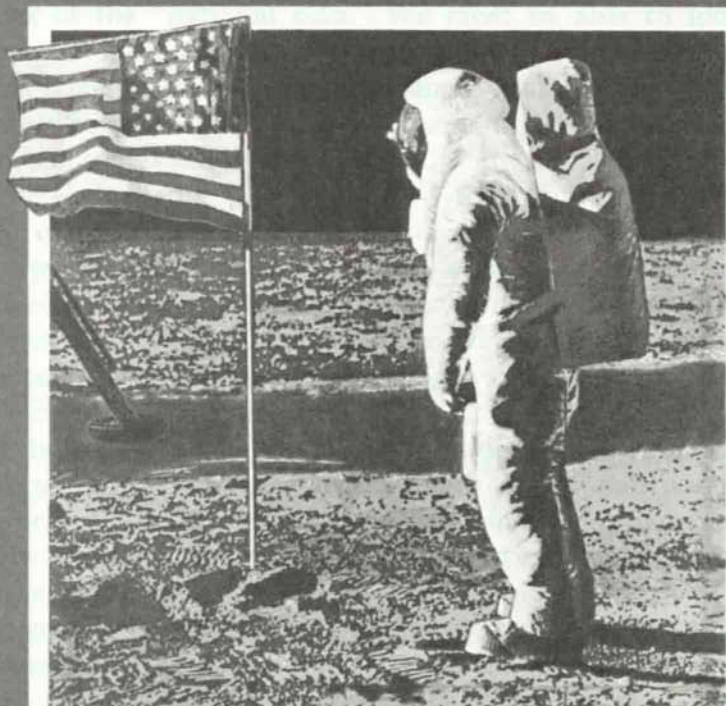


BOOK V

AMERICA- TODAY AND TOMORROW



America's Lost Virginity

What is the true condition of America today? Is the real state of the union good — or bad? Is the U.S. still at the pinnacle of economic and military power, or has she already begun to slip from her position of world dominance?

America's "Warts"

In order to get a true picture of America today, we must look at both sides of the "national coin." We must be able to look modern America squarely in the face — viewing not only her beauty, strength and noble traits of character and her many notable achievements, but we also need to look at her "warts" — those unpleasant aspects of a rich, powerful, somewhat ungrateful America.

As we look at the "seamy side" of the United States, let us not accept or espouse an attitude of "doom and gloom" toward America's future, even though the American ship of state is drifting toward the rocky shore of certain disaster and destruction unless she alters course! The next two hundred years of these United States can be much greater than the past two centuries — if we choose and follow the right path — never veering to the right or left!

But the option is squarely on the shoulders of the American people. This nation can choose to follow the path of law and order, of hard, honest work, of morality and deep gratitude for all our blessings — or we can follow the opposite course — and eventually lose everything, including the very liberties which we cherish so highly!

This great American nation is, in many ways, a polluted country. In many areas of the U.S. the very air we breathe is polluted. So is much of our water and food. Rachel Carson's book, *Silent Spring* (1962) sparked a national awareness to the growing insecticide pollution of America's streams, rivers, lakes, the farmlands, food, and almost everything we touch today.

Greedy Americans, clutching desperately after the "Almighty Dollar," have ravished and polluted this Fair Land until it would barely be recognizable to our forefathers — should they be alive today.

How do other nations view America today? One view of America is that of a rich, affluent Uncle Sam, standing knee-deep in garbage while sending the world's first men to romp on the moon.

America's unprecedented affluence, and the resultant pollution of their land, water and the very air they breathe, is only part of the story. Since the dawn of history, a surfeit of material things has generally tended to corrupt and debase its recipients.

America is no exception. Our glut of material things, plus our abandonment of the old moral values of our forefathers, is certainly weakening the entire fabric of our nation, including the all-important family life of our peoples.

