

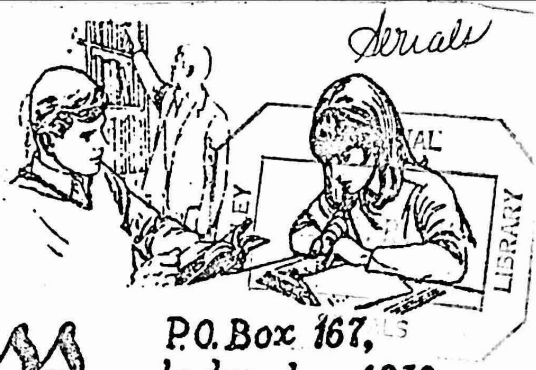
Published by:



SOCIETY
TO
OUTLAW
PORNOGRAPHY

Stop

Press



P.O. Box 167,
Lutwyche 4030

"We... look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13

*Special
Issue

MRS. MARY WHITEHOUSE visits Australia
(Watch your local press for dates, times, etc)
Britain's Founder of
National Viewers' & Listeners' Assocn.
(For Quality Control of the Media)

Tour commences in Brisbane - 4th Oct.

MRS. MARY WHITEHOUSE, Founder and Secretary of National V. A. L. A., and author of 'Who Does She Think She Is?', has been tremendously effective in articulating the concerns of British citizens about the immoral content of television in Great Britain. As a result she is recognized as the 'conscience of the B.B.C.' and as an 'advisor' to the Director General of that authority. So it was reported of her during her visit to the United States and Canada recently, when on a tour sponsored by the 'Citizens for Decent Literature'.

Though there is overwhelming evidence that a determined assault is being made on our family life, moral standards and decency through public entertainment and the mass media, yet there seems to be a reluctance on the part of government, the media officials, and even in some church circles to affirm any absolute moral code. Which explains why such organizations as S. T. O. P. and National V. A. L. A. have had to come into existence to help to maintain human dignity, the sanctity of marriage, the importance of the home and family in a Christian context, and to protect children and those who are weaker, morally or spiritually, than is normal for human beings to be.

Mrs. Whitehouse soon discovered, when she started out to 'clean up T. V.' that what happens on the stage, and in films, is inevitably reflected on television, just as the Director of S. T. O. P. found that what gets past the censor under the guise of 'literary merit' very soon finds its way into High School Libraries for study by our teenagers. Says Mrs. Whitehouse on p. 118 of her very informative book:

"We have now reached the stage where almost anything goes on television so long as it is in the name of 'documentary', 'serious discussion' or 'reality'."

Is she shocked by total nudity on T. V. ? "Yes - by the insult that such explicitness and crudity offers to the personality of the viewer..." "This approach to the viewer... implies a contempt for the viewer... viewers.. feel frustrated and angered when they are treated as morons." "All of us have a right to our privacy, and I felt the showing of (nudity) is shocking in its violation and denial of this basic human right." Perhaps we in Australia should, like Mrs. Whitehouse, ask the offending stations 'When and on whose recommendations was the decision, if any, made to adopt as Station policy the showing of full frontal nudity?'

Chapter 15 of her book is devoted to details of debates and speeches at schools and Universities. "I tell the children that... the important thing is that... they decide.. which values are important if the life of man, his dignity and his well being are to be preserved; that they examine what impact a particular programme has upon their personal attitudes, and ask themselves what would be the effect, upon society, if the views put across in any particular programme were generally accepted.

