather than focus on the policy arena, through such issues as privation or job availability, President Reagan emphasizes the moral arena, maintaining that abortion or prayer in the schools are the real issues of concern.

The Bergers see different solutions to these problems. "In spite of the massive influx of funds, government policies haven't benefited the poorest city people," noted Brigitte. "We want to bring..."
together all these neighborhood groups and exchange information." The Bergers believe that only "grass roots" organizations can reverse government regulation of the family "from the bottom up." "Policies that come from above usually don't work. I sincerely hope someone who has our sympathies will run for public office," she continued. "But while people want to see how elections work out, they are making changes anyway."

Regarding legislation affecting women, Brigitte feels the Equal Rights Amendment has good intentions, that women should have equal access to the same jobs. Nevertheless, she thinks that adherents of the ERA have taken the issue of comparable worth out of context. "Women with families still congregate in certain types of jobs, like secretarial positions. They want jobs they can easily begin and quit, or part-time careers they can combine with family interests." Women make less money than men because they choose certain types of jobs. "And wisely so," added Brigitte. "They have other commitments." When women don't have children, the income difference between them and men in the same occupations disappears.

WHILE THE UNITED STATES CENSUS reported the number of single people rising, the marriage rate has climbed back to 90 percent (after hovering at 87 percent in the early 1970s).

One doesn't take such controversial positions without inviting criticism. In the New York Times Book Review, Robert Coles, professor of Medical Humanities at Harvard Medical School, reviewed the Bergers' book and argued that it idealized working class families in pitsing them against "elitists" in social service agencies. They don't take into account the debilitating social forces beyond the control of the average factory worker: unemployment, alcoholism, child abuse, etc. All these factors can contribute to the deterioration of the family. "It is nothing but condescending to... simplify the complexity, the inconsistencies and the ambiguities of their personal and political lives..." he stated, implying that more families need expert help with these problems that the Bergers indicate.

Criticisms have also come from colleagues. Sam Kaplan is a lecturer in Boston University's Sociology Department, teaches family courses and writes for Contemporary Sociology and The Nation. He feels The War Over the Family is a "right of center attack on the welfare state." The Bergers believe that government income maintenance programs escalate divorce rates. "Under such welfare, the family's no longer a common enterprise," maintained Brigitte. "You no longer have to struggle together."

"Most welfare policies don't have any effect upon marital stability," countered Kaplan. "The Bergers have a tendency to look at marginal cases and treat them as if they're the whole picture." And while Kaplan agrees that the family is the best mechanism for rearing children, he believes poverty harms families, that the state should "help create the 'bourgeois families' the Bergers support."

While the Bergers may not personally advocate alternative lifestyles, they believe a couple should be the ones to decide whether to have children. The nuclear family is still the best structure for raising children, simply because, according to Peter, "a child is better off if it has two people worrying about it than one. Single parents face enormous practical and emotional problems."

It's clear they believe the family will prevail, despite criticisms from extremists on the left and right, despite the often destructive interference from government agencies. "Ultimately, the family is our most important social structure," said Brigitte. "Almost everything depends upon an intact family: education, health, happiness." The Bergers maintain that the two most important ingredients the family supplies are stability and love.

These are noble goals. And Antler thinks it's possible for government policy to help families attain them. "Sweden is our most tired example of a humanitarian social policy," he noted. "Tired, because it's true. The Swedes have a universal child care program. As your income increases, your subsidy decreases." Closely related is their National Health Insurance Program. "Anyone with kids knows they eat up health care budgets." Also, parents of newborns can stay home and collect child care relief. In this country, most working mothers have to use their sick time when they have a child. "Although they may get money, it doesn't have the same context it has in Sweden. If you have to call maternity an illness to squeeze it in, you deny its reality."

Does Antler think national child care is on this country's agenda? "'I'd have to say 'probably,' not only because of changing demographics, but because we seem to have a burgeoning women's agenda. Both major parties have identified the "gender gap" - women don't always vote with their husbands any more. They're starting to move to candidates who support social welfare questions, like Walter Mondale, who originally sponsored the Family Child Development Act of 1971."

"Conservatives think the family is breaking down," he continued. "Radicals believe it's outmoded. I think it's just taking new forms." Many talk about the high divorce rate; some say fathers should spend more time at home. "I don't know if that's possible if they have high-pressure careers. But Peter Berger is right when he says the family should be intrinsic to the heart of the culture."

"The family is here to stay," reaffirmed Brigitte Berger. "It will remain a burdened institution, with enormous pressures for both sexes to adjust to new conditions. The best we can do is keep on muddling through as we always have. But there are no better options for us in this world. We must make the best of it."

"ULTIMATELY, THE FAMILY IS OUR most important social structure. Almost everything depends upon an intact family: education, health, happiness."

BRIGITTE BERGER
IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS THE family, born and nurtured out of love. At its center life begins and, if we are lucky, in old age ends. Enclosed in the privacy of home, the family is the first and final fortress of protection, offering support against the onslaught of an impersonal world. Yet those same protecting walls often trap and confine. And sometimes from behind them come cries of pain.

An abused child, a battered wife, a murdered husband: our first reaction may be a sympathetic sigh or solemn shake of the head. But ultimately, if it happens outside the privacy of our families, it is easy to dismiss, even forgive. The walls of privacy have an unfortunate tendency of not only locking trouble in, but of keeping help out.

"The remarkable thing about family violence," according to Hussein Abdilahi (Bulhan), assistant professor of Psychology at Boston University's College of Liberal Arts, "is that the social controls that exist in society lose their effectiveness in the privacy of the home. Within the family, people can do things they would not do outside. It's part of the problem."

Another part of the problem is a general reluctance to acknowledge that family violence exists. Abdilahi noted, for example, that although research first brought child abuse to public attention in the early 1960s, other forms of family violence were not seriously researched until the 1970s. For example, The Journal of Marriage and the Family published its first article on family violence in 1969, nearly 30 years after its first issue.

Statistics on the prevalence of the problem are rare. But in one of the few national studies conducted on family violence, researchers from the University of New Hampshire, who interviewed more than 2000 families in 1976 and published their findings in 1980 in Behind Closed Doors, reported that 16 percent of the husbands and wives, or one out of every six, committed at least one violent act against their partners during the year of the study. Worse, when considering the entire length of their marriage, the number of couples who had used violence jumped to 28 percent. The researchers also pointed out that because of the shame involved in family violence, and the tendency to downplay or not report incidents, "it seems likely the true rate is closer to 50 or 60 percent of all couples."

Interestingly, the definition of family violence has been expanding during the past 20 years as research interest has increased. In the late 1960s, family violence was generally thought of as parental abuse of children. By the 1970s and 1980s the definition had broadened to include spouse and sibling abuse, child abuse of parents and even abuse of the elderly. Abdilahi defined violence as "an act intended, or perceived to have the intention of, physically hurting another person," and explained that violence in the family can range from throwing things and slapping and shoving to torture and murder.

Many researchers also include marital rape and sexual abuse of children in their definitions of family violence, and, more recently, some have included psychological and emotional abuse.

Because of the personal nature of family violence, however, and the hesitancy of families to discuss such problems, actual rates—let alone specific causes—are difficult to ascertain. One reason, noted Abdilahi, is that in middle- and upper-class families, if family violence is discussed at all, it is likely to be in the privacy of a counselor's office. Families from lower socioeconomic classes, on the other hand, unable to afford private counseling, tend to have fewer options. These families can either seek counseling offered by social agencies or ignore the problem until it is so serious that police must be called in. Consequently, family violence in poor communities may be publicized more because police are summoned as a last resort.

The increased publicity received in poor communities can, in turn, create the impression that the problem is limited to lower socioeconomic classes. Not so, according to Gerry Hotaling, a research scientist in the Family Violence Research Program at the University of New Hampshire. He explained, "Many therapists and counselors who work in mental health clinics in middle-class areas know women who are victims of abuse, but who won't come in for help because their husbands are powerful men in the community—lawyers, university professors, physicians. So it's something that cuts across class lines, racial lines and economic lines."

Hotaling noted several possible theories that explain the cause of wife abuse in terms of cultural views rather than socioeconomic class. One common cultural assumption is that the male is

---

When Family Conflicts Result in Violence

The Paradox of Intimacy

JON QUEIJO

Illustration: Yiel Zakon-Bourke

Bostonia : INSIGHT : July 1984 : 21
"THE REMARKABLE THING about family violence is that the social controls that exist in society lose their effectiveness in the privacy of the home. Within the family, people can do things they would not do outside."

Hussein Abdilahi

the most powerful member of the family; therefore the husband's sense of power can be threatened if the wife decides to go back to school or work, and he may resort to violence as a means of re-establishing his sense of control. Hotaling also pointed out that social isolation, which is not necessarily related to socioeconomic class, has been found to be a factor in all forms of family violence. "People who are more likely to be abusive tend to report not having any friends, or not being involved in social or community organizations," he said.

RESEARCHING FAMILY VIOLENCE

Although family violence cuts across classes, Hotaling and Abdilahi both noted there can be some distinct differences in the nature and cause of family violence, depending on race or on socioeconomic class. For example, according to Hotaling, child abuse tends to be more prevalent in white families, whereas wife abuse tends to occur more in black families. Abdilahi is particularly interested in learning more about family violence in poor, oppressed communities, and, because families from poor communities tend to report family violence to the police, he found a unique launching point from which to conduct his research.

While a consultant to the Roxbury (Massachusetts) Court Clinic, where individuals with psychological problems are referred to by the Roxbury Court system, Abdilahi learned that records were available of phone calls to the police requesting help in family violence problems. He then obtained data from 1977 to 1983 that listed not only the number of phone calls reporting family violence to the police, but the nature of the violence and the addresses of the families involved.

Backed by a fellowship from the National Research Council, Abdilahi is currently on a one-year leave from the University to analyze the data and uncover general trends of family violence from a community perspective. A Roxbury resident himself, Abdilahi is particularly interested in studying family violence in poor communities because he believes in such areas violence "is built into the social conditions where people live. You can see it in the ecology, the destruction. If you drive through certain areas of Roxbury, you see the devastation. The roads, the housing, the environment itself implicitly tell you it is a battle zone."

The data from his study have already helped Abdilahi uncover some startling statistics. For example, he has found a "dramatic" increase in the number of emergency calls to police, from 4003 in 1977 to 7091 in 1983—up 77 percent. Further analysis will allow him to compare incidence rates in specific neighborhoods according to the time of day, day of week and month of the year.

The initial data provide a community perspective on the occurrence of family violence. In a grant proposal currently under review by the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, Abdilahi described how further research will help reveal more specific interpersonal and social causes of family violence. For example, now that he has located specific families known to experience violence, he plans to conduct interviews with families to determine the relative importance of such factors as alcohol, stress, crowding, social networks and the history of violence in the perpetrator's own family background.

Despite the apparent trend of increasing family violence in Roxbury, Abdilahi is cautious about drawing conclusions. "We know the number of individuals who have called the police is not..."
an actual measure of how much the problem is occurring. Why
some families choose to call the police and others continue to
bear the problem or seek relatives or religious leaders, we don’t
know.” Consequently, the data may actually underrepresent the
incidences of family violence. On the other hand, he noted that
the increase in calls to the police may not necessarily be due to an
increase in violence, but an increase in population or in people’s
willingness to call the police for help. In the Guggenheim pro-
posal, Abdilahi also outlined plans to determine how accurately
the number of calls reflects actual incidences of family violence.

PREVENTING VIOLENCE
THROUGH COMMUNITY
INVIOLEMENT

While it may be premature to draw conclusions about actual
rates of family violence, Abdilahi’s analysis of the data from a
community perspective has allowed him to make at least two sig-
nificant conclusions. “The messages we’ve received from the
community study are: one, the problem is extensive, and two, the
mental health professionals in social agencies are not available
when they are needed.”

The pervasiveness of the problem became evident when the
data were broken down by neighborhoods. In the records
obtained by Abdilahi, all the calls came from two districts of
Boston—all of Roxbury and part of Dorchester. The calls were
broken down according to 13 sections and 32 neighborhoods that
compose these two districts, and reports of family violence came
from all areas, though not necessarily in equal proportions.
Although further analysis will reveal incidences in specific
neighborhoods, such a breakdown was not necessary to reveal an
important trend when data from all the neighborhoods combined
were broken down in this way. In the accompanying graphs, the
increase in number of phone calls to the police from 1977 to 1979
to 1983 is clear. Perhaps more important, however, is the consist-
ency of times when the calls were made. Most calls for police help
—and thus most family violence—occurred on Saturday through
Monday, from 5 to 11 p.m.

This is disturbing news since mental health professionals in
social agencies, who are more qualified than police in offering
therapy to troubled families, are generally not available on week-
ends and after 5 p.m. Abdilahi noted that, with such clear-cut
data in hand, he could simply recommend that more money be
given to social agencies so that staffs could be available when they
are most needed.

“But I don’t think communities like Roxbury should wait for a
mental health establishment to help them. I’m interested in see-
ing what neighbors and relatives can do for themselves.” He con-
cluded that identifying specific neighborhoods where family vio-
FAMILY VIOLENCE

Understanding the role of the community in family violence is important to Abdilahi, not only for intervention and therapy, but in understanding some of the causes. In Roxbury, and in similar economically depressed communities, he believes one of the most important causes of family violence is the “struggle for resources,” the tension arising from the inability to pay bills and to meet other basic needs. In addition, he noted tension can result from a constant sense of disjunction in residents who are barred daily by images from newspapers and television of what the “good life” should be, but must live in a reality that is quite different.

Consequently, the run-down appearance of poor communities can affect the attitude of residents. “In my definition of violence,” said Abdilahi, “the surrounding ecology is an important aspect. The surrounding areas communicate to you at some level that violence is there.” He emphasized that he did not want to create the impression that all of Roxbury is a “place of war,” but added that although there are many peaceful families, “in my assessment there is a disjunction between everyday living and the kinds of things that a family needs for its own peace.”

Although in future research Abdilahi proposes to study the relative importance of other factors that may lead to family violence, he explained why several factors in particular may play an important role.

A number of past studies have shown a significant correlation between alcohol abuse and family violence. While figures vary considerably, depending on the study, the percentage of family violence in which alcohol was a contributing factor has been reported to be as high as 90 percent.

Among the varieties of stress that Abdilahi will study as possible causes of family violence are stresses related to having a job, not having a job, marriage, parenting and crowded living conditions. Crowding can be a particular problem in poor, urban communities, and he noted that one possible reason for the increase in family violence on weekends and at night may be that families are more likely to be together during those times, sharing a limited amount of space.

“There is reason to believe the struggle for control and power that underlies many violent actions may be related to the everyday struggle of family members to claim, expect, control and defend space in the family household,” he wrote in his proposal to the Guggenheim Foundation. In addition, he said another disjunction—this time between the actual amount of living space available to poor, urban residents and the amount portrayed in the media as necessary for the good life—may add to the tension.

An important factor in preventing family violence, the existence of social networks, ties into Abdilahi’s view of the importance of community participation. He pointed out that researchers “have found significant associations between social isolation and the occurrence of family violence.”