Ben J. Wattenberg made a penetrating observation in his informative book, *The Real America*:

There is the theory of Lost National Virginity. America, so the argument goes, is a young nation — but not as young and *innocent* as it once was. Following World War II, America became the dominant power in the world. With that power, so goes the theory, came the inevitable corruption and *arrogance of power*. Americans understand that they themselves, as individuals, are far from perfect. They may *cheat* once in a while on their income tax, maybe they cut a corner or two in business life. But what Americans are prepared to shrug off in their personal lives, they find deeply disquieting in national affairs. Add *Vietnam* to the *Bay of Pigs*, add *Watergate* to *My Lai* — and mass disillusionment and disenchantment are the result. *Virginal no longer*, America has lost the special status it once held in the eyes of the rest of the world and, sadly, in its own eyes as well.

Physically speaking, much of America's once-virgin land has been despoiled, polluted, ravaged.

But worst of all is the *mind pollution* which adversely affects the average American today. The typical American views about 11 films per year, but more importantly, he spends about three and one-half hours per day in front of his TV set, while into his mind is funnelled a constant stream of sex, violence, crime and other forms of mind pollution. It is impossible to overestimate the harmful effects of this type of pollution on the mind of the average American — especially on the minds of our impressionable youths.

Let us examine some of our nation's modern faults.

Our Sick, Sick Nation

One of America's most pressing problems is that of the health of the nation. How can America cope with her alarming increase of cancer and other diseases?

As Americans have become affluent, glutted with a surfeit of material things — we have also become complacent, haughty, and ungrateful.

And our overabundance has often led to excesses, which in turn has contributed to sickness and disease.

With the world's highest standard of living (with thousands of factories belching forth smoke and refuse), the very *air* we breathe, the *water* we drink, and the very *food* we eat has become more polluted with ever-increasing amounts of additives, colorings, preservatives.

And even though Americans are the best-clothed and best-fed people on earth, nonetheless many are undernourished because of eating "foodless" foods — foods which have been robbed of their natural food components. As an example: because of the profit motive, the food processing industry removes the life-giving germ from wheat, and the mineral-rich bran — and sells us the white, starchy part of the grain of wheat.

What is the result of our poor diet, lack of exercise, baleful habit of smoking, excessive consumption of alcohol and the constant mental strain under which the average American lives? The result of this way of life is an avalanche of sickness.

Shocking Health Statistics

What is the real state of America's health — both physically and mentally?

The state of America's health is truly staggering. In 1973, Americans spent over \$94 billion on health care. And still more was spent during '74, '75 and '76.

Notice this quote from *Newsweek*, March 29, 1976: "Many health experts agree that a substantial number of the nearly 20 million hysterectomies, tonsillectomies and other nonemergency operations performed in the U.S. each year are probably unnecessary — and might have been avoided if the patient had sought a second opinion before going under the knife

"... And a Congressional committee earlier this year estimated that more than 2 million of the elective operations performed in 1974 were not only unnecessary — but also killed about 12,000 patients and cost nearly \$4 billion."

About half of the U.S. population is afflicted with some chronic disease. According to Dr. Paul Dudley White, physician to the late President Eisenhower, "The United States is one of the most unhealthy countries in the world." And according to Dr. Herbert Ratner, "America is the most over-medicated, most overoperated and the most over-inoculated country in the world. It is also the most anxiety ridden country with regard to health."

Notice these shocking statistics: About 25 million Americans have some kind of heart disease, and over a million die annually from cardiovascular diseases.

Over a third of a million (about 350,000) people die each year from cancer, and an estimated 50 million Americans now living are destined to contract this dreadful disease. About one in four Americans will contract cancer sometime in his lifetime.

Another 22 million are afflicted by an allergic disease. Mental illness has struck down 19 million! Arthritis has crippled 17 million, and 15 million Americans have gallstones.

Fourteen million are suffering from emphysema. Twelve million are afflicted with osteoporosis (weak bones), and six million are stone deaf. Another five million suffer from ulcers.

And these are only a few of the literally hundreds of diseases which Americans are suffering from right this very moment. As America celebrated her 200-year birthday, the state of her mental and physical health was "not good."