"The Broadcasting Authorities are obliged 'not to take sides in matters of public interest', and this makes a study of the objectivity of broadcasting very worthwhile: Is the panel 'balanced'?... Is the Chairman impartial or does he throw in his own weight...? Has 'propaganda' become a feature of the drama department? Is it

Society

To

Outlaw

Pornography Join

*** S. T. O. P.

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Quoting Paul:

'Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first.' (2 Thes. 2. 3)

BE STILL

'The wrath of man shall praise Thee'
The rest 'shalt Thou restrain,'
And out of earth's disasters
Thou wilt bring eternal gain....
The One who rules the heavenly hosts,
Holds all within His hand,
And none can say,
'What doest Thou?'
Or can His arm withstand...
The surgings of the nations
Can but fulfil His will,
His own may dwell in 'perfect peace,'
He's over all, 'Be still.'
(Psalm 46.10)

'Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee forever, when thou doest that which is good and right in the sight of the Lord God.'

'...lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul... And ye shall teach them to your children...'
(Deut. 12. 28; 11. 18, 19)

'Man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.'

'But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth'
(Deut. 8. 3, 18)

Mrs. Whitehouse visits Australia (Contd.)

right to present personal opinion in 'documentary' form? Do the children... think independently or 'conform' to a majority view? Do they judge a programme merely in terms of what they personally want to see, or do they take into account the fact that TV is an all-pervading medium beaming programmes into every type of home? Does the medium destroy or enhance the quality of our culture, our community life, our level of communication? Is the viewer... given adequate channels for communication and, where necessary, redress?"

"How strange it is that those who yell loudest in the cause of student participation will fight to the death any idea of public participation in a medium which has such a profound effect upon all our lives. Could it be that they are very well prepared to support the status-quo when they feel they have it in the bag?"

"Almost always the universities have wanted me to debate Censorship, but I will not speak simply in its favour, only FOR responsibility, and against the removal of all controls."

"Only gods and madmen can live without the law," said Aristotle, and since... we are certainly not gods and I trust we are not madmen, this is a reasonable proposition. The censorship of fact, whether political or civil, is indefensible, and I would defend everyone's right to express his ideas and experiences however turbulent or destructive these may be. The issue of 'control' arises at the point when these creative exercises, whether in the field of TV, literature, the stage, cinema or photography, are offered for public presentation. I hope that Mr. Calder, who sees a censor under every bed, will be able tonight to give you his specific reasons for believing that all forms of censorship should be abolished, instead of simply adopting his usual technique of equating censorship with political views we all deplore.

"The move towards total abolition of censorship has come not primarily from the young, but from those who have something to gain from a change of public attitudes and in the law. Motives may be personal - Aldous Huxley confessed... that the efforts of himself and his friends to normalise perversion were motivated by the desire to make all men like themselves; they may be political, for pornography is an ideological weapon - the soft, the in-turned, the indulgent will not fight on any level, while the corrupted will sell not only themselves but their country; and, most obviously, they may be financial.

"But behind all the guile and, no doubt deliberately created, confusion, lies a simple choice. It is between genuine freedom and total licence, between cultural responsibility and cultural anarchy. Public sex is a restriction of our private freedom. Only the frustrated adolescent, or the impotent has any need for such exhibitionism. Most of us are nauseated by it because it offends the personal privacy which is... part of the rights of the individual - we resist when this liberty is curtailed.

"The 'new libertarians' are, in fact, the new tyrants. While they try to discredit with a yell of 'fascist' those who defend decency and culture, they themselves launch an assault upon the senses and freedom of the individual which is the essence of the worst kind of dictatorship.

"The greatest danger, particularly to the young, is that we may come to accept as normal what is, in fact, exceptional and vile. ... Mr. Calder said that... 'books do not affect behaviour.' Is Mr. Calder claiming that the Bible and 'Das Capital' have never affected behaviour? And there is humbug and

hypocrisy .. in the attitude of many of the anti-censorship brigade to the question of violence, - so often the people who rightly castigate the brutality of the Vietnam War are found defending the sadistic in literature, films, stage and television. ... 'we have' often from the same source a denigration, a destruction, and indeed a censorship of the proven values which give us a basis for judgement. ... the basic fight between good and evil which is the essence of drama - and of life - have been largely obliterated from contemporary art. In these respects we are a deprived society. 'Evil be thou my good' is the essence of 'Paradise Lost', not only in Milton's day but in our own.