Social networks, typically composed of relatives, close personal friends, acquaintances and co-workers, can help prevent family violence in two important ways. In one sense, such networks can provide support during a family crisis by offering advice and assistance, thereby serving as outlets for frustration. In the second sense, the relative value of social networks is dependent on the specific nature of relationships. From this perspective, network members provide various degrees of objective feedback, helping to clarify distorted views held by family members who are too close to the situation to be objective.

Interestingly, Abdilahi noted some researchers have also found that black families and working-class families tend to interact more with their relatives than white families and middle- and upper-class families. In addition, other researchers have found that the presence of extended family members, that is, relatives outside of the father-mother-child nuclear family, in the homes of black families “dramatically” decreased the incidences of family violence, while their presence in white families increased the incidences of violence. Because of the general lack of research into violence in black families, Abdilahi hopes his future studies in the Roxbury community will provide further insight into this phenomenon.

IS VIOLENCE INTERGENERATIONAL?

Another area of interest to Abdilahi and other researchers is the relationship between family violence while a person is growing up and violence in that person’s own family once he or she is married. The notion that violence can be passed from generation to generation has been supported in a number of studies. It is not clear, however, to what degree intergenerational violence is related to genetic influence and to what degree it is due to being exposed to violent behavior during crucial periods of development.

“The fact is, very often what we experience in childhood over a long period of time has its way of being retained,” said Abdilahi. “It’s remarkable how easy it is as an adult, without being conscious of it, to recreate the kinds of family responses that happened to you as a child. Quite often it is reflexive.”

In fact, the influence of family and the quality of parenting can have a profound influence on a growing child, according to Dr. David Gottsman, clinical director of Centerpoint, a treatment center for emotionally disturbed, aggressive males aged 13 to 21. All of the youths treated at Centerpoint, which is located at Danvers State Hospital in Danvers, Massachusetts, and which is run by the private, non-profit Justice Resource Institute, are referred by the state’s Department of Mental Health, and must have a history of violent, antisocial behavior.

Because these youths are generally too young to be married, it is not known whether their violent behavior would (assuming they did not respond to treatment) carry over into their own families. However, in most of the males a pattern of violence is clearly
While Centerpoint is one of the few such programs operating in the country, four other similar programs in Massachusetts were closed several years ago as a result of Proposition 2½. That left Centerpoint the only operating program in the state. The program “costs money,” said Gottesman, “and taxpayers don’t like to spend money on this sort of thing. Our society is just not that interested in these families because they’re generally poor, they have no resources and they’re very disturbed.” But, he warned, “the cost to society of not spending the money is 10 times, or 100 times, what it costs to run this program.”

It is understandable, then, why a lack of funds, or a lack of appropriate distribution of funds, has prompted Abdilahi to seek a community approach to preventing family violence. Like Gottesman, he believes that the cost to society of not helping disturbed families is much higher than the cost of helping them. Perhaps a more fundamental problem, however, is identifying problem families in the first place. Although the causes of family violence can vary, the shame that silences and prevents a family from seeking help knows no class or racial boundaries. No amount of money or community interaction can help a family victimized by its own violence if the walls of privacy—reinforced by embarrassment and guilt—prevent its cries from being heard on the outside.

Hussein Abdilahi (Bullhat) has been an assistant professor of Psychology at Boston University since 1979. He received his masters and doctoral degrees from Boston University and recently completed a book entitled Frantz Fanon & The Psychology of Oppression.
No one remembers how he or she learned to communicate. Memories of the one-word and two-word sentences that we uttered as children are familiar to us only through the stories our parents tell. We also don’t remember how difficult it was or wasn’t to acquire that language skill.

The process of language development is a very complicated one. If you’ve ever tried to learn a foreign dialect, you realize the tediousness of mastering unfamiliar sounds. Babies, however, have to start from scratch and since language is the key to future communication, their progress is of intense interest to child development specialists, educators and, of course, parents.

Babies, like the rest of us, benefit from being able to get a word in edgewise—even if that “word” is only the gurgle, giggle or sigh of the pre-verbal infant. That is one conclusion drawn by Professor Paula Menyuk, a principal investigator of the recently completed Language Indices Project (L.I.P.), which traced the acquisition of language skills of more than 50 babies. According to Menyuk, although parents have been correct in assuming that talking to babies is beneficial to their language development, giving the infants opportunities to respond “makes the difference between good outcome and super outcome” in a child’s ability to master language.

The frequency and style of verbal interaction between mothers and babies were studied by Menyuk, Boston University professor of Applied Psycholinguistics; along with Dr. Martin Schultz, director of the Hearing and Speech Division at Children’s Hospital; and Dr. Jacqueline Liebergott, professor of Communication Disorders at Emerson College. They found that a wide variety of parental styles of talking to and eliciting responses from children all “worked.” But there was great variability in the ways and rates of learning.

As a matter of fact, one of the primary purposes of the Language Indices Project was to determine the range of normal language development for children within the first three years, and secondly—a critical component—to explore the individual variations of both children’s and parents’ behavior. “We found many individual patterns of development,” said Menyuk, “that all came out right. Consequently, parents don’t need to be so uptight comparing their child to the others in the playground.”

They also need not be so concerned about talking constantly to their children. The key, according to Menyuk, seems to be to let the babies “talk” or respond. Even very young babies benefit from being given slots to fill, Menyuk emphasized, so that it is more beneficial to say “Hi, Baby!” and wait before going on to “How are you?” than to rattle on at rather than to the baby. After all, aren’t these the very same strategies that encourage adults to engage in conversation? Babies, it seems, respond equally well to good manners.

Funded by a grant from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services of the Department of Education, the Language Indices Project involved 56 children, half full-term babies and half premature. They came from four socioeconomic groups and entered the project no older than 10 months of age. In an effort to control social variables, two other criteria were used: the children came from two-parent families and their mothers did not work outside the home. (Some factors changed over the course of the study.)

The object of the study was not to teach the babies to talk. Instead, the investigators would visit the families once a month to tape-record or video-tape the interactions between mothers and babies. They also “engaged the babies in conversation,” so to speak, to determine speech-sound development vocabulary, sentence-structure development and conversational competence. More technical tests were performed at Children’s Hospital. And for their part, the mothers were asked to keep diaries of their babies’ word acquisitions. Of course, this directly engaged the parents or “focused Moms” on language development.

“Focusing Moms” was “the strongest intervention we did,” Schultz emphasized. “We let them know that their kids were okay and that whatever style of verbal interaction they were using was appropriate. But merely by interacting with the babies, we provided a model that parents might follow. Did the mothers practice with the babies when we weren’t there? Of course,” he added. Consequently, L.I.P became, in a sense, an intervention study.

One strategy used to evaluate understanding involved toys and other objects that the investigators brought to the participants’
The children were asked to "smell the flower" or "push the truck." Then they were asked to "smell the truck" or "tickle the flower." If the directions were followed correctly, it was felt, comprehension was being demonstrated. On the other hand, after watching a few of these sessions, what parent could resist slipping in a little practice here and there? So again, the study itself became intervention.

"We weren't looking for a formula for how to talk to a baby," Liebergott said, "although it seems that some parents set their children up to be successful" in acquiring language. They do it, however, in a wide variety of ways, such as playing Peek-a-Boo, reading aloud but leaving the child a slot to fill ("Once upon a time, there were three little...") or giving a direction that requires the child to do rather than say something.

Some mothers were so attuned to their children's non-verbal behavior that they seemed to intuit what the baby was capable of doing or even what he was going to do next. These parents would often "take the baby's turn," as Liebergott described it, in "conversations." They would either help the baby by guiding his hand, perhaps, or demonstrating the meaning of a statement themselves. As the child progressed, these mothers went on to what Liebergott called "proto-directives," which, in essence, asks the baby to do something he has already started. So when the parent saw the baby crawl or reach toward his bottle of juice, she would say, "Have some juice."

As the children developed, these parents changed their approach accordingly, going on to genuine questions or commands, when they sensed the child was ready. For example, when a 12-month-old was putting on his hat, his mother would say, "Put on your hat." By 18 to 20 months, the mother sensed the baby was ready for the command to be given as a directive, and would say, "Put on your hat" when it was within the baby's sight. And by the time the child reached 29 months, the mother felt comfortable sending him out of the room to find the hat.

The age levels are approximate, of course, since one of the most important findings of the Language Indices Project is the different rates of learning in normal development. For example, the "fastest" baby in the study could comprehend and say 10 words by about 11 months of age, while those who did not acquire 10 words until 18 months were still within the normal range. Moreover, the achievements of this "fastest" child were not so different from those of many others by the time they reached the age of three. "Parents think that starting late means ending up in bad shape," Liebergott said, "but that is not necessarily so."

That is not to say, however, that none of the babies studied had language-development difficulties. Six of the children were found to have real problems, but one of the other purposes of the project was to determine early signs of difficulty.

**Parents Need Not Be so Concerned with Talking Constantly to Their Children.** The key, according to Menyuk, seems to be to let the babies "talk" or respond.

In fact, the L.I.P study included premature babies because they were the group often thought to be at risk in developing language difficulties. Parents of preemies, however, should be reassured, according to Menyuk, that barring intervening difficulties, premature infants do catch up in language development by the time they are three.

As it turned out, the preemies in the study did even better statistically than the group of full-term babies. And even the tiniest baby in the study had caught up to his peers in terms of language development, by the end of the project.

The investigators are currently analyzing their data and preparing a manual intended for parents as well as for pediatricians and clinicians. In addition to reassuring most readers that all is going normally, even though Johnny's rate and style of learning is different from Sally's, the manual can help pinpoint early signs of real trouble for parents and pediatricians. L.I.P will also give doctors a more detailed idea of the variability of normal development within the first three years.

In addition to the considerable information about language development that L.I.P has provided, the study has also raised some interesting questions. Menyuk, Shultz and Liebergott have recently received an additional grant from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services to follow many of these children into their school years to see if early language development "predicts" later skills such as reading. Menyuk said, "We want to see if the first three years of life are 'critical' to later language development. In other words, what effect does the child's early style of development have on later school performance?" Or as Liebergott puts it, "First there's learning language, learning the system and then there's learning to use language."

**Paula Menyuk** is a professor in the School of Education and director of the School's Division of Counseling, Reading, Language Development and Special Education.
RECENTLY I VISITED WITH a group of university students from Italy. Their experience over the past few years is a familiar match to what has been the life of 5,000 men and women constituting Boston University’s Class of 1984. There was a quality about this particular group of Italian students, however, which set them somewhat apart, not only from their peers, but also, unfortunately, from many who are much older. A common experience for these young men and women had been a religious awakening. When I pressed them for the significance of this religious awakening, one of the students said, “I came to understand better what it means to be human. I thought I had known what it meant to be human, but I began to realize that in many ways I had not.”

This insight of what it means to be human was mediated to these university students through their peers who found strength in a movement called communione e liberazione—Communion and Liberation, or Freedom. The name of the movement expresses the heart of the insight which is revealed in the readings we have heard from Isaiah and Matthew. That insight is that freedom flows from a relationship with God which can be characterized as communion with all human persons.

To be human is to be free. The awakening of consciousness in the human person is at first marked by that unfreedom of an individual turned in upon himself, an individual who perceives the world as her own. The early behavior of each of us was marked by instinctively selfish acts. The Cain in each of us is lived out in a baby’s display of unconditioned possessiveness.

The unfortunate fact is that not all of us grow up, and most of us continue to stumble against those remnants of un-
developed humanity. A life centered on self is the least free of all, is the life least human. So, too, is freedom diminished if the parameters of concern are narrowly defined: family, nation, race, sex, class.

The insight of my Italian university friends is that liberation, freedom, flows out of a lived communion, a communion which knows no bounds as it looks into the faces of every human person and sees a brother or a sister, sees the image of the Divine. The antithesis of this insight is revealed in the mind and heart of Cain, who could not conceive of freedom, of liberation, of fulfillment beyond the narrow horizons of his own aggrandizement, and so he killed his brother Abel.

In the inspired dialogue between Israel and God, which is the Scripture reading from Isaiah for today, a people confront God with a question—a question too narrowly conceived: “We are religious, why do you not bless us?” God answers, characteristically, with another question: “Do you call this religion? Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers... Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to set free those who are oppressed? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked to cover him and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

“Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily... Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’”

This prophetic message from the Hebrew scriptures speaks to us of what it means to be religious, what it means to be free.

Jesus knew well the Book of Isaiah. It was from Isaiah that He first preached in the synagogue of His hometown, Nazareth. When He spoke those memorable words recorded in Matthew's 25th chapter, the thought was a development and fulfillment of that earlier Isaiah theme. Final judgment by God on the quality of a human life will be based upon one’s loving response to every man, to every woman. The faith-filled person sees in every human person the face of the Divine.

“T o see a brother or sister in every human person, and more—to see God in every human person is to be religious, to be human, to be free.”

Archbishop Bernard F. Law

Pope John Paul II recently wrote that if you truly have Jesus Christ in your heart then you can see Him in the face of every human person.

To see a brother or sister in every human person, and more—to see God in every human person—is to be religious, to be human, to be free.

Such a vision inspired the life of an earlier graduate of Boston University. Dr. Martin Luther King shared with us a dream which excited Isaiah and which found its fullest expression in the life, the death, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It was a dream which cut through the bewildering complexity of the modern world and focused on a black woman denied the freedom to sit where she wanted on a bus in an Alabama town. The freedom of us all was bound up in her freedom.

It has been 16 years since Dr. King's death, one more Abel sacrificed to the narrow vision of a Cain. How enriched the world has been by the eloquent expression he gave to the vision that freedom comes when we live in communion, when our world-view embraces every human person as sister, as brother in God. His dream continues to inspire. Those Alabama buses are no longer segregated, and other more important gains have been made which would not have come in their time had it not been for the eloquence he gave to the vision.

In 16 years we will have moved from the Orwellian apocalypse of 1984 to the year 2000—which also invites apocalyptic imagery. My hope and prayer is that the Class of 1984 will be true to the vision of Isaiah and Jesus, the vision that sees a world of human persons meant to live in unity—as brothers and sisters.

This unity must take flesh in personal decisions and national policy decisions. The next 16 years will be a particular challenge to us in maintaining and strengthening, broadening and reclaiming human freedom vis-à-vis the technological developments which can enhance or destroy our lives. As crucial as is the need to reverse the suicidal course of nuclear weaponry, it would be shortsighted to assume that the Kingdom will have come in all its glory when effective treaties have been signed which reverse the tide of nuclear stockpiling and reduce the threat of war.

The deeper and more pervasive question has to do with defining what it means to be human, what it means to be free. Freedom clearly is not enhanced simply in doing what we are technologically capable of doing. Freedom is enhanced only if what we do is in the service of justice and love for every human person perceived as an image of the Divine.
Arnold Jacob ("Red") Auerbach
Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

You have made the world know that Auerbach is as Celtic a name as any. Through generations of owners and players, you have given Boston and the nation a model of excellence and an enduring object of legitimate pride. We contemplate your achievement, and through it, we understand the meaning and force of the term "a class act." Here at what was once Braves Field and where Babe Ruth hit his last home run, we honor another sports legend. You have not merely achieved sustained excellence: more than any other sports figure of our time, you have made a creditable run at perfection. Not least, you are the embodied refutation of Durocher's Law: you are a nice guy who usually finishes first.

