

Real adults have mastered life's lessons

To the editor:

After reading the letter in the Feb. 21 Reporter-Herald "Real men must admit abortion should exist," the question of what a "Real Man" is has kept coming up to me. But in reality, the correct question appears to be "Where have the Real Men and Women gone?"

Standing up and taking responsibility for an unwanted child would seem to be a good sign that a "Real Man or Woman" is in our midst. And sometimes it takes a shocking event to head one towards the growth needed to be a "Real Man or Woman." So my thoughts and comments to come are not intended to condemn the previous actions or decisions of anyone trying to make their way after such events. I hope to offer ideas leading to a higher standard, in order to deter shocking events in the lives of our future "Real Men and Women," which will require heart-damaging decisions, such as abandonment or abortion.

The choice for a young person to be a "Real Man or Woman," would better be made before, not after, an event. A choice made about life, not because of it. If a choice is reached to be a "Real Man or Woman" early in one's life, would it not seem helpful to have a clear standard by which to guide us along? Let us consider the idea that "Real Men and Women" first do no harm to others. A guiding post, which in its nature suggests a need to love other people.

Therefore, since the article mentioned a relationship between a man and a woman, ultimately resulting in the life a child, my comments will be directed towards "Real Men and Women" becoming married and raising children. Although, there are people who choose to remain single and yet strive to be "Real Men and Women," the standard offered would still be "First do no harm to others."

Consider this if you will.

A "Real Man and Women" might:

1. Get as much out of their educational years as possible. Someday a career choice will be made, and the lack of proper training can ultimately hinder the choices available, some-

times harming our family by forcing us to accept working conditions not healthy to a good family environment.

2. Strive to grow in morals and ethics. Our country was founded on the basis of God and his son, Jesus. Separation of church and state was an issue then, as it is today, but was looked at somewhat differently.

Thomas Jefferson originated the term "Separation of church and state." He said it something like this. There is a wall, but it is a one way wall. It is to protect the church from the state, but not a wall which removes the influence of the church, the moral ethical values of God, from our decision-making process as a state. In other words, the hope of the founders was to have a society based on the standard of conduct presented by Jesus. Now, to some, this sounds religious, but it isn't meant to be. There was a good standard given, and we are encouraged by the founders to follow it. Because? Morals and ethics "First do no harm to others."

3. When dating, they will look forward to their future spouse. No person, having never married, has had a physical relationship with a loving, lifelong spouse. There is something better ahead, which is lessened by early, unwed, happenings. Learning to enjoy the company of "Real Men and Women" and to discover what qualities setting them apart is a good approach to early dating. There will be a proper time in life to grow emotionally attached and enter into a lifelong commitment.

4. When selecting a spouse and career, "Real Men and Women" remember their future children and the affects this choice will have on them. Careers can, by their nature, pull us away from the family and a poor choice in a spouse can destroy, or at best keep a family from being every bit as good as it can be. Good decisions "do no harm to our children."

So, maybe I've not stated the standard, as you would have. "First do no harm to others." But if not here, where does it begin? Start the old wheels a turning and begin to discuss it and I'll bet we rise to higher level than, "Real men must admit abortion should exist." What do you think?

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