

March 1970

Let us start off by thanking George and Lynda for sharing the warm hospitality of their home to our members - it was very loving of them. But George and Lynda not only shared their home with us, they also shared their lives: how it is possible for a gay guy and a straight girl to find meaning and real love-relationship in marriage, including some of the problems and joys. Listening to them was a mind expanding experience for most of us... which one of us has not considered the possibilities of marriage?

In comparison to this love we saw the strong masculine relationship of two buddies, Doug and Tom. Doug and Tom are often taken for lovers, but their friendship goes far beyond the merely physical, so much so that sex could be a possible threat to their relationship. Yet they are deeply in love in perhaps the most beautiful way two men can love each other.

In the course of discussion the group seemed to feel that all too frequently in their deepest relationships the physical was not involved; that the sex act was not a culmination of their love, but that it expresses itself in other ways. And interestingly enough, the most delightful sex objects are not people with whom we usually fall in love.

The topic AGE AND THE GAY evoked various feelings in our members. The fact that Gay people themselves discriminate against their own when they are old is a pretty sad, but prevalent thing. Listen to some of the young guys in the bars talking about "old auntie" and also note the exclusion of older people from some of the clubs - it is really incredible. With age comes maturity (hopefully) and interior beauty. But this falls into the shadows as the American public continues its blind quest for youth and beauty. And notice how we demand so much from the other person: we want him to be in top physical shape, but so very often do nothing ourselves to keep the old body in top condition. A strong point for self-evaluation and examination. Of course, the fact remains that we do evaluate our assets and find that the truly important qualities are internal. To be truly human is the aim of every Christian, to be truly Christian you must be a beautiful human being: where it counts - inside. Anyone who has the vaguest insight into Christ knows that He was THE beautiful person.

The exchange of ideas which occurs during the coffee break makes it just as valuable as the discussions themselves. Some members who are reticent to open up during the evening at this time let all sorts of good ideas flow. It is a time to keep your ears open.

Some members were asking about a confessor in the Los Angeles area and I'd like to recommend a good friend of mine, Fr. Tom Behan at our Mother of Good Counsel church in Hollywood. He is a very fine, bright and understanding priest who should be of great help and consolation to the Catholic Gay. He may be reached at 213 664 2111.

Brother Bob runs a Problem Clinic and is certainly open to any member, even if he simply wishes to discuss his problems with someone who has a clear intelligent mind. Bob may be reached at 213 387 5085.

Our next meeting will be held in San Diego on Saturday, March 21st, at 7:30 in the evening. Again we will meet at Paul's: 3020 Reynard Way (map enclosed). If you have any questions about directions or get lost, please phone Paul: 714 298 3752 in the evenings; or Fr. Pat: 714 454 5214 in the afternoons till 5:00. A reminder to new members that no one will be admitted without a membership card. We do not allow guests at our closed meetings.