Brand Blanshard
Doctor of Letters, honoris causa

Educated in the Golden Age of British idealism, you subjected that tradition to rigorous examination in the light of empirical psychology and deepened it as an enduring position. Your work on the nature of thought and the place of reason in daily life provides guidance for thought and action in a world of encroaching irrationality. One of the greatest teachers of philosophy of our century, you have taught, not only in the lecture halls and seminar rooms of Ann Arbor, Swarthmore and New Haven, but from the rostrum of every major lecture ship in philosophy. At the same time, you have produced a series of philosophical works notable for their prose style and for the power and clarity of their thought. By the time in life when most men are still struggling to escape callowness, you were already a sage; now well into your tenth decade, your sagacity undiminished, you continue to publish distinguished works. You have compared yourself to Methuselah, but we beg to disagree, for Methuselah was noted solely for his longevity. The better comparison is Sophocles, who wrote his Oedipus at Colonus at ninety. You are not only the dean of American philosophers, but the philosopher's philosopher.

William John Carmichael
Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

Nature in random carelessness throws up physical barriers before the development of youthful minds and bodies. With purposeful action, you succeed in casting them away. Throughout your superintendency of the Cotting School you have taught the handicapped to overcome many of their limitations.
and to limit their handicaps only to those they cannot transcend. You open up possibilities that would otherwise remain closed and help your students to attain the fullness of their human potential. The knowledge and practice you have developed have allowed others in other schools to follow in your path. The alumni of Boston University have distinguished themselves in many callings, but in you your Alma Mater takes particular pride: you have dedicated your life to making the dignity of mankind not just an ideal but a reality.

Charles Stark Draper
Doctor of Science, honoris causa

Through the development of inertial guidance, you have taught man how to apply the discipline of precision to a level that your mentors and colleagues believed impossible. And by annihilating friction as a confounding factor in measurement, you made possible for the first time the rigorous application of Newton's laws of motion to the real world. Through the achievement of inertial guidance, you enabled mankind to escape the bounds of his native planet. Through your extraordinary knowledge of the laws of nature and your imaginative ability to exploit them by an unmatched genius for the construction of precision instruments, you have become the pilot who guides us on our voyage toward the stars. Because of your work, we have seen volcanoes erupt on other worlds and learned more about the solar system in the last decade than in the twenty centuries from Ptolemy to Lowell. Your gyroscopes and accelerometers guided men to the surface of the moon and then showed them the way home. Long after we are all dust, your messengers will be scouring the universe. You are the Henry the Navigator of our time.

Hassan Hamdi Ibrahim, M.D. Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

You are a healer not merely of bodies but of educational systems. Egypt's ambassador to the world of higher education, you have represented your country and her universities at gatherings around the world. Preeminent as a leader in Egypt's higher education, and leader of her medical profession as well, you have reformed her medical schools and given strong new leadership to her largest university. There is scarcely an aspect of higher education in Egypt that has not benefited from your observant eye, critical judgment and abounding energy. You are a leader in the distinguished tradition of Presidents Anwar el-Sadat and Hosni Mubarak. We honor you for your own achievement and to reaffirm the warm relationship that has grown up between our countries and our universities.

Edward Crosby Johnson III
Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

In the age of the conglomerate, your family-owned company manages billions of dollars of other people's money with Yankee entrepreneurial ingenuity. Worthy son of the great father, you have, in Goethe's phrase, earned your inheritance anew by the superb management you have given the Fidelity Management and Research Corporation, using the computer with a pervasiveness and decisiveness unsurpassed by your giant competitors. Exploiting the flexibility of a privately controlled firm, you have moved on many fronts to bring whole new groups of investors to the market. As far-ranging and innovative in philanthropy as in business, you have been concerned with the management of non-profit institutions, arguing the need for educational programs to train their managers. Through the work of the Fidelity Foundation and the Edward C. Johnson Foundation, you have been a major philanthropic force in Boston. A Trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts, you sponsored New England Begins, the first comprehensive exhibition of 17th century New England handicrafts and domestic artifacts, later to be widely seen on television. Boston University's own program in American and New England Studies has benefited greatly from your support and counsel. You are unmatched in the pursuit of profit for your investors and in the wise and creative applications of profit to the common good.

Archbishop Bernard Francis Law
Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa

From the beginning of your priesthood you have illustrated the derivation of the Latin word for priest, which signifies a builder of bridges. You build bridges not only between man and God, but between people. Boston is the first diocese you have served in which the Catholic population exceeds five percent. In Mississippi you courageously worked for racial justice and ecumenical harmony. In Missouri you continued these concerns and strove with energy and success to renew the parish as the center of Catholic life. Pastor of many flocks, you have made yourself at home in Boston simply by coming here. Standing on the rock of ancient faith, you confront the challenges of a rapidly changing and frequently deteriorating moral order. You have already become not merely the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston, but a pastor to all who live in the Boston area. We welcome you at the start of what we know will be an historic pontificate.

John Joseph Moakley
Doctor of Laws, honoris causa

At a time when the art of governing has fallen into disrepute and almost into disuse, you remind us that politics is a high calling as well as a fine art and that Massachusetts continues to bring forth those worthy of it. When the children of today's graduates take their degrees, a rehabilitated Boston Harbor will stand as abiding testimony to your vision, determination and legislative skill. Through your many-fronted war on arson and accidental fires, you are saving countless homes and lives. Through your leading role in the Massachusetts congressional delegation and in the Rules Committee of the House, you have placed at the service of the entire nation one of the Commonwealth's natural resources.
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

A Philosopher’s Observations on Thought
Brand Blanshard

JUST 30 YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS a young whippersnapper in my 60s, I was taking part in a graduation exercise very different from this in size. A great man of business, Thomas Watson, Sr., head of IBM, was being given an honorary degree, and for a brief time I was thrown into his company. What was an academic, straight from an ivory tower, soundproofed with ivy, to say to a captain of industry? How break the enveloping ice? Suddenly an idea occurred to me that wreathed Mr. Watson’s face with smiles. I told him that, affixed to my study wall at Yale, was the slogan of his company, the single word, “Think!” That injunction was surely as appropriate to a philosopher’s study as in a businessman’s office. When I came to consider what counsel to give you graduates, as you go out into a noisy, infinitely complex world, I could conceive of nothing more to the point than what Mr. Watson and I had agreed was equally essential to philosophy and to business, that injunction, “Think!”

In a sense, to be sure, it is silly advice. We are all thinking incessantly, whether we know it or not, just as surely as Molière’s Monsieur Jourdain had always been talking prose. John Donne said that no man was an island. The strange fact is that each of us is an island, communicating only by thought with every other. Strictly speaking, I have never seen you, or you me. I have heard your mouth making noises and have seen your hands making gestures. But these are not you. I say this in spite of a distinguished colleague at Harvard who is trying to develop a psychology without consciousness, and sometimes sounds as if he had succeeded. If you are happy or angry, that is a state of consciousness, though I can never see or hear it.

But I can and do know it by an act of instant and effortless inference from what you say or do. That is why John Stuart Mill could say that the drawing of inferences was the main business of life.

But of course it is not that kind of thinking that I am commending to you today; you are masters of it already. Nor is it the kind of thinking Freud asked patients to do on the couch in his office. This is called “free association” because, like the famous Irishman who mounted his horse and rode off furiously in all directions at once, it never arrives anywhere. You think first of a brown bear, then of the St. Louis Browns, then of Father Brown the detective, then of Sherlock Holmes, then of Dick Tracy, then of Tracy Austin. That is not thinking. I once read of a farmer who went to the local court asking for a divorce. “What charge,” said the judge, “do you bring against your spouse?” “She talks all the time,” said the plaintiff, “and I can’t get a word in edgewise.” “Well,” said the puzzled judge, “what does she talk about?” “I don’t know,” answered the plaintive plaintiff. “She ain’t never said.” That is not thinking.

Then what is thinking? It is this: a directed effort to reach the truth by solving some particular problem that stands in the way. In its commonest form it has four steps.

The first step is to make the problem specific. The philosopher G.E. Moore used to say that if you had made the problem clear and precise, you had already half solved it. For example, you may be carrying about with you a cloud of worry; you don’t know quite why, or what to do about it. The first thing to do is to delve about in the muddy depths of your mind till you bring to light the nub of the worry. Suddenly it dawns on you. Why of course; you are heavily in debt; it is hanging round your neck like an albatross. You need a new car; you want to marry Susan; but you can’t while carrying the weight.

The second step is to form theories freely of how to rid yourself of that burden. Your problem is now financial, which makes it tough but definite. You can repudiate the whole thing and take off to Canada; you can ask for a deferment; you can confer with Susan, who is one of those astonishingly reasonable modern girls and has a job of her own. You bless her and turn to the third step.

That step is to develop in foresight the consequences of your proposals. The consequence of your first proposal is that you will have Uncle Sam on your trail; of your second, deferment, that your debt will have compounded and that in 10 years, you will be a deadbeat. Your third proposal is probably Susan’s. She may say, “Keep the old flivver; set aside part of your income and mine; and in exactly four and a half years, the albatross will fall off.”

The fourth and final step in thinking is to compare the consequences of your proposals to see which is best in the light of your scheme of life as a whole. When these are clearly set out, you may find the deci-
sion surprisingly easy. Other things equal, you will probably cast your lot with number three. The old devil will still be with you, but so will Susan and your piece of mind.

That is an absurdly simplified pattern of thinking, but it will apply to most of our problems. Life is a succession of big and little crises, and one main aim of education is to supply us with the strategies necessary for dealing with them. Furthermore, dealing with them thoughtfully may become a habit. Indeed my thesis today is that if you have acquired that habit of reasonableness, you will have acquired the best thing that an education can bestow.

"Then what is thinking? It is this: a directed effort to reach the truth by solving some particular problem that stands in the way."

Brand Blanshard

Yet how rare that habit of reasonableness is! We Americans are an impatient, impulsive, excitable and excitement-loving people; we have been described as the Latin branch of the Anglo-Saxon race. In a corner of our living room is a perpetual source of excitement that can be had for nothing, the TV set, and many of us, especially in our teens or our 80s, have become its addicts, preferring passivity to any planned activity. An increasing number of our youth are courting a less meaningful excitement through drugs. An hour, a day, a life ordered by reflective choices strikes them as gray and dull. Genius has become associated in many minds with rakish excess; and it is a curious fact that most American Nobel prizemen in literature have been alcoholics. The British critic Louis Dickinson remarked that modern literature is one vast hospital. For most of us a novel filled with reasonable people would be insupportably flat; and I feel sure that when Time magazine comes out, many readers turn first to the section called "people;" for it is so rich in variegated lunacy. But reasonableness is a much rarer achievement than willfulness and ought to be more interesting.

Rare as it is, I have met men occasionally who have actually embodied it. One of them was a friend and teacher of mine. I spent a far-off summer in Philadelphia with a group of Columbia graduate students, who were trying to find why a community of immigrants was forming a social cyst, largely cut off from the population around them. Our senior member was John Dewey, a great name now in the history of education. His philosophy I could not accept, but he remains in my memory as the most persistently thoughtful person I have known. Almost anything could set him off on a train of thought. He would see an item in the morning paper on something the State Department had done about Poland; that night we would hear him pecking away at his old typewriter, and next morning he would read for us at breakfast an article for the New Republic, pointing out how short-sighted the department had been. He could think in any circumstances. A biographer writes: "By taking an apartment at the corner of Broadway and 56th Street, a fourth-floor apartment fronting on both streets, he managed to surround himself with enough noise so that he could get some thinking done... There were five children rioting about the house during the best years of this philosopher's life. They did not disturb his meditations in the least. As a logician, Dewey [was] at his best with one child climbing up his pants leg and another fishing in his inkwell." (Max Eastman, Heroes I Have Known.) He was so present-minded about what was before his mind that he was absent-minded about what was before his eyes. I have seen him, deep in thought, emerge from his office into the middle of the old philosophy reading room at Columbia, suddenly realize where he was and pad sheepishly back into his office. Indeed he stopped thinking only when his heart stopped beating at 93. His reflection had produced a pile of books and articles 12 feet high.

Of course he was a rare exception. Why is it that, with all the advantages and with the appeal to reason open to most of us, so few people succeed in guiding their way by thought? The true answer is that each of us is a divided self. A person is a bundle of impulses or drives, of which the drive to know is important but feeble, and the others, especially when acting together, are far more powerful. Why more powerful? The answer is biological. In 1973 the biologist Paul McLean pointed out that we have three brains, which are really three levels of one brain. The oldest and most central is what he called the reptilian brain, whose functions include the control of mating, feeding and fighting. Superimposed on this central core is the paleomammalian brain, which is the anatomical base for emotions, such as fear, rage, pleasure and grief. A top this is the cerebral cortex, which came with the primates, and made possible intelligence, foresight and logic.

Now the reason why our impulses to feed and fight, to fear and rage are so hard to control is that their roots are millions of years old in our racial history; the reason why foresight and logic are so feeble in restraining them is that their cortical bases are relatively recent, only a few hundred thousand years old; they are therefore relatively newcomers in the management of behavior. They make the life of reason possible, but they can be blown aside, as Mt. St. Helens blows its surface off when the powers below break loose. Or, as some Freudian has put it, our mind is like a guard standing at a cellar door, which is beaten on from time to time by the sinister occupants of the cellar, a mob of idiots full of sound and fury. If man can keep them in control, he and his race are destined to a career of unimaginable attainment; if he cannot, and the madness in the cellar again takes over, your generation could be the last.

There are those who are telling us that it is taking over already, and that control by mind is losing ground. Look, they say, at the idiotic arms race. Or to take something a little less obvious, look at our education. A college or a university is an institution of higher learning. But many high school graduates who present themselves at college doors cannot properly read, write or count. The SAT, or Scholastic Aptitude Test, prepared by a capable and devoted board of scholars, is a test of one's readiness to begin a higher education. This board found that, beginning in the 1960s, the average score of the applicants went down for 19 consecutive years. Full success on the test...
would earn a score of 800. Last year the average score on the mathematical side was 468, on the verbal side, 425. Some large cities were still worse. One such city, for example, scored 332 on the mathematical side and 306 on the verbal. Neither the knowledge that incites thinking nor the interest in thinking was there.

Again, consider the need for reason in religion. Eighteen states have been contemplating legislation to demand equal time in our schools for the teaching of both "creation science" and scientific evolution. In a closely reasoned decision of two years ago, Judge William Overton of Arkansas denied that "creation science" was science at all. It was essentially an attempt based, not on science, but on a literalist interpretation of the Old Testament, to foist fundamentalism upon schools. It does not go quite so far as Archbishop Ussher of Dublin, who, by adding together the ages of the patriarchs, fixed the creation as occurring on Oct. 21, 4004 B.C. at 9 a.m.; but "creation science" insists on the Garden of Eden, and Adam and Eve, and Noah's flood, and Joshua's successful plea that the sun should stop while he slaughtered a few hundred more Amorites. Many of us had thought that this brand of authoritarian mythology had been drowned in laughter at Dayton, Tenn., in 1925. Jerry Falwell and his millions have shown us that we were wrong.

