

Pregnant teen seeks help

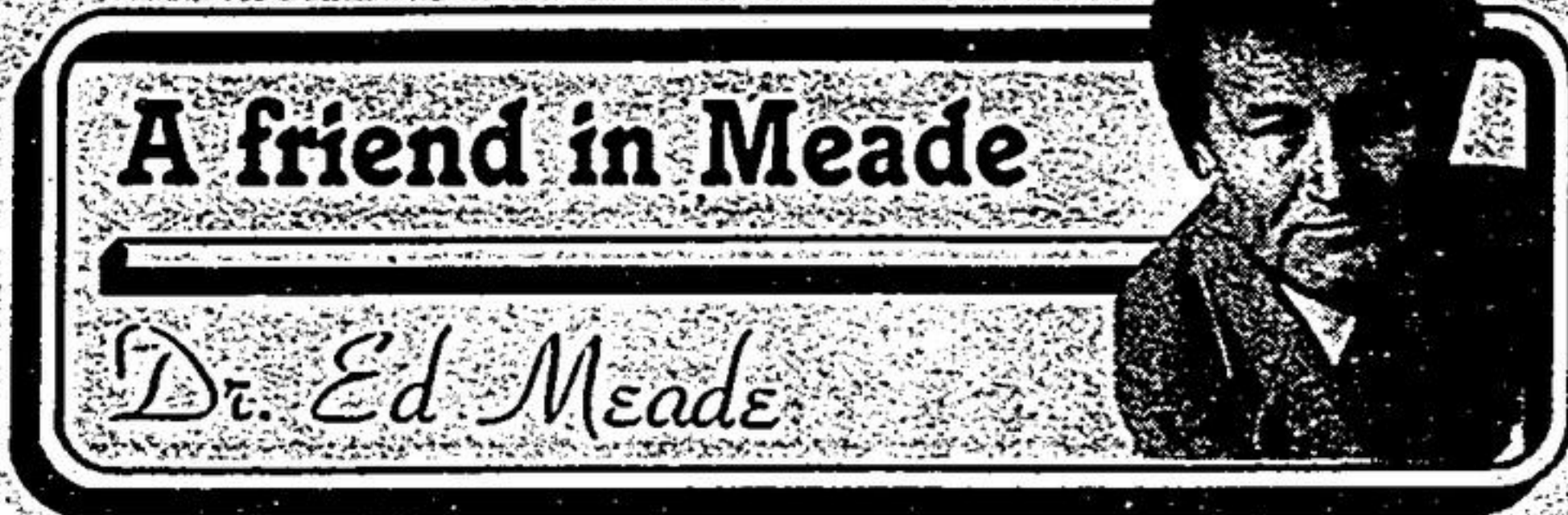
Dr. Ed Meade is a registered psychologist and director of the Markham Stouffville Family Life Centre. In this column he answers questions from readers who remain anonymous.

Q. I am 15 years old and pregnant. I think I want to keep my baby. Where can I go for help? (I want to talk to somebody before I tell my mom.)

A. It sounds like you feel alone in your present predicament and it would be helpful for you to be connected with someone in going through the difficult decisions you are faced with.

There was a time when a young woman in your position was culturally pressured to give up her child. Today the decision depends a great deal on the situation. There are a lot of responsibilities attendant to being a mother. When you make this decision at your age it would make sense to receive guidance, especially if you don't get along well with your mother.

Questions such as — Will rais-



A friend in Meade

Dr. Ed Meade

ing a child interfere with your education or training? What financial means are available to you? are important to address.

Places where you might receive guidance are Birthright, 154 Main St. N. in Markham (471-4412) or you can call the Family Life Centre (294-2371). If you are comfortable with your family physician you could discuss it with her.

Q. I have been going out with this guy for a year and a half. Two weeks ago I tried to break up with him but he got so upset I backed down. He cried and said if I left him he would commit suicide. His family life has been lousy and I'm all he's really got. I believe he

would kill himself.

He's being really sweet, but I just don't think I love him. What can I do?

A. Your decision to separate should be a decision which is free and clear of the restraints of taking the responsibility for the other person's life. If anything, it should reaffirm the mismatch that you were attempting to escape from.