Even though *heart disease* is the number one killer, even more dreaded is omnipresent cancer. When a heart attack or a stroke strikes down a victim, it usually does so with little or no warning, and the end result is not necessarily fatal. But when cancer strikes, there is the awful near certainty that in most instances there will not only be many months or years of pain, suffering and expensive treatments, but that it will usually claim the life of its victim.

Every year, 22,000 Americans commit suicide. In the 15-19 year age group, suicide is the number three cause of deaths.

Two million Americans consult a doctor every day. Thirty million spend time in a hospital each year. And hospital costs in all categories (including insurance costs of doctors and patients) are soaring astronomically. In fact, Americans have got to the place where millions literally *can't afford* to have a serious illness.

In 1974, over \$100 billion was spent on health and medicine by Americans — about \$500.00 for each man, woman and child. The figures for 1975 and 1976 are considerably higher.

Keys to Radiant Health

Many sobering facts of vital interest to Americans are brought out in an interesting and informative book, *The Keys to Radiant Health*, by William F. Dankenbring. In his book, William Dankenbring asserts that we have become a nation of disease and anxiety. Medicine, for all its brilliant technology, has yet to address itself to the *prevention* of illness, the maintenance of good health.

Mr. Dankenbring points out that not only is our physical health in jeopardy, but our mental and moral health is also on the rocks of disaster. He shows that between 2-5 million Americans contract VD each year — that sexual immorality is the cause of our number one preventable communicable disease.

Despite all the warnings, the majority of Americans continue to indulge themselves in the potentially harmful pleasures that society provides. They are apparently content to take the *perils* along with the *pleasures*. "Right now we've decided that this is the way we want to *live* and *die*," asserts Dr. David Baltimore, a 1975 Nobel Prize winner for basic cancer research. "*And that's the real challenge in American health today.*"

How many American smokers have the courage and the strength of character to quit smoking? This noxious and expensive habit took the lives of 300,000 Americans in 1975! How many Americans who have a problem of drinking excessively will have the courage and character to quit doing those things which may cause their lives to be shortened — needlessly?

America's real health challenge: Will the people of these United States begin living balanced, moderate lives? Or will they continue their self-indulgent, lacking-in-exercise, self-polluted lives, and shorten their lives needlessly?

But physical health pollution is only one of the twin dangers to society. The other is *moral health pollution*.

America's Lost Virginity

Surely something is drastically wrong with the morals of a nation when the man who occupies its highest elective office — the Presidency — can give free rein to his amorous desires in such a way as to scandalize the nation.

During America's Bicentennial, numerous reports, articles and books concerning the sexual activities of various presidents have received widespread circulation.

It is now well known that Franklin Roosevelt had a mistress while he served in the White House. Even more titillating to the press, however, is the shocking accounts of a recent President and his many female companions.

Conservative *Time* magazine ran an article in which it discussed some of the President's escapades.

After mentioning several of his well-known movie actress friends — the article declared:

Sources familiar with the White House contend that the President's liaisons were mostly with relatively unknown young women. Most often cited are two women who displayed few secretarial skills but worked on his staff. . . .

They usually were assigned quarters near the President and were

code-named 'Fiddle' and 'Faddle' by the Secret Service.

It was apparently not uncommon for some of the President's closest male friends to send willing young women to the White House.... Secret Service agents would pass such casual women under presidential instructions, although they worried about it. More frequent visitors, including a number of airline stewardesses, underwent full Secret Service investigations.

Traphes Bryant served as an electrician and kennel-keeper at the White House during the Truman-to-Nixon administrations. According to Bryant, author of *Dog Days at the White House*, the housekeeping staff at the White House engaged in a "conspiracy of silence" to keep the President's trysts a secret. This President would sometimes lounge naked around the White House swimming pool when his wife was away, and women would arrive, undress, and join him.

One day while on duty, Bryant said:

"Just as the elevator door opened, a naked blonde office girl ran through the hall between the second-floor kitchen and the door leading to the West Hall. There was nothing to do but to get out fast and push the basement buttons."