What will stop this lemming-like mass return to medieval ignorance? The only way I can suggest is to get people to question and think. How do you reconcile the view that the earth is about 6000 years old with the new chemical timing of rocks and meteorites, which shows that it is about 4.5 billion years old? How do you reconcile the view that the race started with Adam and Eve with our store of skulls intermediate between man and animal, and so deposited in the earth's strata as to indicate a long slow ascent? And if the sun suddenly stopped at Joshua's bidding—which must have meant, not that the sun stopped, but that the earth stopped revolving—all people must have been precipitated eastward at about a thou-

him? Try contradicting the law of contradiction and see where you come out. If both sides of a contradiction can be true, then the truth of creationism does not exclude the truth of evolution, and you are not denying it, after all. Indeed you are saying nothing. There is not one rule for thinking in religion and another for science; there is one great honest rule for both: Adjust your belief to the evidence.

I can hear the objections to such teaching. Objection one: "You're an elitist, and an intellectualist; you are trying to hoist the college graduate on to a pedestal, where he stands out above the run of men." To which I answer:

"Why is it that, with all the advantages and with the appeal to reason open to most of us, so few people succeed in guiding their way by thought?"

Brand Blanshard

sand miles an hour and been killed. If that happened, where do we come from?

One cannot pursue this questioning long without perceiving that the proposed authority is to take precedence over the logic of science. We are being asked to accept contradictions of science at countless points. One may fall back on the airy line of Walt Whitman and say: "Do I contradict myself? Very well, then I contradict myself. "So what?" he would add. Well, that "what" is that you have stopped thinking. As the philosopher McTaggart said, "No one ever tried to break logic, but that logic broke

"Exactly" I not only admit the charge; I would drive it home. What is an education for if not to turn out an elite? Not a set of snobs and cad, of course, but minds intellectually disciplined. Don't underrate that roll of paper you receive today from the University. Knowledge and the power to think are too undervalued in this country. If you are not a better citizen, a better man or woman, a better member of society, because of the years you have spent here, then either you or the University has fallen down on the job.

Objection two: "You are preaching
from the wrong text. Instead of ‘Think’ it should be ‘the ice man cometh! You want us to be intellectualists, full of prunes and prisms, with ice water in our veins instead of red blood, and to repress the feeling, impulsive, desiring beings you have just admitted that we are.” Answer: not so. There is a deep divide between the intellectualist and the intellectual. The intellectualist does not run to head like an onion; he is only half a man; let him play his abstract games if he will. The intellectual, as Plato said, is a charioteer whose business it is to drive the powerful horses of feeling and impulse; and only as he applies the bit and rein judiciously will they ever carry him to his goal. Thought is no enemy of feeling; indeed it may itself be driven by a passion for truth, as it was in Einstein, for example, and in his favorite philosopher, Spinoza. What the true intellectual despises is not feeling, but feeling out of control. That excellent English critic F.L. Lucas says, “Imagine the greatest man you can think of, in a bad temper, does he still, at the moment, seem great? No. Not even were he Alexander. Real greatness implies balance and restraint.”

Objection three, the Hamlet objection: “You are saying, ‘Look and think before you leap.’ But the man who does that will probably not leap at all. ‘. . . the native hue of resolution is sicklied o’er with the pale cast of thought.’” Answer: That may in rare cases be true. Taking thought may end in being a magwump, defined as being a bird who just sits on the fence, with his mug on one side and his wump on the other. But if we are all, as in fact we are, little volcanoes, with impulses ready to erupt, and with thought a feeble restraint, then more authority we can give to thought the better. I have not heard of an American jailed for being too thoughtful; but our jails are full of people who are there because they surrendered to impulse before they took thought.

I have been speaking of thought on practical problems, but we must remember that the great masters of thought had access to two worlds at once, the world of eternal truths and the world of common sense. The founder of that line was Socrates, who first showed to the race what condor flights of speculation the human intellect could rise to, and yet, homely as an old shoe, was a stonemason himself, at home with soldiers and sailors, farmers and carpenters. The modern Socrates was, I think, Albert Einstein.

Einstein was three men: one, the man with an old sweater and baggy trousers who stood on a Princeton street corner eating an ice cream cone or helped a little schoolgirl who had heard that he was good at figures; two, the physicist who pursued to the end that revolutionary trail of thought that ended in the tiny formula $E = mc^2$, energy equals mass times the square of the speed of light; and three, the postwar Einstein, who dedicated himself to saving the world which he saw his formula might destroy. His argument was simple and, I think, unanswerable. Nuclear knowledge is spreading in a world of international anarchy. In the past, such anarchy has always produced war. It will again, and this time will destroy civilization unless the bomb can be contained. It can be contained only in one of two ways, by its agreed-upon destruction by all the nations that own it, or by its agreed-upon consigning into the hands of a World Government. Einstein did not know whether reason would outrun death; he did feel sure, according to report, that if there were a fourth world war, it would be fought by savages with bows and arrows.

Men like Socrates and Einstein are what William James called “quarto and folio editions of mankind.” You and I are paperbacks. Still, paperbacks vary in quality. When William Howard Taft was once addressing a graduating class, he said: “Some of you, I notice, are graduating cum laude; others magna cum laude, a few summa cum laude. I graduated mirabilis dictu.” All of us could say, like Taft, that we graduated “wonderful to say”; it is not our doing that we were born in a land where a university education was open to us. But with this degree in hand, new worlds are possible, and whether they will be realized depends on you. Each one of us is unique, and life is one long experiment in self-discovery.

Be your unique self. Leonard Bernstein has said: “The great danger threatening us . . . is the takeover of mediocrity,” and Bertrand Russell has added, “Never try to discourage thinking, for you are sure to succeed.” Democracy and distinction are subtly at war with each other. The pressure of the media and the shrinking of the world are casting our minds into moulds. The route to escape is through thought. By taking thought, we can choose our own media, select our own music, create our mental environment; we can surround ourselves with the best that has been thought and said in the world. I don’t mean the best sellers, which may be here today and gone tomorrow, but the classics, defined as “works that are contemporary with every age.”

That is why my last word to you is: Whenever you choose a vocation or a spouse, a party or a candidate, a cause to contribute to or a creed to live by—Think!
Ron Nicynski remembers vividly that he and his father had little in common. Now he wants to be a friend as well as a father to his two boys. Paul Knause grew up in an orphanage. Today he is a single parent who feels you have to believe in yourself before you can raise children. Art Webber has never met his toddler daughter. But he volunteers his time teaching children to read in the hope he’ll be prepared for fatherhood when his time comes.

Nicynski, Knause and Webber are three men who would just as soon discuss their children as they would their golf games or their businesses. They are among a new breed of men who are not satisfied to be just breadwinners. They share a strong commitment to parenting, but like many men, they also share a lack of orientation to the role.

In the 1970s, Ronald F. Levant, a clinical associate professor at Boston University observed that in all the research on parenting, fathers were never mentioned. In fact some studies indicated that the father’s role in parenting was “inappropriate.” The roles of father as provider and mother as nurturer were very well ingrained. “Parenting was synonymous with mothering,” said Levant. The problem was however, that economics and the women’s movement forced more and more mothers into the workplace and, consequently strained their traditional parenting role. And the persons most appropriate to share the burden of child raising, the fathers, were not well prepared for the responsibilities.

In 1979, Levant matched two groups of families with similar demographic backgrounds. One set of 11 fathers was taught various communication skills while the other 11 men served as a control group. The results showed that the children of the fathers who learned the skills found their dads more understanding after they took the course.

In fact, Levant’s study showed that the whole family benefited when the fathers learned parenting skills. The women were relieved to have their husbands more involved with the children because it took some pressure off them. The fathers, Levant believes, developed a new way of thinking about family relationships. And perhaps most importantly the children found positive changes in their relationships with their fathers.

Armed with that research, Levant asked Boston University to establish a non-credit class for fathers. The “Fatherhood Project” opened its doors last September at a cost of $200 for the eight week program. Housed at the School of Education, the initial fall course graduated 12 fathers, and six fathers recently completed the spring program.

The men enrolled were “physicians, attorneys, laborers and businessmen,” said Levant, who teaches the course with Gregory F. Doyle, a family therapy supervisor at Kennedy Memorial Hospital for Children. Half the men were married and half were single parents with full or joint custody or visitation rights. What they had in common was their interest in better caring, communicating and involvement with their children.

“They were looking for different things,” Levant said. “Some said, ‘I don’t feel part of the family. I’m at work all day and when I come home, we eat, watch television and it’s time to go to bed. They wanted more of a relationship’

Overall, men want to be more active in child-rearing, Levant said. But family socialization and formal education haven’t prepared them to become fathers. “They are not trained to deal with either children or feelings,” he observed. “Women are better prepared to deal with kids. For the most part, they have not been socialized to be achievers. They are encouraged to develop sensibility and interpersonal skills.”

This role indoctrination starts in childhood. The toys and games for boys are external, noted Levant. Girls on the other hand, are systematically trained to care for others. “They talk about jobs, sports or money. Talking about children is something unique. Once they do it, however, they don’t feel so isolated.” In the final analysis, Levant believes, “men need to learn how to parent.”

Certainly program graduates Paul Knause, Ron Nicynski and Art Webber each believed they needed lessons in the subject.

In Nicynski’s case his wife, Dorothea, retired from the practice of law to raise Ron, Jr., 3 and Joseph, 2. Nicynski believed he should show his kids at least that much love. He remembered, “My dad and I did not have a lot in common. We didn’t see eye to eye in talk. I want to be a friend to my sons, not just a father.”

Being the breadwinner is not enough

The Emerging Father

Gail Ciampa
OVERALL, MEN WANT TO be more active in child-rearing, Levant said. But family socialization and formal education haven’t prepared them to become fathers.

The lack of role models is something Levant has found typical in father/son relationships and is heavily discussed in the “Fatherhood Project.” Levant points out that he has yet to find a man who is satisfied with his relationship with his own father. And while it is a handicap not to have had that model, it also seems to be an impetus behind the quest to be a better father. “The men are trying to change to benefit the next generation,” said Levant.

Nicynski’s wife enrolled him in the “Fatherhood Project” as a Christmas present. And if there is one thing he learned from his fathering education, it was to look his children in the eye and to listen to them. He said his oldest son talks more to him because he looks him straight in the face.

Such skills come naturally to his wife, he added. But he had to develop them. “You have to work at being a parent. Listen to your children. Don’t always be on the run,” he said. “People think it’s easier than it is,” Nicynski continued. “But being a good parent is hard work.”

Winchester’s Paul Knause will also tell you of the work involved in parenting. But his is a different kind of chore. He doesn’t share the daily labor of love with his wife. He is a divorced father with custody of sons Douglas, 13, and Andrew, 10.

When Knause’s marriage dissolved five years ago, he very much wanted custody of his sons. But he had to prove to the courts his ability to provide a better life for them. Granted sole custody of his children two years ago, he enrolled in the “Fatherhood Project,” looking for answers to the day-to-day challenge of single-parenting.

For Knause, communication was at the heart of the matter. What he learned from his fathering education was that “You have to look at children as people. Children have to be heard. And what is being communicated might not always be verbal.”

Because Knause, an investment counselor, was raised in an orphanage, he had no father image to follow in the raising of his children. While that fact may have made it more difficult for him to pave a path of fathering, he thinks it could have been a positive force. Either way, he does not fall back on his history as an excuse for anything he does or doesn’t do as a father. “It’s just too easy to become a parent,” said Knause. “And society doesn’t value parenting enough.”

Mother/Fatherhood and Apple Pie

Fathers are showing an increased interest in parenthood. They’ve had to, according to Ronald P. Levant, director of Boston University’s “Fatherhood Project.” With increasing numbers of women entering the workforce, the burden of holding full-time jobs in the workplace and the home is simply too much for one person.

While the mutual efforts of both spouses seems the obvious solution, husbands have not always been cooperative. “Old habits die hard,” noted Elizabeth Markson, research associate professor in the Department of Sociology. “The pattern has been for the mother to go out to work and do the traditional home duties. In other words, she makes breakfast, gets the kids to school, goes to work, comes home, cleans the house, makes dinner and gets the kids to bed.”

Indeed, past studies showed that husbands usually contributed one and a half hours per day to family work, compared to wives’ eight hours per day. In the 1970s when wives took more outside jobs, statistics indicated that the husbands’ participation increased by only six minutes per day, according to Levant. Although working wives correspondingly decreased their daily housework to about four hours, it was clear that in a decade of fast-changing roles husbands were not making the adjustment at home.

Today, however, “husbands are adjusting the amount of time they spend in child care and other family duties,” noted Levant. In families with two working parents, he added, the responsibilities in the home are being shared more equally.

With both parents sharing more equally in domestic chores, how are mothers reacting to their changing roles? Levant said his own study of wives whose husbands were involved in the “Fatherhood Project” indicated that—contrary to suspicions that mothers might be jealous of fathers nudging in on their territory—most women welcomed their husbands’ increased involvement. In fact, the wives typically reported an enhanced sense of cohesion in the family and found there was more free time for the two adults to be together.

J.Q.
ized that the first quality of a good father is that "he must know who he is. It's a wonderful thing to have kids worship you. You realize how much of an influence you are on them. But, when you know someone is looking up to you, you must know who you are."

An unconfused person is the best parent, he continued. "A child is a sponge for knowledge and a sponge for learning. Parents must be aware of the influence they are bestowing. Children will see whatever their parents are."

The “Fatherhood Project” focuses on developing the parental skills referred to by Nicynski, Knause and Webber. Not surprising, communication is foremost on the list.

Parents build a relationship on communication, Levant explained. He shows the men how they may be failing. For example, he asks whether they stand over their child when talking or talk to their children from behind a newspaper. Do they watch television while talking and focus on the set rather than the child? Those are poor habits to have and they hinder communication.

“We need to look someone in the eyes when we talk,” said

"IT'S A WONDERFUL THING TO have kids worship you. You realize how much of an influence you are on them. But when someone is looking up to you, you must know who you are."

ART WEBBER

Levant. This eye contact and the idea of “squaring off” or placing yourself directly in front of the child when speaking, are essential lessons in the “Fatherhood Project.” Levant uses role-playing to demonstrate these ideas to the men. Each session begins with a short lecture on the skill of the evening. Role-playing by the session leaders follows and then the men talk about what they have observed.

This leads to a discussion of things that a child might say and what a good response would be. For example, what happens when a child comes home and says, “I feel dumb. All the other kids at school are smarter.” A father might answer, “Come on, you can do it.” But a much better response would be, “You’re feeling discouraged, aren't you?” That answer would encourage a child to discuss his feelings further.

