



BAPTIST PRESS

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Ethics Professor Gives Tips To Parents of Kids on Drugs

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--"Don't turn a youngster on drugs over to the police," a Baptist seminary ethics professor warned participants at a conference on drugs here. "This could be one of the most damaging things a parent can do."

This strong advice was given by Henlee H. Barnette, professor of Christian ethics at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, during a conference on the "Drug Crisis in the Church" sponsored by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Speaking at Glorieta Baptist Assembly near Santa Fe, Barnette stressed that if a parent suspected, or discovered, that his child is taking drugs, it is important "to keep your cool and don't panic."

"Remember that one of the reasons the youth is on drugs may be to get his parents 'up tight'," suggested the professor. "Don't go into a blind rage and beat the offspring or order him out of the house," he warned.

"Rather than calling the police, call a physician and seek his advice and help," he proposed. "Usually he will be sympathetic and know what further steps to take."

Barnette warned that turning a youngster over to the police may turn the youth permanently against his parents. Among other things, it could mean expulsion from school and even imprisonment "where he could get a post-graduate course in real crime."

Recognizing the difficult problem faced by the parent if the youngster is a pusher and will not voluntarily seek help, Barnette observed that in this case the authorities may have to be notified.

"If he is a junky, and will not seek help, about the only thing parents can do is to kick him out," Barnette said. He quickly added that before such drastic action is taken, every effort should be made to get the drug pusher into a hospital or rehabilitation program.

To continue to support a drug pusher would feed his habit, which would only get bigger, Barnette warned. This would "keep him an infant, a baby, and this is what he wants. He must give up drugs, or leave," he stated.

Barnette urged parents not to intentionally try to frighten children off drugs. This will cause them to "turn a deaf ear" to parents or anyone else who tries this approach, he said.

"Scare tactics will not work because those on drugs usually know more about their nature and effects than parents do," Barnette observed. "The result will be further alienation."

Giving advice to parents on handling the situation, Barnette said that one of the first things parents should do is to talk openly with their son or daughter. "Communication is essential in coping with the young drug abuser," he said.

"During this time, parents must demonstrate the fine art of listening as well as giving advice," he suggested. "The victim of drugs needs to be heard rather than harranged and harrassed."

Listing some preventive measures, Barnette advised that:

--Family relationships should be so structured as to make it possible for children to feel that they will be heard in a spirit of understanding.

--Outside counseling from a physician, minister or trusted friend may be helpful in getting the drup abuser to kick his habit.

--Establishing a good parental example with which the child can easily identify is essential.

Pointing out that a child needs models to follow, and that the drug abuser usually has unhealthy models, Barnette observed that if parents set good examples, their children will have a better chance of resisting drugs.

"They will have a moral reserve and the image of personal integrity which they can never completely forget," he said.

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Dallas Judge Calls For
Uniform Drug Law Codes

8/18/70

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--A Dallas judge, in a speech at Glorieta Baptist Assembly here, called for a uniform code of laws, standardized penalties, and support of national drug legislation as major steps toward effective control of the drug problem in the nation.

Oswin Chrisman, probate judge in Dallas County, Texas, told participants in a conference on "The Drug Crisis in the Church" that effective drug traffic control is hampered because of inequities in state and federal laws.

Judge Chrisman told the conference, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, that federal laws dealing with drugs that alter mind and mood are "a hodge podge of statutes."

Describing the various types of laws regarding use and sale of drugs and penalties for violations, Judge Chrisman observed that generally the laws "restrict the power of the judge to individualize punishment, and make penalties applicable indiscriminately to minor violators as well as to substantial figures in the illicit drug traffic."

Calling for support for current drug legislation now pending before Congress, Judge Chrisman declared:

"What is desperately needed now is a uniform code of laws, standardizing offenses and penalties for the federal and state enforcement agencies."

He explained that more severe punishment would be possible under the proposed legislation for those who distribute and profit in the drug traffic, and added the proposed laws would provide equitable punishment for first offenders by giving the trial judge more discretion.

"It might be noted that even under the present system of law, the distributor of drugs could be punished more frequently if young people would decide to police themselves," Chrisman said. He explained that a complaining victim is needed to bring the drug pusher to court, and added that "rarely does one (complaining victim) come forth."

An active Baptist layman, Chrisman challenged Southern Baptists to establish programs in their churches that would aggressively intervene in problem situations by providing support to the accused and to their families.