Bryant tells us that the staff always scurried about after a woman had visited the President to retrieve telltale hairpins. One day, however, his wife allegedly found a woman's undergarment tucked into a pillow slip. She is quoted as having said calmly to her husband: "Would you please shop around and see who these belong to? They're not my size."

Columnist Earl Wilson, in his book *Show Business Laid Bare*, said the President kept a stable of actresses, secretaries, models and stewardesses. His sexual score card, Wilson claims, ran into the hundreds because women found him irresistible.

Was the President at all ashamed of his trysts? Did he blush at the thought that others might learn of his example of immoral conduct?

The President's "secret harem" may have enhanced his image in the eyes of ex-mobsters, advocates of the "new morality," and the morally bankrupt, but there are still many millions in this land who have not abandoned all sense of right and wrong. Those who still cling to the sound principles of "morality" are both embarrassed and saddened to be told that their President set such an example of shameful conduct while holding the highest office in the land!

Sex and Politics

The extent of immorality among America's top leaders is so widespread as to be rather well known. The *Los Angeles Times*, May 14,

1976, disclosed that a study of high-priced prostitutes showed that 60% of their clients are political leaders or powerful corporate chieftains who usually prefer "kinky" sex. A report delivered to the American Psychiatric Association declared that public figures frequently seek flagellation while they are held in bondage, and indulge in fetishism, exhibition and voyeurism.

The prestigious newspaper reported: "The study was conducted by two assistant psychiatry professors at the New York Medical College. They say their survey of elite prostitutes determined that corporate executives, or 'power broker,' and high-ranking federal, state and local officials make up a *majority* of the call girls' customers."

How involved are high-ranking politicians in this national scandal which deeply afflicts our nation?

Doctors Samuel S. Janus and Barbara Bess reported that, according to their survey, politicians tend to become habitual customers, unlike most other clients of these ladies of the evening. The study says the politicians involved were congressmen, federal and state judges, governors, state legislators, mayors, city councilmen and district attorneys.

This widespread, high-level patronage of "elite prostitutes" is just one more lamentable indication of America's downward moral plunge.

Sex scandals in politics crop up repeatedly. Who will soon forget the celebrated liaison between Wilbur Mills, former House Ways and Means Chairman, and stripper Fanne Foxe, the "Argentina Firecracker" and "Tidal Basin Bombshell"?

Who will soon forget the equally titillating scandal involving Congressman Wayne Hays and Elizabeth Ray, whom he employed as a \$14,000-a-year committee clerk? Ray, who claims she can neither type nor file, insisted she was hired solely to be Hays' mistress and for sexual purposes. After denying the charges at first, Hays later admitted the affair and was forced to resign his powerful office as chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and Administration Committee.

The sex scandal grew as Ray claimed she had actual tape recordings of love making with over a dozen Congressmen and Senators, and who threatened to spill the secrets to the FBI.

One can only wonder where the chain of sexual escapades would end? What has happened to morality, virtue, and old-fashioned marital faithfulness?

America's Moral Decline

In his Farewell Address to the nation in September, 1796, the Father of our country told his fellow Americans that the two "great

pillars of human happiness” are “religion and morality.” And, said Washington, “these *firmest props* of the duties of men and citizens” lead a nation to “political prosperity.”

Historians have oft noted that when any nation or empire (such as the Roman Empire) began experiencing a serious *moral* and *spiritual decline* — then that nation was on its way to total eclipse.

Judging by this criteria, one is led to ask: Is America headed the way of the ancient empires of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Greece and Rome?

What is at the very heart of America’s problems of crime and lawlessness, immorality, mental and physical illnesses and her rapidly declining position as a world power?

James R. Schlesinger, former Secretary of Defense, put his finger on America’s number one problem when he said: “The *real problem* we face is what is happening to the *moral stamina* of the West. . . .”

During an interview in the summer of ’75 he pinpointed America’s real problem:

So I think that our basic problem as a nation is not our physical strength or our stance. It is a question of reviving the underlying *moral stamina* and the internal fiber of this nation, as well as of other free-world nations.