The fathers playact such situations to work out the best way to handle the problem. Levant tapes the sessions to help the players see the interaction. And the men are also given homework from a workbook entitled Parent Education for Fathers. Generally, the homework involves thinking through the ideas discussed in the classroom. Most assignments require an activity between the father and child. Then the father is asked to keep a diary of what happened.

The first four sessions focus on communication skills. They include: attention—learning to communicate depends on being able to give your attention to another person; listening—to what is being said; and responding—to understand how the other person feels about what he is telling you.

The last four sessions are designed to increase the fathers' awareness of themselves. The sessions focus on self-awareness because children are perceptive and if you say or do things contrary to what you’re feeling, a child may lose faith in you. Genuine is examined because learning “I messages” rather than “you messages,” which tend to place blame on the other person, can change statements from “You didn't come home on time!” to “I get frightened when you are late because I think something may have happened to you!” “You messages,” on the other hand, put the child automatically on the defensive. Finally, the men talk about acceptance, because feelings don’t always make sense and you need to think before you act.

Levant said they also discuss what really bothers the fathers about their children. For example, does the child continually refuse to go to bed? Together, they look at whether the behavior is really that awful. They question if the problem is the father’s or the child’s. This kind of discussion is essential. It’s getting men to talk about kids for perhaps the first time in their lives.

Studies show that, psychologically, a man’s home life is more important to him than the workplace. Levant said, The men in the “Fatherhood Project” prove that to be true. They are willing to spend money and time to be better fathers. And although there are no studies on the effects of increased father participation on children, if these men are reflective of a new breed of father, then it wouldn’t be surprising to also find a new breed of children with a more balanced outlook on life.

RONALD F. LEVANT is a clinical associate professor in the School of Education’s Program in Counseling Psychology, and is director of the “Fatherhood Project.”
IT IS SAID THAT ALEXANDER THE Great, who ruled the Greek empire some 2300 years ago, once told his son that the boy was the most powerful person in the world. Surprised, the boy replied, "How can that be?" "Because," answered the father, "I command the strongest army in the world, your mother commands me and you command your mother."

While the anecdote may be mythical, it reminds us that relationships within the family can be both complex and paradoxical—irrespective of time and culture. Equally important, the story points out the unexpected gender roles that can arise within the family.

Indeed, recent findings by researchers in Boston University's Department of Psychology revealed a number of unexpected differences—and in some cases similarities—in roles and attitudes held by men, women, boys and girls within the family. For example, women who described themselves as having masculine traits such as assertiveness and competitiveness were found to have husbands who were more satisfied with their marriages than the husbands of women who did not describe themselves this way. This finding contradicts the stereotypical view that husbands are happiest with feminine, submissive wives.

In parenting, the researchers were not surprised to find "enormous differences" in roles assumed by mothers and fathers, with mothers doing much more of the caretaking (feeding, cleaning-up, dressing, etc.). They were surprised, however, to find that when fathers did assume caretaking roles, their ability to caretake was similar to that of mothers.

From the children's perspective, given that mothers do the majority of caretaking, it was no surprise to find both boys and girls saw major differences in the roles played by their fathers and mothers. Boys did not differ from girls, however, in their views of how their parents treated them. This contradicted earlier studies that suggested fathers impress different roles on their sons and daughters.

The Boston University researchers will discuss these findings and more in a symposium they will present this October for the National Council on Family Relations. Their symposium will consist of four research papers addressing the theme, "The Meaning of Gender in Families and Family Research." As the title implies, the researchers are interested not only in male and female roles in the family, but also in family research. Because more women are attracted to family research than men, both as psychologists and as subjects, "the gender of both the researchers and the subjects may have influenced many studies," noted Associate Professor Kathleen M. White, who will co-author the paper on gender effects in family research.

Studying the roles of gender in family relationships is important for a variety of reasons, explained Professor Joseph C. Speisman, chairman of the symposium. He pointed out that because differences in sex roles are most powerfully experienced in the family, children's exposure to roles played by family members can have an important influence on how they later accept or reject sex role definitions. In addition, "We know that the family structure is in serious difficulty, at least in terms of the divorce rate and custody issues, so to study gender and family relationships is one way of getting a perspective on why things go awry."

One unique aspect of the symposium is that the four papers being presented are based on three independent studies conducted within the Department of Psychology. All the studies involved family research, and all were longitudinal with subjects being studied over several years. The Pregnancy and Parenthood project, conducted by Professor Frances K. Grossman, looked at "basically normal" middle class families with pregnant mothers; the Family Relationships project, conducted by White and Speisman, studied the maturity of the closest relationships of young adults; and the Family Changes project, conducted by Abigail J. Stewart and Anne P. Copeland, looked at families undergoing marital separation, within eight months of the initial separation and again a year later. It was only recently, however, that the scientists decided to isolate the role of gender in family relationships and base a symposium on the concept.

The advantage of this cross-study approach, said Speisman, is that "you get at least three different versions in response to the same question." And when the three versions all agree, "It gives you an almost immediate sense of validity." Associate Professor Stewart agreed and pointed out that the projects were not only developed and conducted independently, but looked at different...
MARRIAGE AND GENDER

The findings that women who described themselves as having masculine characteristics also have husbands who are more satisfied with their marriages are, and yet are not, surprising to Grossman, who will co-author the views of the marriage paper with Speisman and Daryl Costos, a research associate. It is a surprise, she said, if you think of the traditional, happy marriage as having “the sweet mommy who stays at home and is feminine.” On the other hand, she said that masculinity—defined in our culture by such traits as competence and self-confidence—may be an indication of good mental health. “It may be that these women are simply sturdier, and sure, they’re going to have better marriages.”

Grossman emphasized, however, that there was no statistical relationship between women who described themselves as having masculine traits and their own satisfaction with their marriage. But she added that “What’s most interesting about the data, which we’re just beginning to get a handle on, is that if you want to know how satisfied men are with their marriages, in some ways what you look at is their wives, rather than at the men themselves.”

In another measure of men’s and women’s views of their marriage, the researchers found husbands and wives have different notions of how much time they spend together. When asked to describe their physical closeness, wives described this and time spent together as being greater than the husbands. Grossman said the wives meant this in a positive way, and Speisman agreed, theorizing that the reason may be because our culture provides women to be more inclined to affiliation or a sense of connectedness, while men are more associated with autonomy. Grossman and her associates, however, have not found such gender differences in their preliminary data. Speisman suggested the reason for the apparent lack of gender difference may be that the terms have different meanings for men and women. “The data may represent different ways in which men and women construe their worlds, or what’s important to them.”

MOTHERS AND FATHERS

The enormous difference seen in parenting roles assumed by mothers and fathers was expected. Grossman, who will co-author the paper on gender differences in parenting with Assistant Professor Copeland, hypothesized that cultural influences may be a major reason why mothers assume most of the caretaking. Mothers tend to be more responsive to children’s needs, she said, because they have a socially ingrained concept of what mothering is and how they should do it.

“Women grow up with a clearly defined role of what mothering is,” Grossman explained. “It’s very important for their self-esteem and they have a concept of what doing it well means.” She added that “For fathers, the role is much more vague—whether or not they have to do it, and if they have to do it, how much they do it and what ‘well’ means.” She noted that because fathers have not had a cultural indoctrination of caretaking roles, when they do assume the task, fathers tend to react more to the child and the situation, rather than learned concepts.

Despite the observed differences in who assumes caretaking, few differences were found in ability or quality of caretaking when fathers were compared with mothers. “It’s not that men can’t do it,” said Grossman. “It’s a question of who chooses to do the caretaking.”

Grossman said her most surprising finding was the way in which depressed mothers can affect a male child’s development. She explained that while it is known that depression in mothers is bad for children, her study showed that for some boys, “the more depressed and upset the mothers were in the first year after birth, the better off the boys were.” The reason, suggested Grossman, may be that fathers know enough to adopt a more dominant parenting role when the situation warrants it. The boys, in turn, react positively to the increased attention from their fathers.

Grossman and Copeland said that despite past research suggesting the contrary, all of the researchers’ studies showed few differences in the way parents treated their sons as opposed to their daughters. One of the few exceptions was that some fathers were found to be more attentive to first-born sons. Grossman explained that such preferential treatment may result from a father’s initial excitement of having a son with whom he can identify.

RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE FAMILY

The family can be both complex and paradoxical, irrespective of time and culture. Equally important, unexpected gender roles can arise within the family.
THE CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCE

The way children experience gender roles within the family can affect their later roles and attitudes according to Stewart. "When kids are in a two-parent family, they'd given a tremendous amount of information about what men and women are like by looking at their mothers and fathers. And that information may or may not be true." Co-author Copeland added that many children draw faulty conclusions, not only because of their biased, limited experience but because society and gender roles are in a state of transition.

Both researchers noted that their most significant finding so far agrees with a conclusion to be made in the paper on gender differences in parenting. That is, although boys and girls perceived that their fathers and mothers had very different roles in the family, boys and girls also felt that the parents treated them equally. This finding showed up in all three studies, and Stewart commented, "That's something I now feel really confident about."

Another interesting finding, noted Stewart, is that children do not necessarily identify exclusively with the parent of their own gender. When children were asked how much they identified with their parents, not which one did they identify with more, but how much they identified with them individually, the children reported equal levels of identification with both parents. "It's likely that children identify with different things in their parents," said Stewart, "but the data suggest that kids do not simply, in some monolithic way, identify entirely with the parent of the same sex."

FAMILY RESEARCH

It makes sense that, amidst all the research efforts to uncover the roles of gender in family relationships, the researchers should look at their own roles to see if gender influences their work. For White, it has made sense for a long time. "I'm convinced that men and women look at issues differently, and that male and female psychologists look at issues differently," she said. "If you're going to look at gender differences, you've got to have members of both genders doing it collaboratively if you really want to make sense of the data."

True to her word, White has collaborated for a number of years with Speisman in their research project studying the relationships of young adults. In addition, she will co-author the paper on gender effects in family research with two male colleagues, Joseph M. Healy, Jr., from the Department of Psychology, and William S. Pollack, from the Harvard Medical School.

White believes that in studying family relationships, gender roles can influence the research process from beginning to end. Pointing out that female psychologists are generally more interested in family research than male psychologists, she lamented.

"WE KNOW THAT THE family structure is in serious difficulty, at least in terms of the divorce rate and custody issue, so to study gender and family relationships is one way of getting a perspective on why things go awry."

JOSPEH C. SPEISMAN

"For all of the family projects, it's been hard work to recruit males, while the females are very interested in studying the family." In addition, she said that the men she does manage to recruit tend to drop out of the projects sooner than the women. "I always have to scrounge. I feel as though I spent the whole three-year project training new male interviewers."

Even when family research teams are composed of both men and women, White said differences in male and female interviewing techniques can influence results. For example, in her own project White has observed that the male researchers always finished their interviews before the female researchers, even though both used the same interview schedule. Because the interviewers were allowed to ask optional follow-up questions when the subjects' responses seemed incomplete, White suggested that female interviewers may have probed deeper than the males—possibly because women are more comfortable with discussing family issues.

The gender of research subjects used in family research can also influence study results, said White. As with male interviewers, White has found that male subjects tended to drop out of her family research project sooner than female subjects. "And the males who did stay were most likely to be married to females in the study," she added. "Some of them would even say, 'Well I don't know if I would have come back if my wife hadn't dragged me.'"

ONE UNIQUE ASPECT OF the symposium is that the four papers being presented are based on three independent studies conducted within the Department of Psychology.

White related an anecdote that illustrates how family research can be influenced by gender differences in subjects before the project even begins. She explained that her first advertisement in the Boston Globe for volunteers for a family study drew almost all women. When she changed the wording of the advertisement headline from "Family Research: If you're interested in participating in a study of family relationships of young adults..." to "Young Adults: If you're interested in participating in a study of the relationships of young adults...", she received "many, many more male respondents." Consequently, if she had not run the revised advertisement, the gender of subjects could have influenced the whole research process before she recorded one piece of datum.

The major purpose of the paper, said White, will be to suggest that researchers need to be more aware of how the gender of subjects and researchers can affect the research process. "If we're not sensitive to these issues," she said, "we may be misinterpreting our findings, or we may not be finding things we think we are finding."

While many of the findings discussed so far are backed by solid data, all of the researchers pointed out that much analysis and interpretation are yet to be done before the symposium papers are ready for the family relations conference in October. "Right now we feel confident about certain kinds of results that we're reporting," said Speisman, "but we'll know better how they come together this fall, when we make our presentation."
Innovations such as the radio telescope, the satellite and the space probe have expanded the field of astronomy. These days only computers can be trusted to chart the heavens. And new discoveries are being made at such a phenomenal rate that our astronomical knowledge is in a constant state of flux.

This wasn’t always the case. Before the advent of the telescope, the early astronomers had only their eyes to observe the skies. A source of endless fascination, the heavens were the basis of their mythology, religion and scientific speculation. Consequently, it’s not surprising that some of our earliest visual images are astronomical illustrations.

By the 16th century, descriptive astronomy began to flourish and advanced to an art form. The introduction of the printing press, coupled with escalating astronomical discoveries, led to the production of celestial charts and maps that served as a viable record of the new information. According to Michael Mendillo, associate dean of the Graduate School and professor of Astronomy, “This was also a time of vast global exploration. Everyone who returned from the latest voyage of discovery was charting the earth. It seems natural that they were also charting the heavens.”

For the last 10 years, Mendillo has been researching and collecting these early celestial maps. And next year, the Boston University Art Gallery will sponsor an exhibition highlighting his collection of maps from the 17th and 18th century. This marks the first time Mendillo’s collection will be exhibited and the first time these celestial images will serve as the basis of a gallery show. “There have been analogous scientific exhibitions at the Smithsonian,” said guest curator Patricia Burnham, GRS’84, “But astronomical charts as art objects per se have never previously been exhibited.”

The exhibition, which is scheduled to run January 23 through February 24, 1985, will feature 20 objects from the Mendillo collection, including a first edition of the *Harmonia Macrocosmica seu Atlas Universalis et Novus* by Andreas Cellarius.

Little is known about Andreas Cellarius, the 17th century Dutch cartographer, but he produced some of the most beautiful celestial maps in the history of astronomical representation. His magnum opus was *Harmonia Macrocosmica*, published in Amsterdam in 1660, a general description of astronomical phenomena at that time. “Planispharium Braheum” (above) depicts the solar and planetary system according to Tycho Brahe and is one of the illustrated plates in the volume.

Photograph: Dwight Primiano
(Amsterdam, 1661). A comprehensive description of then-existing astronomical data and theory, the bound atlas is one of only four known to exist in this country and will be the centerpiece of the exhibit. An additional 30 pieces, selected by Burnham, will be gathered from outside sources to broaden the exhibit including several three-dimensional pieces such as an early cometarium (used to track comets), an orrery (outline of the planetary system) and two celestial globes.

The charts serve as a classic example of the interface between art and science. "When Newton explained why Copernicus' system worked," noted Mendillo, "with the sun in the center and the planets revolving around it, it became a new 'gospel.' Just as any gospel is recorded in exquisite fashion in the Bible, the astronomical gospels appeared in their exquisite volumes and charts that defined the current knowledge about the universe." Because that knowledge didn't change very rapidly, he added, the mapmakers could spend a great deal of time making their charts works of art.