The judge observed that in his own court in a county where Baptists comprise a major portion of the population, "no Baptist group or minister has yet filled this role of support."

He predicted that much needed reforms in mental health programs and facilities will come sooner than most people might expect because the drug abuse problem is basically a middle-class problem affecting the children of parents in the power structure.

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Gordon Clinard Electd
Seminary Evangelism Head

8/18/70

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Gordon Clinard, Texas pastor and immediate past president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has been elected to the endowed professorship of evangelism named for Evangelist Billy Graham at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Clinard, pastor of First Baptist Church in San Angelo, Tex., will join the seminary's faculty effective Oct. 1, filling the "Billy Graham Chair of Evangelism" with the rank of full professor, with tenure. He was elected by the seminary's board of trustees.

Clinard succeeds Kenneth L. Chafin, who resigned early this year to become director of the evangelism division for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

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Both Clinard and Chafin has taught evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, before their election to the Southern Seminary position.

Chafin was the first to hold the chair, established in 1964. A nationwide fund campaign in 1966-69 resulted in gifts and pledges of \$625,000 to endow the teaching post and the Billy Graham Library Collection supervised by the evangelism professor, seminary officials said.

Clinard has been pastor of the San Angelo church since 1966, and was evangelism professor at Southwestern Seminary for 11 years previously.

He was elected president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in 1967, and re-elected in 1968. He is now a member of the state convention's Executive Board, its Christian Education Commission, and is a trustee for Baptist Memorial Geriatrics Hospital, San Angelo.

A native of Tennessee, Clinard is a graduate of Union University (Baptist) in Jackson, Tenn., and Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, where he earned the doctor of theology degree.

He has been pastor of First Baptist Church, Burleson, Tex., and First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Tex.

He is author of the book, The Gospel Proclaim, co-author of Steps to the Sermon, and former editor of the Southwestern Journal of Theology published by Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth.

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Four Southwestern Professors
Take Sabbatic Leave Studies

8/18/70

FORT WORTH (BP)--Four professors at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here will be on sabbatic leave during the 1970-71 school year, three of them studying or teaching in Europe.

D. David Garland, professor of Old Testament, will teach at the Ruschlikon Baptist Theological Seminary near Zurich, Switzerland.

John H. Kiewitt, professor of historical theology, will study Dutch theology at the University of Leiden and the Royal Dutch Library of the Hague on an American Association of Theological Schools (A.A.T.S.) study grant.

James D. Williams, associate professor of adult education, will do research on patterns of adult education in Great Britain at the University of London, also on an A.A.T.S. study grant.

Virtus E. Gideon, professor of New Testament, plans to study at Texas Christian University here, and will revise the Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Complete Bible Commentary, and work with another seminary professor, Curtis Vaughn, on a Greek grammar manual scheduled for later publication.

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Southern Seminary To Study
Offering Doctor of Ministries

8/18/70

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here will soon begin investigating the possibility of shifting to the Doctor of Ministries (D. Min.) degree as its basic professional-level degree offered by the seminary's School of Theology.

The study will be conducted by the seminary's newly-appointed professional studies committee, headed by Hugo Culpepper, professor of Christian missions and world religions and former Missions Division Director for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

Seminary officials said the decision to consider the change came after a June meeting of the American Association of Theological Schools in Claremont, Calif., which voted to recognize the right of member schools it accredits to move to a professional doctorate "provided that their academic and other educational resources warrant such a development."

William E. Hull, dean of the seminary's School of Theology, noted that the provisional guidelines set by the accrediting body envision a new degree program quite different from the present three-year Master of Divinity degree program.

If approved by the seven-member faculty committee, Southern Seminary could possibly move from offering the Master of Divinity degree as its basic study program, to the Doctor of Ministries degree.

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Though the Doctor of Ministries degree might be built upon many of the same courses as the Master of Divinity, Hull said that the concept for the professional doctorate would focus on the needs of the ministry rather than simply on the coverage of traditional theological disciplines.

Such a distinctive new approach to theological education at Southern Seminary would require at least a year of study by the faculty before any implementation is attempted, Hull said.

He predicted that the seminary could not move into the Doctor of Ministries program before the 1971-72 academic year, pending approval of both the School of Theology faculty and the seminary's board of trustees.

At the meeting in Claremont, representatives of the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries agreed that none of the six seminaries would take action on adoption of the proposed degree prior to a conference of academic officers of all six schools, perhaps in the late fall.



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