

WHY I WROTE

A BOOK ON SEX

by

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“Don’t do it!” all my closest friends told me. But when I did the reaction was surprising.

I wrote a book called *SEX AND THE MYSTERIES* with two hundred and seventy-four pages for single persons, for married persons, and even for children. It was all between the same covers. I had decided that was the way it should be done.

My younger brother married a pretty gal from a big family in Philadelphia. Theirs was one of the few *REALLY* happy marriages I had ever encountered. They never had hangups or problems about birth control. They loved each other and God enough for self control.

“I LOVE YOU MORE...”

On their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary my brother said to his wife almost matter-of-factly (and sincerely): “*I love you more today than I did the day we were married.*”

This same success was true of ALL from that Philadelphia family into which my brother married. And when their mother told me the reason I do not know whether my reaction was shock, incredulity, or what. I did a mental “double take” that spanned a dozen years. She said:

“*From childhood I explained sex to my girls by talking about the Blessed Virgin.*”

That’s what happens in the 274 pages of *SEX AND THE MYSTERIES*. And frankly I’m not surprised it’s a bestseller even though the title seems to tie the tongues of many who have read my other books...which have sold up to a million copies on less controversial subjects.

I had spent eight years in a Carmelite seminary. When I made my simple vows they were...as far as I felt...forever. I had the attitude and mentality of a sincere celibate. When I finally married at the age of 27, I did so not because I had found celibacy too hard but because I felt it was the right thing to do. (This story is told in another book *THE BROTHER AND I*). And in the deluge of pornography and sexual excesses that have overwhelmed our world since the sixties I felt the obligation that necessarily presses on any of us who have any means of stopping the flood or at least saving its victims.

What is quite different about *SEX AND THE MYSTERIES* is that it does not deal in mere principles or generalities. It is specific. As I wrote in the foreword:

FOR EACH ONE

“It is only when we stand back and see the complexity (of sexual problems) that we can realize how much a SPECIFIC remedy to sexual abuse is needed *for each of us.*”

A cloistered nun who read this book wrote: “It is one of the most valuable books I have ever read... and it came at the moment in my life when I needed it most.” And letters from married persons (and from single persons looking forward to marriage) say almost the same thing!

Paul Hallet gave the book a favorable review in the REGISTER and then a few weeks later wrote about it again (apparently after having re-read it) saying that he felt compelled to do so because in his opinion it was the best book on

sex at a time when the world was wallowing in them.

Have I reason to be proud?

No.

After I got the idea, I wrote down everything that came to my mind and sent copies of the manuscript to TWO HUNDRED friends...many of them ordinary people and many of them “experts”. And no one...but NO one would have recognized the final version from the original.

Concerning sex, clarity of judgment is obscured not only by original sin but by the strongest passion known to man after that for survival itself. *Sooner or later sex tests everyone.*

CAN BE BEAUTIFUL

What is perhaps “new” about *SEX AND THE MYSTERIES* is the admission that we cannot speak of sex just for those who marry, and of celibacy for those who take vows. And we don’t need anatomical diagrams to explain sex to children. It can all be done beautifully...completely...by talking about fifteen marvelous mysteries.

This article must read like a commercial. It’s not meant to be. AMI Press will send a FREE copy of the book to any school teacher actively teaching in a Catholic school at the present time who will send his name and address and an offering for handling and postage to AMI Press, Washington, N.J. 07882. And we will lend a copy free to anyone who cannot afford the \$0.95.

Sex tests everyone...and thousands now testify that those who read this book have an excellent chance of passing the test...and of real happiness.