

# Are Coeds Necessary?

By BILL SAVAGE

With Marginal Notes By ANN BAILEY

*you must admit we've been real sweet about admitting men to the once sacred kitchen.*

*Ask any American female*

*Thanks - We're tired of the appellation "weaker sex."*

*No more meager than the men of that time.*

*I'll bet you knew it all the time*

*And the not-so-innocent school boy discovered the same things!*

*Men had a better imagination in those days*

*This is what is known as male logic ("I resent that woman is different, but 'wise la difference!'" )*

*If you can't lick 'em - join 'em.*

*What man?*

*So intemperante American ingenuity rears its ugly head again?*

*Don't apologize. Doesn't a man usually realize his intellectual limitations?*

At a time when investigation has become a national habit, it behooves the American male to examine the coeducational school system and ask, "Where are we going?" There is no doubting that the exodus of the fair sex from the kitchen to the classroom has had a cataclysmic effect on the education we receive today.

Coeducation, like the automobile and Hadacol, is a result of American intemperant ingenuity. It all began, innocently enough, before the Civil War when schools in sparsely settled areas were forced to open their doors to females because of meager classroom facilities and a shortage of teachers.

In this early stage, coeducation was regarded, like divorce and debtors prison, as a necessary evil. It was not intended to survive; but female tenacity triumphed over tradition and the New Freedom for women had arrived.

The destruction of American education was not immediate, nor could a reasonable person foresee the inevitable result.

The American girl of the 1830's was not outfitted in a manner that would attract or distract her male counterpart in the classroom. Ankles were discreetly covered and curves were hidden under the ample dress of the period.

But time and women changed. Skirts soared and necklines fell. The American bosom became more public and infinitely better advertised. The innocent school girl discovered "substitutes" and "My Sin." The Student Union out drew the classroom, and the geometry book had to compete with a pair of shapely legs in the next seat. It is not difficult to guess which came out second best.

In an attempt to discover the sentiments of the American woman on the subject of coeducation, I resorted to an article on the subject by a dean emeritus of Bryn Mawr College. The author, a good lady fully as unbiased on the subject as Matenkov would be in a discussion of communism, justifies the system by stating that women make better grades than men. There is a heavy implication that women are, therefore, more intelligent. This is what is known as female logic (one plus one equals four).

If it is true that women make better grades than men, there is a simple reason for it: women are better equipped for success in college. It is not a mental advantage and goes back to a basic difference in men and women. While a man usually realizes his intellectual limitations, a woman never does, and she pursues her way through college with a verve and confidence that antagonize and frustrate professors and students alike.

The basis of this confidence is that a woman has a reservoir that serves her scholastically when the intellect runs dry. This reservoir is sex, and a college girl uses it as effectively as an enterprising student uses a "cheat sheet" on a quiz. When a woman realizes that a course is beyond her mental capabilities, she ceases to rely on brains alone and supplements her studies with the clever artifices of womanhood. Sweaters become smaller, the curves more pronounced, the perfume more exotic. All this produces the desired result.

The stone heart of the professor melts, and male classmates are reduced to such gibbering idiots that the class average drops considerably. The professor discovers that sweet Gwendolyn has an intellect, never before noticeable, and rewards her with a passing grade.

However, the coeducational system might not have been such a dis-

But he wouldn't complain if the judge were some

Dug by College men

Which she learns from her date

In self-defense

Merely the "Survival of the fittest."

American Womanhood - a commodity now within the reach of all American manhood.

service to America had it not introduced women to those fields formerly occupied exclusively by men. This has resulted in a small army of skirted engineers, female economists, and bosomy, ink-stained journalists. Women have even intruded into other professional schools, and the result is horrible to contemplate. What chance does a poor, defenseless lawyer have with a jury when he is opposed by some voluptuous Portia?

But by far the worst aspect of the coeducational system is the effect it has had on women themselves. The few who have managed to survive the pitfalls of college life and have emerged to become good wives and mothers deserve the respect of all. But the average American girl has come to regard the kitchen and maternity with a horror formerly reserved for the Black Plague.

This average girl who goes to college usually falls into one of two unfortunate habits. She may become "sophisticated," learn to use assorted four-letter words without blushing, and contrive to drink her date under the table. Probably she accomplishes all three, and regards herself as a woman of the world. The second type is of the other extreme. Eschewing the worldly-wise look, she assumes an expression of dense piety and goes around with a look of "I'm very much against sin" on her face. Deciding that most girls wear too much makeup, she uses none, and tries to achieve the fresh "4-H" complexion. Usually, she merely succeeds in appearing to be suffering from a vitamin deficiency.

The most obvious conclusion is that coeducation has not had the salubrious effect that feminists claimed it would have. By turning our schools into playgrounds, coeducation has defeated the purposes of our colleges and universities. But it has not only depreciated American education; what is worse—it has cheapened American womanhood.



ABLY DEFENDING the necessity of coeds to higher education, Ann Bailey can make just as good a defense by photo as by words. Homecoming Queen (1952), Ann was recently selected one of the 11 most beautiful coeds in America by *Compact* magazine.