"Responsible control on every level is the only answer. . . The creative growth of a society, as well as its stability depend upon the willingness of the individual to accept responsibility for his behaviour within that society. "

'FROM PROTEST TO PARTICIPATION' (Chapter 19 of book under review) :

Like Mary Whitehouse and National VALA, the Director of S. T. O. P. also favours the move from protest to participation where the media are concerned. In line with this idea, a full submission by S. T. O. P. was made on 26th June, 1972, to the Senate Standing Committee on Television and Broadcasting, to present the viewpoint and recommendations of a large number of interested people in various parts of the Commonwealth, who are deeply concerned over the noticeable deterioration in content and standards of the media. It is in the mind that sins of action begin, and producers should be careful to see that the media reduce, rather than amplify, sins of the mind. To quote Mrs. Whitehouse :

"..because broadcasting has in the past made itself more available to the innovators and the revolutionaries, than to the traditionalists and the visionaries, then it must accept its share of responsibility for the anarchic and irreligious trends which now disfigure our community. There is now much talk of a 'turn of the tide,' of a revolt against the 'new establishment,' that product of the 'avant garde' of the sixties. Whether this becomes a reality will depend to a very great extent on whether the mass media will support and propagate the new mood with the same enthusiasm and dedication which it showed for the satirists and demolishers of the last decade. If it does not, then those who control the channels of communication will hold history, and progress, by the throat."

"It is not the pressure of public opinion for higher broadcasting standards which is the enemy of genuinely progressive broadcasting. The real threat comes from those who resist .. public participation and accountability." Like Mrs. Whitehouse, S. T. O. P. also believes that it would be a mistake to underestimate either the measure of concern felt by the public over many of today's trends and policies.. or the amount of appreciation which undoubtedly exists for many excellent programmes. The growing public wish for a 'right of reply', and for redress and 'participation' remains unsatisfied. So far there appears to have been no productive outcome of S. T. O. P.'s T. V. and Radio Submission, but as more individuals make their wishes known, through the Broadcasting Control Board, Melbourne, or through their Member of Parliament in Canberra, or to the A. B. C., the media may come to see that viewers do not all fall into the category of 'voyeur', 'avant garde', or 'moron', nor do they all like the way the only 'wisdom' a growing child gains from today's film, T. V. or pop song is the knowledge of a voyeur or 'peeping Tom' or sadist. Every parent, every teacher, every advertiser KNOWS and counts on the fact that example teaches, and that what is seen and heard repeatedly indoctrinates and influences. The Media Minister (Senator McClelland) pointed out the dangers of what television is teaching our children, (C-M. 18/8/73); in Victoria, Judge Adams said a young man who had been influenced by 'A Clockwork Orange' had committed a shocking rape, adding -

'This picture has been described by judges throughout the English-speaking world as a cause triggering young men to commit acts of violence. . . ' 'This community lets pictures depicting violence, rape, sex and all the rest of it poison the minds of the young.'

Western civilization is destroying itself by its tolerance of sexual crimes and violence. Victoria's Crime Commissioner, Mr. W. D. Crowley, (Australian, 16/8/73) stressed this permissive attitude and the leniency of some judges, combined with the bad imbalance in the media's presentation of crime (both factually and in fiction), has made crime prevention an almost impossible task for police. 'It is disturbing that violent crimes in Victoria have increased 18% since 1972, while other crimes have decreased.' said Mr. Crowley, who also reported that the increased depiction of violence in entertainment had a definite link with modern crime, and that Victoria's Faraday kidnapping, the Alice Springs hijack and Sydney's Qantas bomb hoax all stemmed from ideas planted in the offender's mind by films they had seen.

YES, the minds of our children are being exploited for political and financial gain.

