

□ SURVEY □



Michael Pardy

foreign service family can be good for your future. It's good training for the realities of adult life.

• *Do you wish to pursue a career in which you will have to travel frequently?*

Catherine: I have trouble seeing myself living in Canada for the rest of my life. To tell the truth, the thought depresses me! With all my heart I would like to be able to travel frequently and discover other cultures. But it's not easy to find such a career, except with External Affairs.

Kari: I would like very much to take a job which would allow me to travel.

Michael: Same thing for me.

Nathalie: I definitely would like to have a career that would involve much travelling. Once you have the bug, it's hard to shake it. For as far back as I can remember, I have lived from one

move to another. This is a normal pattern of life for me. I can't imagine anything else.

• *The morals and customs of people vary depending on the country. When the teenage years come, the tendency is to rebel. Is this accentuated by the fact that you are living abroad, far removed from Canadian ways?*

Catherine: In my case, the problems of adolescence were not accentuated by living abroad. On the contrary — I must have had other things on my mind. In any case, I think that the teenage years are almost the same for young people everywhere, regardless of culture or nationality.

Kari: I think that life as an adolescent is more difficult when one does not know exactly what to expect in terms of morals and customs. This also probably causes unrest in adolescents because they would not necessarily want to give up their own customs.

Michael: The peer group was more homogenous. There was not the exposure to the extremes. I was treated as a responsible person and, indeed, had to be responsible and independent and make my own decisions. Because of our lifestyle, I was always busy and involved in school or family activities as a young child/teen. With servants around, one was rarely alone.

The independence and self-direction I had to learn by moving all the time made it easy to get jobs, keep up with school work and have fun at the same time. It is important not to be passive, to get out and do things, to be your own person.

Nathalie: Teens have a crisis period wherever they are. You can't avoid it. I spent some of my teenage years in Canada and some abroad. Quite frankly, it was more difficult in Canada. But I cannot generalize. Everyone sees things differently □



Catherine Paquet