Each map and chart reflects the scientific knowledge of its day. The time and care that went into embellishing each one, however, is now a lost art.

After the discovery of the telescope, it became increasingly difficult to map the stars on flat pieces of paper. And as the detection system advanced, it became impossible to chart all the stars that telescopes could see. "What happened to astronomy," said Mendillo, "is that it came of age in terms of cataloging the occupants of the heavens, but it lost all its charm and beauty as it advanced to photographic atlases."

The maps that appear on these pages are all part of the Mendillo collection and will be featured in the exhibit next year. The craftsmanship and design evident in each one goes beyond just transmitting information. As Mendillo noted, "They're almost a celebration of that information."

Augsburg lawyers Johann Bayer (1572–1625) and Julius Schiller (d. 1627) were both responsible for the publication of astronomical atlases. Bayer's Uranometria (1603) contained 48 maps of the Ptolemyan constellations as defined in Graeco-Roman times. He formulated the system by which stars are located in the night sky, and present day astronomers still see Bayer's nomenclature. Schiller's atlas, Coelum Stellatum Christianum (1627) represented an original and innovative reformulation of the ancient constellation system. Schiller decided to Christianize the heavens, and for every creature from pagan mythology, substituted a Christian hero or Catholic saint. The custom did not spread, but it was fully reflective of the counter-reformation tradition of the 17th century. Illustrated here are the Orion figure from Bayer (opposite top) and its Christian counterpart from Schiller."
At the turn of the century, the financial magnate A.P. Giannini founded the Bank of Italy, which is now the Bank of America. A visionary, Giannini wanted to create a bank for all people, a bank that would get the people to take their money out of the mattresses and put it into the economy. His solution was branch banking, a novel concept that quickly outdated the symbolic, but ominous downtown institutions.

Giannini built 1100 branch offices. And his successful ethic of service to the customer was followed for decades by faith in management. In recent years, however, there’s been a radical overhaul in all financial services. The banking world has become particularly complicated. Passbook savings books are relics of the past. Companies such as Merrill Lynch, American Express and Sears Roebuck have entered the field and the separation between investment banking, commercial banking, insurance and broker has been eliminated. Probably the most dramatic effect on the banking world, however, has been the introduction of electronics into what was formerly a paper-driven business.

Although the future of banking is electronic, many institutions, such as the Bank of America, have not been prepared for the impact. As a result, these banks have run into a strong internal roadblock—their own corporate culture. To remedy the situation, they have turned to corporate culture consultants to help them evaluate who they are and where they should be in order to survive in the rapidly changing financial world.

Stanley M. Davis, research professor at Boston University’s School of Management, specializes in corporate culture. His research has become an important tool, not only for banks but for American business in general. A self-described “organizational clinician,” Davis has worked primarily, but not exclusively, with financial institutions and high-tech companies for the last six years. And in the fall, he will publish the results of his research in his fifth book Managing Corporate Culture, distributed through Ballinger Publishing Company.
Organizations are increasingly analyzing their own cultures for answers to contemporary business problems.

Cornerstone

Davis was the consultant Bank of America called on for help about two years ago when they were about to embark on a new "back to basics" strategy. "Bank of America has always seesawed with Citibank for the number one position," said Davis. "Citibank, however, is the most technologically developed of all financial corporations. Bank of America, on the other hand, has a very different culture with regard to technology, one that was not compatible to the new world of electronic banking." One of the core values that was hindering Bank of America, Davis found, was that the leadership considered the bank the industry leader rather than a technology leader. Similar to IBM's attitude toward personal computers, Bank of America assumed that "a smaller firm would develop the technology and then the industry leader, because of its scale, would use that technology and rapidly catch up and surpass the technology leader."

Davis urged Bank of America to put technology foremost among its values. One of his other recommendations was to communicate the bank's principles more openly, and the institution has since published them in "Vision, Values and Strategies." Previously, such information would have been reserved for only the top executives. But, Davis is convinced that the dissemination of such important information is a very positive step. "Strategy has power and when every employee, every shareholder and every customer can tell you what the strategies are in their own language, then it becomes very powerful," he said. "The key to success is having each person understand how his/her relationship to that organization is part of the enactment of the strategy."

Corporate Culture: Fad or Integral Component

Implementation of a new strategy is only one of many instances where a corporation decides to hire an expert such as Davis. Sometimes, as in Bank of America's case, management realizes that they need to make adjustments in response to changes in the market. In another case, a company may be on the verge of adopting a new identity, such as going from a product-oriented organization to a marketing-oriented one, and they need to know if their culture will help or hinder their success. In a case such as Wang's, where Davis is currently working, managers need to find a way to deal with phenomenal growth while maintaining their identity. Companies at the other end of the life cycle often need
help when they lay off people and violate the cherished value of full employment.

"In any case, managers can sense when something is not right," explained Davis. "They know it doesn't have to do with their products or their markets or their financing or some other straight-forward business issue. They have the feeling that it has to do with 'the way things are around here.'"

In recent years, however, corporate culture has become a buzz word. Davis relayed a colleague's comments that "Five years ago, managers thought corporate culture meant yogurt." "Five years from now," Davis maintains, "either the fad will be over or a basic element will have been added to the managers' repertoires."

The reasons for the current emphasis on corporate culture are many. The state of the economy, the influx of new technologies and the rise of foreign competition have put a heavy strain on American business. And the management concepts and approaches that were born in this country have come under attack.

The basic problem, according to Davis, is that we're "using the wrong models for managing most of the corporations in our society." The Alfred Sloan/General Motors model of self-competition doesn't work any more because we are no longer operating in an industrial economy. "The United States now has a post-industrial, service-based economy," noted Davis. "Unfortunately, we are still using the same industrial models." While business is casting around for new models, however, they are looking toward corporate culture to offer insight on the matter.

"Strategy has power and when every employee, every shareholder and every customer can tell you what the strategies are in their own language, then it becomes very powerful."

PROFESSOR STAN DAVIS

The key to the success of a corporation, however, lies with the guiding beliefs. A company must have a sound foundation on which to base its actions. The overriding factor of success is faithful adherence to those beliefs. And Davis' premise is that if an organization wants to overcome the challenges of a changing world, it must be prepared to change everything about itself except those beliefs.

Although profit is the generally accepted by-product of success, it is also tied to the guiding beliefs, according to Davis. The reason is that resources are always allocated in relationship to the company's purpose. "Profit is to a corporation what health is to an individual," he noted. "You can't survive without it, but it's not the reason you exist. A corporation's guiding beliefs or vision are why it exists. And profit is a measurement of how well or how poorly the corporation is executing its stated vision."

Guiding beliefs are sometimes stated and sometimes not. In very large corporations, however, they are usually very succinct. Caterpillar, for example, has a statement, "Any part, anywhere in the world within 24 hours." At IBM, they follow Thomas Watson, Sr.'s legacy of service and respect for the individual. Coca-Cola, said Davis, had a guiding belief that they never made public. The phrase was "within arm's length of desire," and what it meant was that a soft drink was an impulse purchase and if you can put the product within an arm's length of the impulse, then it will be consumed. That's why you started seeing Coca-Cola signs everywhere in the 1950s, he added.

The daily beliefs indicate how well or how poorly the company's vision is carried out in the workplace. And if the guiding beliefs state what the company should or wants to be, the daily beliefs are the manifestation of what the company is now and has been in the past.

Guiding beliefs are statements of what the company stands for, its identity, ethos or vision. Daily beliefs, on the other hand, deal with the culture that happens around the water cooler.

The reasons for the current emphasis on corporate culture are many. The state of the economy, the influx of new technologies and the rise of foreign competition have put a heavy strain on American business.
Deciphering corporate culture is tedious and time-consuming, usually taking more than a year to complete, from initial investigation to recommendations and implementation.

**Putting Your Hand in A Cloud**

Deciphering corporate culture, according to Davis, is “deceptively simple.” The process, nonetheless, is tedious and time-consuming, usually taking more than a year to complete from initial investigation to recommendations and implementation. The first phase is to interview the top leadership in a corporation, which usually numbers about two dozen. The interviews are one-on-one and usually last an hour and a half each. From these senior executives, Davis gets the “guts of the business,” a fundamental idea of what the place stands for.

For his purposes, Davis confines his research to these top personnel, at first, because they are the ones who formulate and execute the company’s guiding beliefs. They are also the ones usually more willing to discuss corporate strategy than their lower level counterparts. “In general, lower and middle level managers are far more scared, sensitive and secretive about the information that they consider the jewels of the company,” said Davis. Invariably, the “bosses are much more open. They go golfing with their competition and share that supposedly ‘secret’ information.”

Davis then analyzes the data and presents what he considers “the problem” to the leadership. “The acid test,” he noted, “is whether or not they agree that I’ve captured the culture of the organization.” Davis then points out the inadequacies and the inequities of the culture in regard to the business, the strategy and the market.

> **Profit is to a corporation what health is to an individual.**
> **You can’t survive without it, but it’s not the reason you exist. A corporation’s guiding beliefs or vision are why it exists.”**

**Professor Stan Davis**

In the end Davis presents the corporation with a matrix that charts cultural risk. This 3x3 chart ranks how important each action is to the success of the strategy and how compatible each action is with the daily culture. The degree of cultural risk depends on these two factors. The smaller the gap, the less the risk. And any changes that are plotted higher in strategic importance than in cultural compatibility are deemed unacceptable.

Once Davis completes his analysis, management has four choices. They can simply ignore the culture; they can manage around the culture by changing the implementation plan; they can try to change the culture to fit the strategy; or they can try to change the strategy to fit the culture.

Once top management decide what will be the most appropriate approach, the next step is to “roll it out to the organization.” This is where the daily beliefs—internal recruiting, developing personnel, compensating, etc. are brought into line with the new approach. And it is at this level that implementing corporate principles can run into several snags. Davis has outlined 10 pitfalls, all tied to the companies daily beliefs that can hinder enactment of the strategy. He believes that these pitfalls will prevent management from enacting their strategy if not attended to. For example, the pitfall Davis terms “the non-event” occurs when top management make a big announcement of a new strategy and then do not follow through. The most potentially dangerous pitfall, he noted, however, is cynicism. That’s when employees believe management do not mirror the corporate values, but expect the employees to.

Since top management disseminate values and strategy to the rank and file, they are responsible for initiating any corporate changes through their actions and words. And the leaders are also the ones who must assess the implementation plan. They have the option of stopping the roll-out at any time if it doesn’t appear to be accepted. Changing corporate culture is a long, slow process. And if a company succeeds in overcoming all the pitfalls, they will produce a healthy culture. “By healthy, I mean one in which people behave in a manner that reflects and enacts those stated core values.” The process also never stops. Added Davis, “After attaining health, it becomes a maintenance program.”

Davis doesn’t believe there are any companies with ideal cultures. “That’s like asking if there are people whose physical health is so good that they never need a check-up,” he said. There are cultures that work. There are also trend setters. But another high-tech firm cannot extract an element from, say, Hewlett-Packard’s culture or Wang’s and expect it to be successful within their environments.

The generalizations on successful cultures that Davis points to are that the company’s beliefs are stated very explicitly and they’re understood by everyone. The beliefs are also acted upon by every employee on a daily basis. “Individually, however, these beliefs are all different,” he added.

In the final analysis, said Davis, corporate culture is not the total answer to a company’s problems. “It is not a panacea. The most terrific corporation on paper that has everyone adhering to and living by its stated standards, can still mess up as a firm.”

“Corporations are casting about for answers and the smart ones aren’t naive enough to think that any one thing such as culture is the only answer,” he continued. “It’s not. It can be a useful tool, but it’s not the entire remedy.” For an institution, such as Bank of America, however, there is the hope that it will at least be helpful.

**Stanley M. Davis** is a research professor in the School of Management and an independent consultant specializing in implementing strategy through management, organization and culture. He is the author of five books.
EXCEEDING GRASP

(Firenze, September 1983)

If on a winter's night
I stumble from the bed,
dry-mouthed and inelegant
and slug along the wall
out to the balcony
take comfort,
I am going to Firenze.

The night sky holds the breeze
along the Arno. Gold and ochre canvases
spread color on the edge of fall.
Statue's hand on stars, and I have found
a fresco on the moon.

Do you remember it was never really
night. Light from no apparent source
bled on the city streets. Bodies
struggled out of stone and
stood and stretched and laughed and loved.

Sometimes a Botticelli bent her head
and flesh of Titian's eye would brush
your face. Calf muscle that Cellini carved
flickered with a pulse that kept
the chill off winter. The heat you feel
is not the weather.

And if you ask me now
why Michaelangelo made David's hands so large
I think he saw the need for larger hands
as if to help his Adam reach
Beyond the Vecchio there is another bridge
where I am standing
and then, a bridge again.

I.D. BARKAN
Law '81, Boston, Massachusetts
Most of us have our images of leading men and leading ladies—the swashbuckling Clark Gables, the demure Ingrid Bergmans, sultry Rachel Wards or visceral Richard Genes. They are the visions we call to mind when thinking about America's heroes.

But Cecelia Tichi, professor of English at the College of Liberal Arts, has slightly different heroes. She is more agog over engineers and technocrats, foundry operators and bridge builders.

Granted, not many of us dwell on the men of machines when we think about America's romantic visions. We might idolize the rich, the powerful, the rebel, the loner—maybe the cowboy. But a man with a slide rule?

He may no longer be the vision of today's leading man or woman, but around the turn of the century, America's literary and intellectual giants tabbed the engineer as "America's best symbol of the future," according to Professor Tichi. It was the engineer who would chart America's course, who would make the country realize its potential and maximize its power. In fact, Americans turned to one to ensure their future by electing as president, Herbert Hoover, a mining engineer.

In her nearly completed book, tentatively entitled *Dream Machine: Technology in the American Imagination*, Tichi argues that from 1880 to 1920, one of the driving forces on the American social scene was the engineer. If the cowboy was the symbol of a vanishing America, popu-
lar novels looked to the engineer as a “powerful, incorruptible” symbol of the transformation of America.

The engineer stood as the future of this country, offering the prospect of stability and the “rational advance of society,” Tichi suggested. “In him, resided the certainty that America’s destiny would be realized.” The American frontier had expanded rapidly in the last decades of the 19th century. And that heated expansion of our borders was matched by explosive economic development in the first two decades of the 20th century.

The frenetic expansion frightened many. It seemed wild and unpredictable, reaping profits for speculators and the greedy. In the figure of the engineer, the American public found a reassuring presence. Americans looked to the engineer for his technical mastery and discipline “to bring a fast-changing culture into balance.” As Professor Tichi observed, “The engineer was the exponent of efficiency and the slayer of that dragon, waste.”

“In the age of pervasive machine technology,” when new devices—the steamship, telephone, locomotive and the car—were continually startling society, the engineer “was a messianic figure, or at least a pious one,” Professor Tichi wrote. “His values—efficiency, organization, functional and elegant design, production—enabled Americans once again to expect national salvation. He promised, so it seemed, to lead industrialized America directly into the millennium.”