Are there any indices by which Americans can judge the moral or spiritual condition of their nation?

An accurate index of a nation’s morality (or lack of it) can usually be found in its attitudes, teachings and practices concerning marriage, sex and family life.

It is common knowledge that when a nation’s *homes* begin to fall apart — then such an unfortunate country is in serious trouble. And America’s homes are crumbling.

Look at the way divorce has climbed steadily since 1962:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Population</i>
<i>Number</i>	
1962	
413,000	2.2
1963	
428,000	2.3
1964	
450,000	2.4
1965	
479,000	2.5
1966	

499,000	2.5
1967	
523,000	2.6
1968	
584,000	2.9
1969	
639,000	3.2
1970	
708,000	3.5
1971	
773,000	3.7
1972	
845,000	4.1
1973	
915,000	4.4
1974	
970,000	4.6
1975	
1,026,000	5.8

These figures clearly show that the divorce rate in the U.S. has more than doubled in the past decade. It has often been said that in one way or another divorce touches every third home in America today. And in Los Angeles, the divorce capital of the nation, every third marriage ends in divorce.

The steady but shocking rise in divorce in America has brought with it a mountain of woe and suffering. When a couple go through the emotional wringer of getting a divorce, they naturally suffer a great deal of mental and emotional anguish.

But worst of all is the suffering experienced by the defenseless children — especially young children. The scars left from a traumatic divorce will in many cases never be erased from the child's mind — even when he reaches adulthood.

Furthermore, according to actual statistics, those children who come from broken homes are themselves more apt to end up getting divorces when they get married — thus perpetuating a never-ending circle of divorce and broken homes.

Children were intended to have the love, teaching, encouragement and example of *both* parents — not just one. When divorce splits open a home, it is always a *tragedy* — regardless of who may be at fault.

What are some of the contributory causes of skyrocketing divorce in the United States? New easy divorce laws, availability of free legal services, the increasing acceptance of divorce as a social phenomenon,

and the women's liberation movement coupled with an ever-increasing number of working wives.

America's Attitude Toward Sex

One of the surest indications of a nation's moral decline is revealed in its attitudes toward sex. No sane theologian, psychologist or teacher would advocate a return to the repressive Victorian concepts of sex and morality. During the Victorian era, many did have warped ideas regarding sex. Many Victorians even looked upon the natural use of sex in marriage as a necessary evil by which the world's population was sustained and augmented. Their concept of sex and marriage was not unlike that of some of the early Church Fathers.

Here is what the famed historian Edward Gibbon had to say concerning certain extreme beliefs regarding sex which were adopted by the "Church fathers" in the centuries immediately following the death of the apostles.

The *chaste severity of the fathers* in whatever related to the commerce of the *two sexes* flowed from the same principle — their abhorrence of every enjoyment which might gratify the sensual and degrade the spiritual nature of man. It was their favourite opinion, that if Adam had preserved his obedience to the Creator, he would have lived forever in a state of *virgin purity*, and that some harmless mode of vegetation might have peopled paradise with a race of innocent and immortal beings. The use of marriage was *permitted* only to his fallen posterity, as a necessary expedient to continue the human species, and as a restraint, however imperfect, on the natural licentiousness of desire. The hesitation of the orthodox causists on this interesting subject betrays the perplexity of men unwilling to approve an institution (of marriage) which they were compelled to tolerate. . . .

Some of the Gnostics even totally rejected the use of marriage.

But today all sex restraints have been thrown to the winds. Most anything goes! The bookstores and newsstands have been deluged with an avalanche of books on sex — all the way from raw pornography to various books professing to be "straight." Many of today's books on sex actually encourage every kind of weird, kinky sex practice.

Redbook magazine revealed some interesting facts regarding sexual attitudes and practices in the United States. This magazine pointed out that "strongly religious" women report more sexual fulfillment in marriage than do "fairly religious" women. And at the very bottom of the happiness scale, according to this issue of *Redbook* magazine, are the non-religious women.

