

Our Readers Write

Wish for tolerance on homosexual issue

Dear editor:

I am writing in response to a letter in the Sunday, May 12 issue of *The Halton Hills Weekend* addressing Bill C-33. Ms. Johnson indicated that the day Bill C-33 was passed was a sad day for her. I must say that if her opinions hold true for the people of Halton Hills, then the day I read her letter was a sad day for me, perhaps one of the saddest in my 21 years.

I am not homosexual, but having been raised with an open mind have nothing against them. Ms. Johnson claims that those who hold to the "traditional family model" are opposed to homosexuality, and Bill C-33 gives homosexuals power against them. Does Ms. Johnson maintain that single parent families, which do not fit into this model, are also a power threatening society?

As for Bill C-33 unlocking "new doors of power for them," this I find most amusing. She refers to homosexuals as though they are some evil force lurking in the shadows of society. Frankly that sounds more like a children's cartoon than anything else. Homosexuals are not freaks, they are equal members of society and as such should be given equal opportunities.

I have to wonder what

information Ms. Johnson is using for her statements regarding the number of gays and lesbians and those who support them. She uses relative terms such as "small minority" and "few" in her letter. This leads me to believe that these are assumptions on her part rather than fact. Ms. Johnson also talks about being forced to accept their right to "function in counter-natural ways." What about homosexuals being forced to accept heterosexuality when they don't believe in it?

As for grand awakenings, I have just had a major one. I once thought of the people in Halton Hills to be open minded and accepting, but I am coming to realize that this may not be altogether true. I believe that our government is not naive, but that individuals like Ms. Johnson who refuse to accept homosexuality are. It is a part of our society, it has been for centuries and it is not going to disappear. Homosexuality is not a disease plaguing our society, but homophobia is.

It is my wish that all Canadians can learn to accept one another regardless of race, sexual preference, age, sex, or any "untraditional" characteristic, because that is what being Canadian is truly about.

Duane Robinson



Like most people, I made a resolution this year to get in shape, physically and mentally.

Working with children, I was tired and stressed by the end of the day. Over the years I had tried different diets and health clubs. They weren't what I was looking for. In February I decided to go back to The Feminine Way. I had tried it a few years ago, but, this time I was ready to give it a fair try! What could I lose right?

Well, I have lost 8 lbs. and 13-1/2 inches since February 26th, 1996.

This was done by following a program set up for me by Marilyn Russiani, owner/operator of The Feminine Way. Not only have I lost inches but to quote my husband, "I am a much happier person who actually has energy left at the end of the day."

The passive toning tables are great for stress relief and relaxation. However, one of the most important things that keeps me going back is the welcome I receive from Marilyn, Dorri and all the girls at "The Club".

The saying at The Feminine Way is "This I do for ME." Well, I have done this for me, and my family thanks all of you.

Petra Van Meijel



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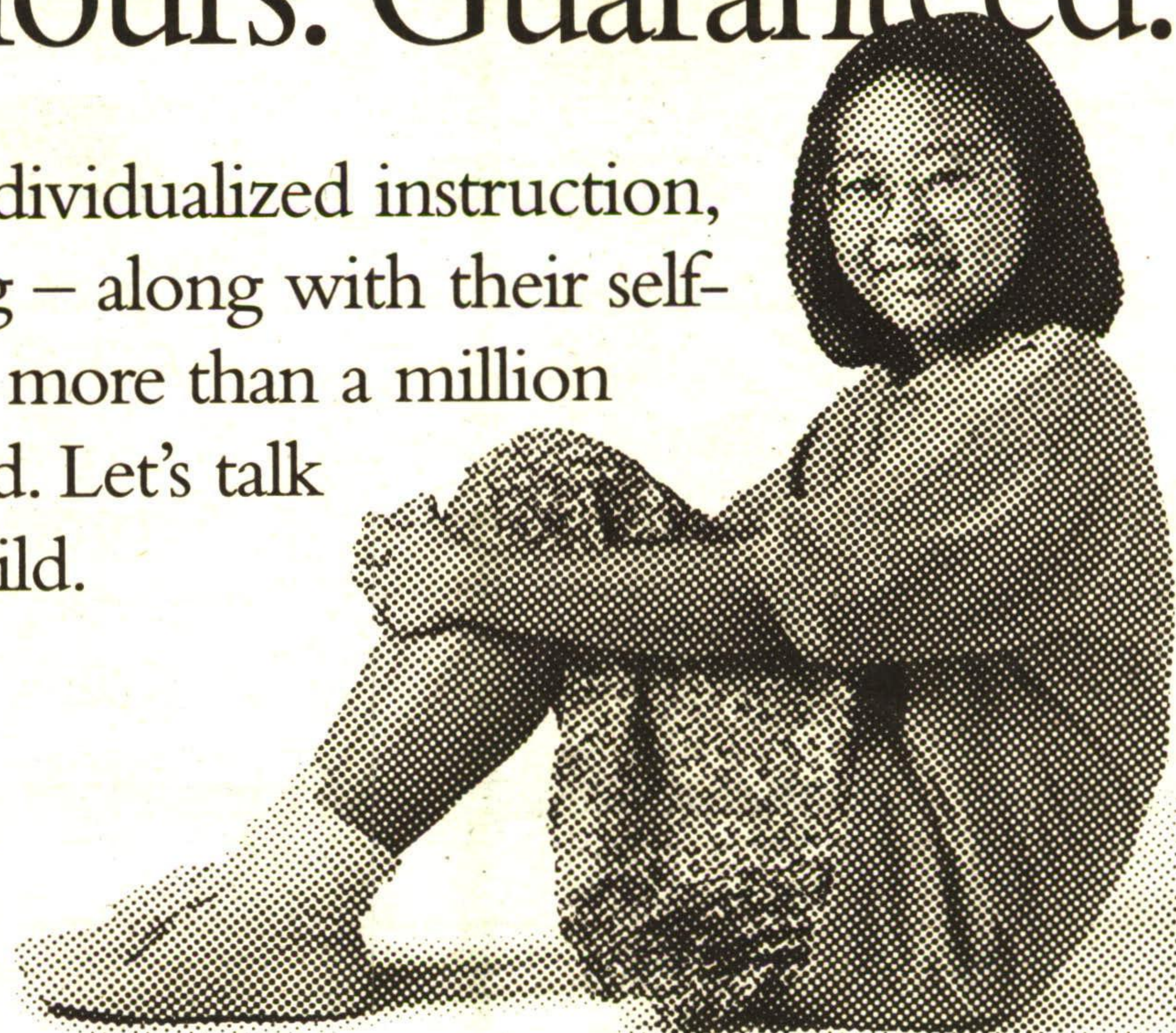
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