Doctor Writes: 'Let's Face It'

My sincerest congratulations to Carl T. Rowan on "Is It Time to Face Reality?"

In view of the 300.000 illegitimate births annually, he raises the question whether it is not time for the distribution of contraceptive information and materials to unmarried women even if it is at the expense of the public.

In my opinion it is late indeed, but better late than never. Because of society's highly restrictive attitude towards sex the results are the hundreds of thousands of illegitimate births, the millions of abortions, the thousands of deaths therefrom, the hundreds of millions of dollars spent in taxes for the care of these illegitimate children and their mothers, as well as the mental anguish and emotional upheaval these children, born out of wedlock, must endure.

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Time after time I've asked the unmarried pregnant girls who come to my office, why they didn't use some form of contraceptive. Without exception the answer was "I was too embarrassed" or, "I was afraid to come to a doctor for fear of being thrown out of his office."

Our mores are not in the process of changing. Let's face it. They've changed considerably since World War II. Whether parents like it or not, the vast majority of their childeren are having sexual experiences.

I strongly urge all parents through their PTAs to demand sex education courses for themselves, as well as courses for teachers, so that proper handling of sex problems can be met at each age level

It is time to stop our medieval attitudes towards sex and help keep it as God created it to be—a source of beauty, instead of the ugliness mankind has made of it.

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