



EWS

FROM **WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

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UNIVERSITIES SELLING BIRTHRIGHT

FOR MONEY, WLU PRESIDENT CHARGES

A Canadian university president, speaking to a parents group, warned that universities must question some of the developments of the age which are threatening human values.

Dr. William J. Villaume, president of Waterloo Lutheran University, said, "We must beware that the tremendous strides in science -- so highly esteemed in this day -- are not made at the expense of our humanity.

"Such terms as human engineering and psychology control suggest that man is a creature to be manipulated, rather than the chief bearer of the values and the dignity of our culture."

Dr. Villaume said Waterloo Lutheran University is the last church-related degree-granting university in Ontario.

"It affirms the priority of human values against every attempt to rob man of freedom and dignity by treating him as a tool or a thing. It sees every man as a child of God, to be respected for what he is -- a very special human being."

That is why Waterloo Lutheran will never become as large as provincial universities, which are supported by provincial tax aid.

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"Education of persons cannot be geared to assembly-line methods of mass production," the president added. "Modern technology may be a blessing or a curse for mankind. Unless higher education seriously concerns itself with human values, it is possible that the machines man creates will destroy him as a person."

Dr. Villaume charged that some universities are selling their birthrights.

"In Ontario, as in the United States, many a university has had to forsake its philosophy and prostitute itself in the interest of securing greater financial support.

"The university has to dress up in whatever image appears to be most saleable to the government, which is the only place where quick money in large amounts can be secured."

"When the marketing concept takes over in higher education, the university can no longer challenge the prevailing ethos of our culture -- a culture that is moving toward increasing mechanization and superficiality and fragmentation of life and truth."

He said Waterloo Lutheran has not sold its birthright. "It is more concerned about upholding truth and integrity and human dignity than about marketability. It intends to avoid the uniform mediocrity that marks government-controlled education in so many parts of the world."