

The value of human life

by Greg Glazov

On behalf of the Dalhousie Newman Society I would like to make a contribution to the on-going debate on abortion. I use the word "debate" sparingly because I very much agree with Mr. Glen Johnson's point, made in the 10 November 1983 issue of the Gazette, that if the human fetus is a human being then he/she has the same right to life as anyone else does.

However, this issue touches the very roots of our concept of the nature and value of human life and many of these things need to be discussed. Balance is

needed. Dr. Donald De Marco, a professor of Philosophy from the University of Waterloo said "it is ironic how most pro-abortionist arguments fail to consider the harmful social reverberations that legal abortion sets in motion. It is something of a mystery how a culture suddenly and overwhelmingly can be convinced of the importance of ecological balances on the sub-human level, and yet remain insensitive to the ecological balances on the human level. Abortion shakes the universe. That is no exaggeration. For the want of a shoe, a kingdom was lost. For the

want of a proper regard for the human unborn, a civilization may be lost."

De Marco dispels the caricature of philosophers as those who make dispassionate decisions involving pain for others will be avoided [sic].

A wholeness is needed in understanding inter-relationships. DeMarco quotes Unamuno: "Life is eventually a tragic struggle between veracity and sincerity—between truth that is thought and truth that is felt."

It is another irony today that with so much attention on Peace, hopes of someone's future peace are being subtly destroyed every thirty seconds in North America.

Again, to quote Dr. DeMarco: "There is an old Jewish saying that 'in the mother's body man knows the universe, in birth he forgets it.' If it were possible for man to arrive directly into the world as an independently functioning being, without having spent any time in peaceful and intimate prenatal harmony with his mother, it is doubtful that he would ever possess the inclination to search for peace and intimacy. Without that elementary education, would anyone have learned the value of such things?"

Eds Note: Dr De Marco will be presenting a lecture entitled Abortion in Perspective on Friday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 117 of the Dunn Building.

DOPEY!

(RNR/CUP) -- Police in the Chicago suburb of Park Forest have finally solved the case of the pot-pilfering mouse.

The pesky rodent had been breaking into evidence lockers to nibble confiscated marijuana. When the mouse refused to go for a trap baited with cheese, the cops decided to use a joint of California dope instead.

"Snap," went the better mousetrap, said police chief Michael Dooley, adding, "that mouse probably doesn't know he's dead."



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