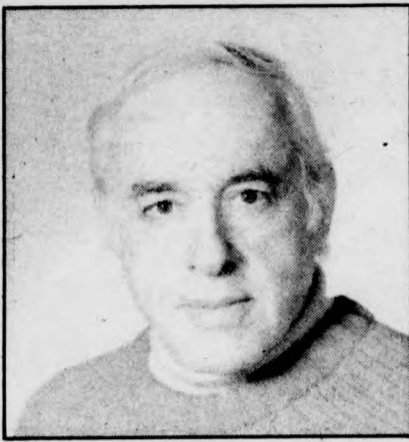


U of T grabs York: CYSF's Bevilacqua takes time out for a kidnapping.



## MODERN PROBLEMS

by Daniel Cappon

**Q.** My girlfriend's parents are from a different culture. They forbade her to see me anymore and they threaten to disinherit her if she becomes engaged to marry me. Should I let her go or press on regardless?

**A.** Are they well enough off to turn *Excalibur* into Canada's youth newspaper? If so, why not set that as the price for "letting her go?" You might as well if you feel so little for her.

On second thought, you really must also support your girlfriend's

parent's tradition if you think that it's up to male power to let the woman come and go. Perhaps they could adopt you and then your girlfriend can really meet some one who loves her enough to bridge any cultural gap with equanimity. The first thing such a man would do is find out how she feels about it, including the threat of disinheritance. And try to find out whether her looking across the border of cultures is an act of rebellion against her parents rather than a happenstance of a love encounter.

In my book, *Coupling*, I explain the circumstances of the chemistry of intimacy and explode the myth that love conquers all. When you step across a racial, ethnic, religious or even age-gap frontier there's a

price to pay. There isn't enough energy in the long run, even in a heathy young love to take care of the necessary personality differences in the foreground as well as the unusual differences in the (cultural) background. Something has to give. You can't have it both ways. Usually in the magical formula of love when there are large differences in the background, there has to be fewer differences in the foreground in order to maintain a balance. This means that such couples require a solid basis of (foreground) commonality.

Dr. Daniel Cappon, author of *COUPLING—the chemistry of intimacy* (St. Martin's Press, New York, 1982) is a Jungian-trained therapist and a York professor of Environmental Studies.

Letters for Dr. Cappon should be sent to him c/o *Excalibur*, Room 111 Central Square, Ross Building York University, 4700 Keele Street, Downsview M3J 1P3. All correspondents names are confidential.

Through this column, *Excalibur* hopes to stimulate discussion, and we encourage people with different opinions to write to the newspaper.

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Call Alex Perleman at 429-2468 (leave message or call back if not in) or write P.O. Box 558, Station J, Toronto M4J 4Z2 for specific info--or a brochure. Or come to free intro meeting on Tues., Oct. 26, at 8 p.m. in the 8th floor lounge (S872) in the Ross Bldg. at York or on Mon., Oct. 18, at 8 p.m. at Ont. Inst. for Studies in Educ. 252 Bloor W. (at St. George), Room 2-214 or Thurs., Oct. 21, at Westin Hotel, University Ave. & Richmond St., Carmichael/Jackson Room. Actual program starts Nov. 1 with sessions at 11 different times during the week.

Note: Program fee is \$245.00. 20% discount to full-time students. Not enough \$ in your pocket? Ask and I'll see what I can do to help out.