The survey found that 80% of the women questioned and 90% of those under 25 report having had *premarital intercourse*. Nearly all women (86%) have experienced oral sex. Close to one-third of all married women, and half of those who have jobs have had extramarital affairs.

Less than 4% have participated in mate swapping, but 24% say they would like to. While only 12% of the women would object to a son's having premarital intercourse, 24% would oppose it for their daughters.

Redbook took a survey of the sexual pleasures and preferences of American women, to which 100,000 readers responded. One of the most fascinating and unexpected findings was the intimate connection between sex and religion. The report indicated that the religious female is the most sexually satisfied, the most sexually active and the most orgasmic woman in the country.

The old, stereotyped image of the tight-lipped, narrow-minded, prudish religious woman probably has always been a false one. *Redbook* also points out that many of those who have sought "sexual liberation" have ended up in confusion.

The Gay Generation

It is clear that the Victorian prudishness of past generations has vanished from America. But the "sex" pendulum has swung to the opposite extreme. Now, just about anything goes!

There are an estimated *five million homosexuals* in the United States today. But homosexuals themselves estimate their number to be about *20 million!*

A homosexual is credited with having saved the life of President Ford. When the President visited San Francisco in the autumn of 1975, Oliver Sipple knocked aside Sara Jane Moore's gun hand, thereby possibly saving Gerald Ford's life. Oliver Sipple became an instant hero — and eventually a victim — when it was discovered that he was a homosexual.

The gay movement is today gaining ground throughout America. Homosexuals are pressing for recognition — trying to get their sexual life style legalized so that they can serve without molestation in the police forces of the nation, in the armed forces, or in government positions. Actually, many homosexuals have already been serving in those offices.

But in spite of their intensive campaign to achieve legal and social acceptability in the U.S., homosexuals are still looked upon by the average American as being outside the norms of society. It is still generally considered shameful to be a homosexual, or to have gay friends or relatives. For these and other reasons, many still shun the fellowship of known homosexuals.

Since America is still a very "religious" nation (with about 98% believing in God — according to a 1968 Gallup Poll) there is still enough religious teaching against homosexuality to cause large numbers to shun this unnatural sex practice. Many still believe the sexual lewdness

(including homosexuality) of Sodom and Gomorrah are fit reminders to any city, or nation, which lets itself descend into the cesspool of kinky, weird sex.

Unfortunately, however, there are increasing numbers of Americans who are willing to excuse or condone homosexual acts between consenting adults. Many are agitating to get America to follow the example of Britain and make homosexual acts between consenting adults legal in the United States. It would appear, however, that it will be many years before some of the States adopt such a legal code toward homosexual conduct.

Throughout the history of the world, female prostitution has been commonplace. It has in fact been called the world's oldest profession. But a new approach to this profession is emerging in America. Not only are there female prostitutes or "hookers," but now we have male hookers as well. But why? Women now also demand the right to seek out male prostitutes. *Coronet* magazine featured an article on this growing problem in America entitled "Male Hookers."

Coronet visits a bordello (brothel) where the customers are "Janes" and the prostitutes are men. . . .

Thanks to Women's lib and the sexual revolution, and despite inflation and tight economy, male heterosexual hooking is booming and similar bordellos are springing up all over the country to serve typical American housewives, playgirls, divorcees, girls next door and affluent women with time on their hands.

Why would women seek out male houses of prostitution? The *Coronet* article mentions one woman who gave as her excuse the following:

"I'm married and have two kids. I couldn't afford a scandal."

Another woman said: "I think women ought to demand an 'other man' in our lives too . . ."

Widespread Perversion

But the sad fact is that there are literally millions of people in these United States who are totally "bent out of shape." Many will try anything and the more far out or "kinky" it is the better. They constantly seek more bizarre ways of titilating the five senses: Weird music, mind-destroying drugs, wild orgiastic, perverted sex — or anything which will enable them to let their minds wallow in the lowest emotional and spiritual gutter they can find. That's the kind of moral and spiritual climate which we see, like a huge spiritual cancer, eating away at the very vitals of this nation. Whether or not we wish to acknowledge it, America is going the way of ancient Rome.