We have become poor guardians of our children by ceasing to care enough to provide responsible censorship and control, thus allowing them to be pressurized into alien patterns of behaviour to line the pockets of pornographers and to further the cause of revolution by stealth. Says Mrs. Whitehouse -

"Addiction to porn .. can so pre-occupy (people) as to change their attitudes to life. As their obsession grows, so they become less concerned with the great political and social questions of their day and consequently more ripe for dictatorship."

Walter Berns, a Professor of Political Economy, in his 'case for censorship' in Quadrant, 1971, also argues that obscenity is being used in a way which will overthrow law. He contends that censorship of such material is necessary for the survival of democracy: ".. censorship, because it inhibits self-indulgence and supports the idea of propriety and impropriety, protects political democracy: .. censorship also serves to protect art and thereby to enhance the quality of this democracy."

David Holbrook, in 'Sex and Dehumanization', sees the need for legal constraint to safeguard our freedom because of the fanatical immoralist whose aim is to destroy love: "To maintain our humanness, we must protect ourselves from those who, having failed to find their own humanness, seek to attack and diminish ours.."

Herbert Marcuse, Marxist Professor of Philosophy, in 'An Essay on Liberation': "Liberation would mean subversion against the will and against the prevailing interest of the great majority of people."

Maurice Girodias, 'King of Porn', founder of Olympic Press, had this to say: "It is a sign of evolution when a country discards censorship... The first phase is usually some historic trial against some publisher (who) wins... Films and other media follow... people start questioning.. everything from education to the structure of their society. You can see each phase following the next like a textbook quite predictably. I can even assess how quickly it will happen by the population of a country."

J. Facius, in 'The Little White Book', describes the trend in Denmark: "Pornography is a vast industry... It has been inflicted on (the Danes) by a minority who, before anybody could realize what was going on, flooded Denmark with a tidal wave of filth,. But lust knows no bounds until it reaches the final destruction of human dignity. And when it's impossible to think of more methods of defiling man - these forces will throw off their mask. Their ultimate effect is to defile holy things of God."

All censorship was removed in Denmark by a Conservative coalition Government which did so without any mandate from the people, without any vote in Parliament.

Dr. Francis Schaeffer has noted that many of today's pornographic works are serious philosophic anti-Christian statements, designed to motivate people into smashing Christianity. The writers see pornography as the ultimate leap to freedom.. that pornography will provide a new golden age.. These people are in total desperation. We are fighting for our lives. If we love men, this is no age for a lack of comprehension

Fortunately there are some in the Movie world who do comprehend the dangers, notably American comedian, Jerry Lewis, with only 'G' films in his family cinemas, (C-M. 8/2/73), and American film producer, Ross Hunter, who will only produce films for family viewing, (C-M. 4/8/73). Both these men claim that people don't really think that sex is a spectator sport. It would seem there is a stronger case for saying, 'Everybody's talking about it', rather than 'Everybody's doing it.'

Instead of rating films as so dangerous that they require restrictions on their showing, let us have ratings which work on the principle that a seal of approval means that it is a quality production of such high standard that it can be recommended to all. Professor R. Liebert of New York University has proved that TV aggression and brutality does corrupt children, and says, '...few problems seem more deserving of attention.'

The answer to the question, 'What can I do?', is 'Nothing, unless you can persuade about six million others to join with you and express a solid majority opinion.' Such a move is urgent - it must begin somewhere - why not with YOU? Why not join S. T. O. P. and receive our literature? Write to P. O. Box 167, Lutwyche, 4030.

1 Königs Ch. 21 underlines that we, as well as Ahab, are responsible for the deeds of others - if it has been in our power to prevent them. Christians like Booth, Wilberforce and Shaftesbury, accepted their responsibility for injustice, oppression and need. They saw it as their Christian duty to fight till the evils were removed. May we also be given by the Holy Spirit discerning insight into the mind of Christ and wisdom regarding the plight of our country lost in sin, so we may act in the power of His Name to overcome the evils of our time.