If once we heralded the farmer as the provider of the nation, an honest producer of essential goods, who fed the insatiable appetite of a growing country, the American imagination gradually shifted alle-
The Brooklyn Bridge (below and page 45), which celebrated its centennial last year, took approximately 12 years to complete. Designed by John A. Roebling and his son Washington, the Bridge was one of many engineering feats that changed the face of America. Other examples included skyscrapers that appeared in many cities such as Detroit (opposite) and the Wilson Dam on the Tennessee River (right).

Between 1850 and 1880, for example, the number of engineers increased 16 times, from 512 to 8261. The number of physicians, by contrast, only doubled. By 1900, there were approximately 45,000 engineers and by 1930 the figure had ballooned to 230,000. So it was not odd that in Sinclair Lewis's Main Street, published in 1920, a young lady studying library science saw herself "helping countless young men to find books on mechanics." Lewis' character was merely "in tune with the times," Tichi wrote.

Other literary examples abound. In an early Edna Ferber novel, a college-bound youth exclaims, "Mother, you know how wild I am about machines, and motors and engineering." He positively cries forth with "Professional! Why, you talk about the romance of a civil engineer's life." Such gushy, effusive sentiment seems passé and somehow dated today, but the wellspring of such feeling is not difficult to understand.

Throughout the length and breadth of America, dramatic, vivid examples of the engineer's achievements transformed the landscape. There was the Brooklyn Bridge, which opened in 1883; the Panama Canal, constructed between 1902–1914; the Wilson Dam on the Tennessee River, 1922–1926; and the Alaska Railroad, 1914–1926.

The urban landscape was also being transformed. Sinclair Lewis had a reader-
ship that understood when he wrote of his
fictional midwestern city, Zenith, that its
office buildings were “austere towers of
steel and cement and limestone, sturdy as
cliffs and delicate as silver rods.” Such
structures began to dot the landscape
throughout the States and not only in
large cities such as Chicago and New York,
but also in little-known towns like Sioux
City, Iowa; Marietta, Ohio; Tyrone, Ken-
tucky; and Nebraska City, Nebraska. The
cityscape was being transformed by
engineers.

A character in the somewhat obscure
novel The Iron Trail: An Alaskan Romance
summarized the excitement surrounding
the new technology by exclaiming: “I’ve
won. I hold the keys to a kingdom... I saw
it in a dream; only it was more than a
dream... I saw a deserted fishing village
become a thriving city. I saw the glaciers
part to let pass a great traffic in men and
merchandise. I saw the unpopulated north
grow into a land of homes, of farms, of
mining camps, where people lived and
bred children. I heard the mountain pass
echo to steam whistles and the whirl of
flying wheels.”

Nor was this reverence for the tech-
nological confined to North America.
Throughout Europe, self-described futur-
ists proclaimed their devotion to the
machine and things mechanical. The
automobile assumed a hallowed position
in their pantheon. And in Russia, Vladi-
mir Mayakovsky wrote poems that
described New York City’s Brooklyn
Bridge in almost worshipful terms.

Others feared the engineer, however.
They were frightened of the claim that he,
too, was an artist. Some writers, like
Willa Cather, were afraid, according to
Tichi, that the artist would be displaced by
engineers who could both solve prob-
lems and erect aesthetically pleasing build-
ings. Some resented their productivity, the
“inventive intelligence” that allowed them
to erect a bridge in a few months while
poets labored over a single poem.

Writers also seemed to fear that they
would become mere decorators and lose
their hallowed place in society. Some
recognized, however, that with these fears
also came opportunities to “invigorate
the imagination” with new images, as Profes-
or Tichi discovered.

Such fears continue to haunt intellec-
tuals. They may reap the computer’s ben-
fits as it enters their homes and medical
advances extend their lives, but there is an
unsettling feeling that they have been
overshadowed and overtaken by forces
they don’t fully understand. Professor
Tichi is familiar with this fearfulness, this
“technophobia” among her fellow acade-
micians. While she does not consider her-
self a proponent of machine technology,
she was reared in its shadow and is critical
of passing a negative approach along to
students.

The product of a Pittsburgh childhood,
Tichi’s memories of bustling factories and
steel mills are vivid. “My mother was no
‘Rosie the Riveter,’” she said, but “seeing
those mills blazing against the night sky
was terribly exciting. Pittsburgh was a city
of bridges and mills.” Tichi, in fact, did her
own stint of factory work, laboring in an
Owen-Illinois glass factory in 1960, and
that experience she said, “was a techno-
logical marvel, but an endurance test as
well.”

Today, her only contact with machinery
is her computer terminal. “We are at
home with our word processors,” she said,
but “then we come into the classroom and
condemn technocrats.” That, she declared
is “an ostrich-like stance. Technology in a
liberal arts curriculum is beneficial. And
students in technical courses should learn
that the humanities are not “a high-
minded, separate field. The two are inter-
linked. The key is to bring a sense of what
the connections are.” And the process is
similar to what those early engineers
used.

Cecelia H. Tichi is a professor of English in
the College of Liberal Arts. She is also involved
in the Graduate School’s American & New
England Studies Program.
CHAPTER SIX

I watched the Tommy Banks Dancers go through a series of tap steps, Paul was one, not featured but clearly a necessary member.

The room was small and hot and shabby, on a second floor on Huntington Avenue over a liquor store that advertised 10,000 cases of ice-cold beer. The dancers glistened with sweat. Paul rehearsed in a pair of gray sweat pants held up by a blue and red belt and a red T-shirt that said Puma on the front. The sleeves had been cut off and the neck cut out so that it was little more than a sleeveless undershirt.

Now that I knew Susan's phone number, I could easily find her address. On the other hand, if she wanted me to know her address, she'd tell me.

The dancers took a break in the rehearsal and Tommy Banks came over to meet me. Paul came with him. Banks wore a pair of black knit dance pants and a net polo shirt cut off the way defensive backs on Southern college football teams cut them off so that the stomach is bare. He was shorter than Paul and stocky for a dancer and considerably older than Paul, nearly forty, probably. His hair was cut short and receded from his forehead.

"Mr. Spenser," he said. "Nice of you to come over."

We shook hands. Whatever his age and height, he was in shape. Fine little muscle patterns moved in Banks's flat stomach.

We got some coffee from an automatic drip coffeemaker on a card table in one corner of the room next to the record player. The dancers lounged around smoking and drinking coffee and stretching.

"How much has Paul filled you in?" Banks said.

"Just that one of your dancers is missing and you want me to find her."

"Well"—Banks made a tight half smile—"that's the essence of it, isn't it."

I nodded.

"She's more than missing," Banks said. "She's been taken." Paul looked startled. I nodded again.

"She's been taken by the Bullies." Paul looked more startled. "The religious group?" I said.


"I know that it exists, that its leader, pope, chief wizard, whatever they call him, is a guy named Bullard Winston who believes

Valediction is the 17th and most recent book in Robert Parker's GRS '70, series that features Spenser, the tough, but tender Boston detective. This excerpt was reprinted by permission from Valediction, copyright 1984, Delacorte Press/Seymour Lawrence.
in the church militant.

"Yes," Banks said. "They've taken Sherry.

"By force?"

"Yes."

"You didn't tell me that," I said to Paul.

"I didn't know it," Paul said.

"They broke in," Banks said. "Five of them, three men, two women, in berets and fatigue dothes. They had automatic weapons. One of them hit me with the butt of the weapon and knocked me down. I was half conscious. They grabbed Sherry, bound her, and took her away. I was able to get to the door in time to see them put her into the truck of a car and drive away. Then I passed out."

"And you didn't call the cops," I said.

"Banks shook his head. "I woke up and didn't know what to do and... I just walked around all night and came in the next day and said Sherry was missing."

"Why no cops?"

"I didn't want this turned into a media circus like Patty Hearst," I said. "I didn't say anything. Paul was quiet, standing a little to the side.

"And... I didn't... you know how Patty Hearst's fiancé was treated in the press."

I nodded.

"I was ashamed," he said. "I was ashamed that they were able to take her away from me and I didn't stop them."

"Five people with automatic weapons," I said. "Hard to stop."

"I could have died trying."

"I'm not sure we'd be better off," I said.

Banks shook his head as if he were trying to shake something off. "Well, anyway. The company has chipped in and I have a bit of money, and we wish to hire you to find her."

"Okay," I said. "I'll need her picture."

**I put on a tie and strolled up Arlington to the Ritz. They'd put up a second tower beside the hotel. The new building didn't improve anything but it didn't look like a bad case of mange either.**

Banks went to get it. I looked at Paul. Paul shrugged. Banks came back with a manila folder in which was a publicity picture of a young woman and a typed résumé, and a handwritten description on white paper lined with blue. I looked at it. Her name was Sherry Spellman and she was twenty years old.

"She has much contact with the Bullies before," I said.

"Oh, hell," Banks said. "She had a little, ah, flirtation I suppose you'd say, while she was in college, but..." He shook his head and made a dismissing shrug. I looked back down at her résumé. She'd gone one year to Bard College, leaving two years ago. She'd been with Banks a year.

"No calls," I said. "No ransom notes?"

Banks shook his head.

"Why did they take her?" I said.

"To make her one of them," Banks said. "We can't let them do that."

"No," I said. "I guess we can't."

**CHAPTER SEVEN**

I called

Martin Quirk at police headquarters and got the name of a priest who consulted to the department on oddball cults and religions.

"Named Keneally," Quirk said. "Professor of Comparative Religion at B.C. Use my name.

It had been a while since I'd been in my office. It was stuffy, and the warm city air coming through the open windows wasn't doing much to refreshen it up. I looked out the window. The dark-haired art director in the ad agency across the street was conferring over her board with two colleagues. Too busy to look in my window. Probably resigning. Probably going to take a job in Miami doing bilingual dope ads.

I called up Wayne Cosgrove at the Globe.

"Who's your dance critic," I said.

"Nancy Quentin," he said.

"Would you speak to her about me and tell her I'll call her and invite her to lunch?"

"You seen Nancy?" Wayne said.

"Business," I said. "I need some dance information."

"Okay. Her extension is 2616. Call her in a half-hour or so. I'll have talked with her by then."

"Unless she's out on assignment," I said.

"Assignment? It's ten-thirty in the morning. How many dance recitals you see at ten-thirty in the morning?"

"Okay," I said. "I'll call her at ten."

I hung up and looked out my window some more. It was sunny. The art director and her colleagues had moved away from her board and out of sight somewhere back in the office across the street.

At eleven I called Nancy Quentin.

"A detective," she said. "Very exciting for us arts-and-leisure types."

"I imagine so," I said. "Would you have lunch with me at the Ritz Cafe?"

"Today?"

"Yes."

"I'll be there in an hour. How will I recognize you?"

"I'll be in the lobby by the cafe looking out of place," I said.

"See you there," she said, and hung up.

I walked down Berkeley Street to my apartment on Marlborough and put on a tie and my blue blazer with the tattersall lining, and strolled up Arlington to the Ritz. They'd put up a second tower beside the hotel and filled it with condominium apartments that sold for a lot. The new building blended pretty well with the original. It didn't improve anything but it didn't look like a bad case of mange either. When I turned in through the revolving doors it was 11:40. Time for a drink.

I sat at the bar and had an Irish whiskey on the rocks with a twist and ate some peanuts and sipped the drink. I looked at my watch. Eleven-fifty. Almost nine o'clock in San Francisco. At 11:55 I finished the drink and walked out into the lobby. A big hard-looking guy with gray hair and a large stomach was going up the curving rose-carpeted stairway toward the dining room. He paused on the stairs and looked at me and nodded.

"Callahan," I said. "Still got that roll of dimes?"

He smiled and nodded. "Business or pleasure?" he said to me.

"Lunch with a client," I said. "Nothing to do with the house.

Callahan nodded again, pleasantly. "Enjoy," he said.

I went and stood outside the café, near the desk, and waited.
ten past noon a woman about the size of the Gadsden Purchase came up to me and said, “Mr. Spenser.”

I said yes and she said she was Nancy Quentin and I said, “Shall we go to the café?” and in we went.

The café at the Ritz would be the coffee shop in another hotel, but here it really was a café. The food was good, the service elegant, the menu brief but interesting. It was a ground-floor room and there were windows to sit by. In the evening a young woman in a gown played the harp.

The waiter asked if we’d like a cocktail. Nancy had Campari and soda. I had another Irish whiskey.

Nancy looked over at me. “You’re right,” she said. “You do look out of place.”

“And I’m wearing a Brooks Brothers tie too.”

“It’s not enough,” she said.

“I went to the Harvard commencement this year.”

“That would help,” she said. “But only if you were still wearing your little Harvard commencement badge.”

“Yeah. I thought about it but was afraid I’d get caught. People would start asking me smart questions and they’d find out I’d never been.”

“Yes,” she said. “That is a danger.”

She was a very large-boned tall woman, and she had managed to keep her weight up. She was probably fifty-five and wore a loose-fitting dress with a small gray print in it, and a large straw hat. For her to find a loose-fitting dress was something of a triumph, I thought. She wore a lot of makeup, badly applied. There was lipstick on her teeth. If she’d been a dancer, it must have been in Fantasia.

“At the commencement, people were asking really tough ones,” I said. “Who’s your broker? Where can I get a deal on Volvo station wagons, that kind of stuff. I felt really humble.”

She laughed. “I went to Wellesley,” she said. “I could have answered those questions easily.”

“And now you write for the Globe? My God.”

“Yes, plucky of me, I think.”

The waiter took our order. I had lobster salad. Nancy had the minute steak. We had another round of drinks as well.

“What can you tell me about a dancer named Tommy Banks,” I said.

“Ah-ha,” Nancy said, “enough with the small talk.”

“Yes,” I said, “off with the clothes.”

She smiled again. “Tommy Banks,” she said. Outside our window, on Newbury Street, a man and woman were walking an Afghan hound. The woman’s arm was through the man’s. He was much taller than she was and occasionally she banged her head against his upper arm as they walked, then looked up at him and laughed about something. Maybe the dog. It’s hard not to laugh at an Afghan hound.

“Tommy Banks,” Nancy said. “If commitment were all it took, he’d have been Nureyev, or Fred Astaire.”

“Talent?”

“Are you a baseball fan, Spenser?”

“Yes.”

“His desire is Cooperstown. His talent is Pawtucket.”

I nodded.

“He was in New York for a while, studied with Cunningham, danced as a chorus boy with some actress in a one-woman show, Debbie Reynolds. I think—you know, the star and four dancers who serve as context. He formed a tap company of his own, and got some grant money and did a few colleges and summerthing kinds of appearances, Citicorp Center at noon, that kind of stuff; and then he packed it in and came back to Boston. I believe he felt

New York commercialism was stifling. Here he has a school, and a company that instructs at the school and is drawn from it and he works at expanding the tap-dance form.”

“Is he being successful?”

She smiled. The waiter brought my lobster salad and Nancy’s steak. Susan would have had only an appetizer. Probably smoked salmon. Maybe one glass of white wine, which she wouldn’t finish. Nancy ordered a beer. I joined her.