Any tourist who has visited the ruins of the ancient Roman city of

Pompeii will remember some of the vivid scenes and accounts of the perversions which were common-place before Mt. Vesuvius erupted and covered that wicked city with a deadly cloud of volcanic ash.

Before the destruction of Pompeii, the inhabitants of the city had chisled representations of the male sex symbol (the phallus) into the stones of the streets. Those phallic symbols pointed fornicators and adulterers in the direction of the prostitutes' houses.

America's Porno Plague

As America celebrated her 200th birthday, she was suffering from one of the worst pornography plagues ever to strike any nation.

In city after city across this nation, there are endless sex-book stalls, theaters and 8-mm. peep shows for voyeurs, sexual encounter centers and massage parlors — as well as topless (and even bottomless) restaurants and bars. In Houston, Texas, it is even possible to procure a topless chauffeur who will whisk tourists in a black Cadillac from downtown hotels to a back room porno parlor. Ex-prostitute Xaviera Hollander has sold nine million copies of her paperbacks. Some 780 American theaters, including many elegant first-run houses, show X-rated movies 52 weeks a year.

Porno — a Symptom of Decay

Time magazine reported on pornography in America:

America is deep into its Age of Porn. The old narrow Puritism is passing, and few mourn it. But the feeling of relief is mixed with growing unease and doubt: How will the current avalanche of porn change America? Many who oppose censorship now wonder if the mounting taste for porn is a symptom of decay, or corrosive boredom, of withdrawal from social concern for obsessive personal pleasures. Even those who argue that it is not harmful to the user, and that people ought to be free to do what they please in private, have begun to fear that the porn plague is in fact invading the privacy of those who want no part of it.

Time continues:

By any definition, porn has mushroomed in the past decade from a marginal underground cottage industry into the open, aggressive \$2 billion-a-year, crime-ridden growth enterprise. Its once powerful foes — the churches and their antivice allies — are now in retreat if not totally routed. Despite flurries of police busts, sporadic prosecutions and a growing sense of unease among many Americans about the gross new world in which they find themselves, most of the traditional barriers to porn are now down. The laws against pornography are uncertain, full of loopholes; harassed law-enforcement officials usually have neither the

will, the funds nor the community backing to wage an effective war on pornography; juries will often not convict. Pornography, says Raunch King Al Goldstein, publisher of *Screw* magazine, is becoming "part of the mainstream of American life."

What Is Obscenity?

In 1966, the liberal Warren Court restricted the definition of obscenity to that which was "utterly without redeeming social value." By including "utterly" in the definition, the floodgates of pornography were opened wide. Both clergymen and libertarians who appealed to the First Amendment testified at obscenity trials that it was possible for them to detect a trace of social value in almost any erotica.

In 1973, the Supreme Court, under Chief Justice Burger, tried to reverse the porn tide, and at the same time, take Justices out of the business of having to review personally all of the many pornography cases which were in dispute. The Supreme Court, by a 5-to-4 ruling, declared that local juries would have to decide what offended decent standards of taste, and give convictions if they found that a work, "taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value."

The Supreme Court decision caused a flurry of editorial changes.

The day after the decision, the office walls of *Penthouse* magazine were covered with x-ed out galleys of hastily killed articles, including one that explored a then new frontier of slick paper porn: how to make love to your dog. The rest of the spectator-sex industry pulled back too, fearing simultaneous prosecutions in hundreds of different localities with varying "community standards."

In San Francisco, the porn capital of America, prosecutors have given up. Attorney Peter Keane believes not even as foul a film as *Animal Lover* would nowadays be judged obscene by a San Francisco jury.

