

it ever occur to you how boys will stick together, and how girls will pass on the other side when one of their number leaves the straight path? The double standard places every girl at a disadvantage in many ways.

What is more, when a man has induced a girl to yield herself to him under the pretence of love or the promise of marriage, more often than not he will later refuse to marry her and will seek a girl whose honor is unstained.

If a girl steps aside from the path of virtue in the slightest degree, she is written down as bad and all the gossip hounds of society will chase her to ruin.

Let me further say that the difference between the man who seduces the woman to ruin and the man who helps to continue her in that life of shame, is not so great as some would like to think. A big brutal man pushes a fair maiden off the sidewalk of life into the mud of the street. That, you say, was inhuman and cruel. Yes, it was. But there followed him a man who, instead of helping the fallen woman rise, pushes her still deeper in the mire. Another followed and did likewise. Every man who participates in that vice, instead of helping his fallen sister rise, helps to sink her to lower levels. If the curse of outraged innocence falls on the head of the first transgressor, it will also fall on every succeeding participant in this crime against womanhood. I cannot understand how a man with any respect for pure womanhood, with the memory of a holy mother and the love of a pure sister in his heart can bring him-