“Successful?” Nancy said. “No, not very. I can applaud his attempt to enlarge the narrative possibilities of tap, but his actual innovations are less successful than the conception, if you follow what I’m saying. Are you familiar with dance?”

“A little,” I said. “I have a friend who dances.”

“In some ways Tommy would be best in an academic setting where his experiments wouldn’t have to be self-supporting. His imagination is limited.”

“Do you know about him as a person?”

“Not very much. We’ve met but I don’t know him well. I know he’s very driven by an ambition that overleaps his skills. He is, I believe, a very tough disciplinarian with his dancers, and people in the business don’t like him very much.”

“How about one of his dancers, Sherry Spellman?”

Nancy shook her head. “No, I don’t know her.”

I had finished my lobster salad and my beer. Three whiskies and a beer at midday and I was feeling mushy. Nancy ate the last of her steak. “Why are you interested in all this?” she said.

“Off the record? I’d always wanted to say that to a reporter. Deep background,” Nancy said.

“Sherry’s missing. Banks claims she was kidnapped by the Reorganized Church of the Redemption.”

Nancy raised her eyebrows. “The Bullies kidnapped her?”

“That’s what Banks said.”

“You sound skeptical,” she said.

“Not really skeptical, it’s a deep-seated habit I’ve developed from spending the last twenty years talking with people who speak with forked tongue.”

“Cynical,” she said.

“More than that. The story doesn’t make a lot of sense. First of all, it sounds just like the Hearst kidnapping; and second, Banks never called the cops. Says he doesn’t want a media circus like the Hearst case.”

“That may be the definition of ego,” Nancy said. “Imagining yourself worthy of a media circus. The Hearsts maybe, but Tommy Banks?”

“I know. He also said he was ashamed that he hadn’t died trying to save her.”

She shrugged. “More convincing. I believe he has some kind of belt in karate. But...” Nancy shrugged and widened her eyes.

“Five people with automatic weapons—doesn’t make much difference what kind of belt you have.”

“I would think not,” Nancy said.
Discover

COOKING BY DEGREES

It's a gastronomic experience!

Cooking By Degrees, the Boston University Cookbook, is a hard cover, 400 page volume jam-packed with 570 delicious recipes submitted by hundreds of alumni, professors, administrators and members of the 20th Century Archives. The book contains such culinary treats as Pearl Bailey’s crispy apple pudding and Tip O’Neill’s favorite Cape Cod fish chowder. Each recipe has been carefully tested by the International Cooks Committee and edited by Laura Freid, editor of Bostonia, and Terence Janerico, proprietor of Boston’s La Cuisine Cooking School.

To order your copy of Cooking By Degrees, fill out this coupon and mail along with your check for $12.95 each (alumni discounted price), plus $2.00 per book for postage and handling, to: COOKBOOK, 10 Lenox Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY   STATE   ZIP

Enclosed is my check for $_______.

SCHOOL/YEAR
Letters

IN-DEPTH

Taking Issue with Nutrition

We do not share the interpretation of the facts related to diet and cardiovascular disease that were expressed by Dr. Joseph J. Vitale in the January and May 1984 issues of Bostonia Magazine. In the January issue, which was devoted to the subject of nutrition, Dr. Vitale included concepts regarding the role of diet and heart disease which flawed what was otherwise an informative article. This was followed in the May issue by a misleading critique of the recent Primary Prevention Trial of the Lipid Research Clinics supported by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and reported in the January 1984 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

In essence, there is, at the present time, copious, irrefutable evidence that: The amount and composition of fats and sterols in the diet are important determinants of the concentration of cholesterol, triglyceride and lipoproteins in our blood.

The concentration of lipids and lipoproteins in the blood is an important factor in predicting whether or not a middle-aged man will develop coronary heart disease. It also contributes to the risk of stroke and occlusive peripheral arterial disease.

A significant reduction of the serum total and low-density lipoprotein cholesterol can be accomplished both by diet alone as well as by drugs such as cholestyramine. Such reduction significantly reduces the risk of heart attacks.

Estimates have also been made that changes that Americans have already made in their diets during the past 15 years account for more than 25 percent of the reduction of deaths from coronary heart disease that has occurred between the years of 1968 and 1983.

We urge everyone to follow the prudent dietary guidelines of the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs and the American Heart Association. More specifically, we recommend that dietary fat be restricted to no more than 30 percent of calories; tub margarines and liquid vegetable oil should replace butter and other "hard" fat from animal sources in order to increase polyunsaturated fat intake at the expense of saturated fats; and dietary cholesterol should be restricted to 300 mg. per day or less.

We hope that this letter will help to counterbalance the information contained

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

in these two recent issues of Bostonia Magazine and will help your readers to develop prudent dietary habits.

Joseph Stokes III, M.D.
William P. Castelli, M.D.
Aram V. Chobanian, M.D.
Thomas R. Dawber, M.D., M.P.H.
William B. Kannel, M.D., M.P.H.
Thomas J. Ryan, M.D.
Donald M. Small, M.D.
H. Emerson Thomas, Jr., M.D.
Charles P. Till, M.D.
Phillip A. Wolf, M.D.
Members of the School of Medicine faculty

Dr. Vitale's response:

Dr. Stokes, et al. and I agree that patients with hypercholesterolemia are at risk to developing heart disease. There is no disagreement among any involved in the diet-heart disease controversy with much of the three points made by Dr. Stokes. The disagreement is only with the inappropriate use of the words "important determinants," "hypercholesterolemia" and "significantly reduces the risk of heart attacks." We have challenged Dr. Stokes, et al. to show many of us disbelievers one study in which cholesterol-lowering regimens established both efficacy and safety. In response to this challenge he cites the results of the Lipid Clinic Research Trials (LCRT).

The facts are indisputable. After seven years and $150,000,000 dollars, there were 71 deaths in the placebo (control) group and 68 deaths in the drug diet group: only a 1.7 percent difference between groups in risk to heart disease (death or morbidity) involving only 3,800 patients over a seven-year period; and a statistically significant increase in gastrointestinal cancer deaths and gall bladder disease.

The questions remain and must remain: What are the risks/benefits of reducing the serum cholesterol in patients at risk? Where is the efficacy or safety in the LCRT study? The LCRT study, one of approximately 24 addressing the same question, has not established efficacy or safety.

The Food and Nutrition Board of the National Academy of Science, National Research Council does not agree with the recommendations made by the American Heart Association. The FNB report entitled "Toward Healthful Diets," May 27, 1983, which is available from the Food and Nutrition Board, NAS, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418, suggests moderation in caloric intake and caution against dietary changes for all "free-living" healthy Americans.

Calculation Confusion

In your recent issue on Nutrition (January 1984), you presented a format for calculating "How Many Calories Do You Burn?" (page 69). I believe the format contains errors that can lead to confusion:

1) We know that energy spent during sleep is greater than zero.
2) I assume decimal points were omitted from the "Energy Spent" column.
3) Apples and oranges were mixed at "stairs up and down," second column. Are you asking for minutes per flight of stairs, etc.? I believe you were calculating muscular activity only and must add basal metabolism.

Harvey Grossman, SFA '85
Livingston, New Jersey

In Defense of Weight Watchers

I enjoyed the January special edition of Bostonia, but I would like to take exception to one piece of information that, from my point of view, is an error. On page 40, the Weight Watchers diet is described as a "quick-loss fad diet." From my perspective, this is not based on fact. Yes, Weight Watchers is a reduced calorie diet, but I do not believe for a minute that it is a fad. In fact, it is not considered to be so much a diet as it is a "way of life," which provides an average 1200 calories a day during the reducing phase and somewhat more, depending on an individual's makeup, during maintenance. To call it a "fad diet" misses the point of a program that provides excellent nutrition.

To say that "This may cause trouble by severely reducing caloric intake and by possibly limiting the amount of calcium and iron in the diet," is wrong when applied to the Weight Watchers program, especially when you consider that for women, it requires two glasses (16 oz.) of skim milk daily (or equivalents) and at least four ounces of liver a week, as well as a number of dark green vegetables, like spinach, that also provide iron. (For men and teenagers, the amounts are greater.) I am a Weight Watcher, and find the program to be a very livable one. In fact, it recommends just what you recommend for well-being, throughout this issue. I think you do the Weight Watcher organization a disservice by lumping it together with diets that are clearly deficient in certain nutrients and also that put the Organization a disservice by lumping it together with diets that are clearly deficient in certain nutrients and also that put the

Maureen V. Gorman, SED '82
Milford, Connecticut
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
continued from page 53

Many thanks . . .
It took me a long time to read this issue and comprehend as much as possible. But it was worth the effort. An excellent piece of work, with statements that I have never read before. I wonder if the medical field likes us not to understand.
Norma Getchell
Malvern, Pennsylvania

Thank you for the January 1984 issue of Bostonia. I work as a community nutritionist in a home health agency, and most of my patients are elderly, poor and chronically ill. As a result, I see a lot of environmental factors that contribute to poor nutrition, often exacerbating the medical condition. Sometimes, a lifetime of poor eating habits is implicated—which is when I wish people had a greater appreciation of nutrition from childhood.

Unfortunately, I often find that younger people—though raised in an era of much more technology and educational opportunity—have much less nutrition knowledge than their parents/grandparents who were raised on farms. Growing up with fast foods, snack foods and on-the-run meals seems to engender perverted nutrition concepts or just one big nutritional void.

Why am I writing? I think because while a student at Boston University, I had no involvement with nutrition other than trying to eat on $5.00 a week. I don’t think I was even aware of the existence of Sargent College, much less take courses there.

So this is the wishfulness of hindsight. Wishing that I could have taken better advantage of the great resources of Boston University while I was there, because education is a wonderful experience.
Robin L. Spence, CLA ’71
Baltimore, Maryland

SPORTS

For the Record

Thanks for the Bostonia dedicated to sports (May 1984). Excellent as usual.

Just like to make sure Dick Dew gets the chronology straight (Metamorphosis on Babcock Streets). The “Friends of Boston University Crew” would have to be very lucky to have an intramural rowing program today if it hadn’t been for the Friends, coaches and team members back in 1979.
Scott Rossiter, CLA ’72
Uxbridge, Massachusetts

Praise for Science Writing

I recently returned from a trip to China to find a copy of the May issue of Bostonia waiting. The article, “Anaerobic Threshold,” constituted a superb piece of scientific writing. The accuracy of the information and the writer’s grasp of the material came through loud and clear.

I was actually made aware of the appearance of the article at the annual meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine in San Diego. A number of Boston University faculty and alumni who were in attendance alerted me to its appearance and heaped words of praise on the article and the manner in which “hardcore science” was made so understandable.

Many thanks!
Howard G. Knutten, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman
Sargent College
Department of Health Sciences

A Long-Distance Flight

Today my pupil, Timothy Smith, brought in a cluster of balloons that his father was able to gaff in the Bay of Fundy while fishing. One balloon said Reunion Boston University. We would like to know more about how they came to be off the coast of Nova Scotia.

Thank you.
Diane Rose
Grade 3 teacher
Port Maitland Consolidated School

During Reunion Weekend, May 11-13, balloons were distributed to celebrating alumni at the Gala Finale party. It’s conceivable that some happy alumni let the balloon go into the Boston sky and started it on its Canadian journey. Just spreading the Reunion cheer!

Boston University Graduate Affinity Centers Update

Cooks Center
Submissions to the new International Cookbook are now being accepted. Send us your favorite ethnic recipe with name, address, school/year, country of origin and any pertinent anecdote or observation. Title suggestions are also welcome. If yours is chosen, you will win dinner for two. Address submissions and title suggestions to the Cooks Committee, 10 Lenox Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146.

Poetry Center
For a list of Seventh Competition winners, see page 44. Thanks to all poets who participated. To enter the Eighth Competition, send no more than two unpublished poems to the Alumni Poetry Center, 10 Lenox Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146. The deadline is April 1, 1985. Watch for the date of the next poetry reading evening in the fall.

Writing Center
The deadline for the Third Writing Competition has been extended to October 15, 1984. Submit one piece of either published or unpublished material to the Alumni Writing Center, 10 Lenox Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146. For more information, call Bert Hirshberg at (617) 353-8988.

Visual Arts Center
The Alumni Visual Arts Center will sponsor a juried show next February in the George Sherman Union Gallery. Participants have been chosen from Center members living in the Boston area who have submitted slides to our permanent files. If you would like to join the Visual Arts Center, send your resume and four to six recent slides of your work to the Alumni Visual Arts Center, 10 Lenox Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146.
BOSTON UNIVERSITY VS. GRAMBLING
FOOTBALL AT YANKEE STADIUM

September 8, 1984  3:30 p.m.

Package A—DAY TRIP
Round-Trip Train & Game Ticket $30
Train leaves Boston's South Station—9 a.m.
Stops: Route 128, Providence,
New London, New Haven

Package B—WEEKEND TRIP
Round-Trip Train, Game Ticket
and Overnight at the Sheraton Centre
$97 per person, double occupancy
$86 per person, triple occupancy
Package includes open Sunday return ticket
and $9 game ticket (other prices available)
(Hotel only: Single $72; Double $79;
Triple $83)

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Friday Night Cocktail Party, Saturday Brunch, U.S. Open Tickets, Sunday Theatre Matinees

I want to Paint the Town Red with the Boston University Terriers.
Enclosed is my check for reservations for the Day Trip Option (Package A—$30). Total: __________
Enclosed is my check for reservations for the Weekend Option (Package B—$97/$86). Total: __________
Enclosed is my check for reservations at the Sheraton Centre (Hotel Only Option—$72/$79/$83). Total: __________

NAME
SCHOOL/YEAR

ADDRESS

CITY  STATE  ZIP

HOME TELEPHONE

BUSINESS TELEPHONE

Mastercard or Visa # ____________________________
Expiration date ____________________________ Signature ____________________________

Train Stop Preference
[ ] Boston  [ ] New London
[ ] Route 128  [ ] New Haven
[ ] Providence  [ ]

Boston University Affiliation
[ ] Alumnus
[ ] Parent
[ ] Student
[ ] Friend

Make checks payable to Boston University and mail along with the coupon to: Boston University Ticket Office, 285 Babcock Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02215. For more information, call (617) 353-2873.
Reservations must be received no later than August 15, 1984.
Think of us as the
Boston University Beachstore.

It's hot. And it's getting hotter.
And right about now you're thinking "beach."

Well, before you go to the beach this weekend, go to the Boston University Bookstore.

We can help you make waves on your favorite beach. Whether it's on the Cape, on the Vineyard, or just on a cozy rooftop in the city.

Stretch out on a colorful beach blanket. Slip into a sexy swim suit. Take in the scenery behind some funky sunglasses. Or lose yourself in a great beach book. But remember. Whatever you like to do on the beach, anything, we can help you have fun doing it.

Well, almost anything.
COMPARE THE QUALITY. THEN COMPARE THE REGULAR PRICES ELSEWHERE FOR THE SAME BRAND NAME FASHIONS. MARSHALLS PRICES ARE 20% TO 60% LESS EVERYDAY.