Debut of Porn Films

Jim Mitchell first tried his hand at making black-and-white porn films in 1967 — nearly ten years ago — using a borrowed 8-mm. camera and young men and women willing to copulate on screen for a few dollars a day. Eventually, he and his younger brother hit the financial jackpot with *Behind the Green Door* which cost about \$45,000 to produce, but grosses them nearly \$1 million. The Mitchell brothers (now incorporated as Mitchell Brothers Film Group) are considered the potentates of porn, operate ten theaters in California and produced the most expensive porn film ever made, the \$500,000 *Sodom and Gomorrah*.

Unquestionably there is "big money" in the porn industry, and many have been both willing and able to cash in on the lecherous appetites of Americans. Ventriloquist Ted Marche, 53, ten years ago opened a small dildo factory in North Hollywood. Since then, he and his son Steven, 27, have sold 4,975,000 dildos. Presently, Marche Manufacturing turns out 350 different sexual products. Sales have risen about 28% each year since 1970. Claims Steven Marche: "These toys have saved more marriages than all the preachers in the world."

The Mafia Moves In

Since the porn business is very lucrative, one would quite naturally expect organized crime to move in and take control of the industry. And that is exactly what has happened.

Organized crime, says one Washington official, now dominates the traditional porn industry, massage parlors, topless bars and strip joints. It is a growing presence in porno films as well. The Supreme Court's community-standards ruling in 1973 gave the mob its first real foothold, as a prime distributor of porno films.

The extent to which the filthy-minded purveyors of pornography will go to make and sell their prurient merchandise is scarcely believable.

Says *Time* magazine:

But now porn-film makers are breaking away from the standard formula. . . . One current porn film, *Sweet Movie*, features a striptease for children, intercourse plus murder on a bed of sugar, grisly exhumations and a band of rollicking adults who vomit, defecate and urinate on one another to the strains of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The director, Dusan Madavejev, professes to see the film as socially beneficial. Says he: "It is meant to have a lasting aphrodisiac effect and generally tone up to orgasm."

There is no doubt that such a debauched film will have a lasting effect on anyone who views it. Such foul films are utterly decadent, debased and destructive to the foundations of society and morality. Who can deny that we appear to be going the same path as ancient Rome?

The sex taboo currently under the strongest assault is sadomasochism — sexual pleasure derived from dominating and inflicting pain on a partner or from being hurt. In X-rated movies, sadomasochism is in.

In recent months sex magazines have run large pictorial spreads on bondage: "Bondage is where the action is," a *Playboy* editor declared.

What are the effects of the new porno binge? Says *Time* magazine:

Some who have defended porn are now queasy about the new sex-cum-violence trend. Boston Psychiatrist Otto Marx, who has testified in court in defense of *Deep Throat* and other hard-core films, draws the line

at S-M films like *The Story of O*. Says he: "It is where this kind of mental and physical violence is being done in the context of sex that I begin to worry." Many are drawing the line at *Snuff*, a wretched soft-core movie in which a woman is eviscerated and sawed to pieces by a sadistic gang leader apparently modeled on Charles Manson . . .

Natalie Shainess, a Manhattan psychoanalyst, fears the new acceptability of pornography has convinced many of her young male patients that their perverse compulsions are not really problems at all. As a result, they do nothing to deal with their compulsions. According to Anthropologist Edgar Gregersen, "A great many people with S-M tendencies now conceptualize themselves as S-M people. This has a very great consequence. They are not so willing to change!"

Porno and Ancient Rome

Many Americans are convinced that there is a correlation between pornography and the decline of society. The historical evidence for making such a connection is prodigious. Pornography was clearly associated with the decline of ancient Rome.

"Yet it is difficult to escape the suspicion," admits *Time* magazine, "especially in societies with more or less Judeo-Christian moral standards, that pornography, so often not really erotic but merely dehumanizing, can be a symptom of *social disorder* . . ."

Will Americans continue to descend further and further into the porno gutter — and go the way of ancient Rome? Or will they regain their moral sense and help their porno-infected fellow Americans out of the filthy morass of crass, dehumanizing pornography? If America continues down her present immoral road, she — like ancient Rome — will dissipate her moral strength and spiritual fibre, and will be overcome by more vigorous, aggressive, and stronger nations.