Threat of suicide exerts a tremendous pressure for another to take responsibility of the person's life. Quite often in such situations the friend gives in to his or her suicidal partner only to have the person later act out a "need for freedom" message, becoming involved in multiple relationships or drug addiction.

Your friend needs guidance. It seems to me love is essentially a giving and taking which is enacted in a context of freedom and autonomy. What is love for you? It seems to me you want freedom in your choices and you're working hard to free yourself from the tyranny of an oppression.

Q. My father is confined to his bed in a convalescent home after quite a serious accident. My younger single brother lives very close to me. Although I have a family of my own, I try to get in to see him everyday because I know he looks forward to the visits so much. I believe that he will get better quicker if he feels support from his family. The problem is that my brother doesn't visit often. It not only puts more pressure on me, but it depresses my dad too. He keeps asking about him.

How can I deal with this? We both work full-time, yet he can never find time.

A. My sympathy to you regarding the recent serious accident that your father was involved in.

It seems to me that a crisis in a family brings forth noteworthy characteristics of family mem-

bers. The question I have for you is — are you attempting to compensate for that which your brother is failing to do? To distinguish your love for your father as something separate from the concerns you have for your brother may be helpful.

You may have a tendency to carry the world on your shoulders. A straight talk with your brother should be sufficient. If he does not respond, this should not affect the concerns that you presently have for your father.

Both you and your father are aware of a lack in your brother. And the point I am making is that this should not interfere with your relationship with your father, for example, overcompensating by seeing him too frequently. Another possible effect is that you may commiserate with your father about your brother, thus creating a circular effect.

Dr. Meade welcomes your questions. If your response is published, name and identity will be withheld. Questions may be directed to the Markham Stouffville Family Life Centre, 113 Main St. Markham.

Top cop wins race

York Regional Police Chief Don Hillock is top cop on the block.

The chief peddled his way to victory last week at the fourth annual Right Riders Celebrity Safety Challenge at the CNE.

He commandeered a small four-wheel bike through a miniature safety village full of stop signs and crosswalks.

Right Riders is a nation-wide bicycle safety program that teaches cycling skills.

Chief Hillock clocked an impressive two minutes and 18 seconds finish, taking first place and a prize of \$500.

He was competing against senior police officers from the RCMP, OPP, Metro Toronto, Halton Regional and Peel Regional.

The prize money will be donated to the York County Hospital Foundation CAT Scan Fund.

Crime Stoppers Markham pharmacy robbed

By CONSTABLE GARY MCBRIEN

Toronto and Regional Crime Stoppers and the York Regional Police force are seeking the assistance of the public in an effort to apprehend the persons responsible for the robbery of a drug store.

On May 4 of this year at 3 p.m., the suspect entered the Markham Medical Drug Mart on Main Street Markham.

He walked directly to the back of the store and behind the counter where the pharmacist was standing.

The suspect had a semi-automatic hand gun in his hand. He told the pharmacist to open the cabinet and give him the bottles of percs (Percidan). After receiving the bottles of Percidan, he also obtained bottles containing Novahistine. The suspect placed the drugs into a shopping bag and walked out of the store. He was seen getting into the passenger side of a noisy '73-'74 dark green Plymouth Satellite with oversized tires. The suspects drove away.

The wanted person is described as follows: Male/white, 5'10", heavy set, brown, sandy colored hair, scruffy appearance.

He was wearing a black and green shirt, blue jeans, workboots and sunglasses.

A video tape of this crime will be shown on City TV this Thursday on the 6 and 10 p.m. news.

Other appeals for help in identifying these criminals will be made by Crime Stoppers on radio stations, local newspapers, cable stations and CKVR TV in Barrie.

This is how you can help us solve crime in your community. You pay off with information and Crime Stoppers pays off with cash.

If you have any information about this robbery, call Crime Stoppers. As a caller, you never have to identify yourself or ever testify in court. If an arrest is made as a result of the tip that you have provided to Crime Stoppers, you then become eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

UNIONVILLE-MILLIKEN SOCCER DAY

Unionville-Milliken is holding its SECOND ANNUAL SOCCER DAY. It will be held on Saturday, September 12, at 4 locations. Features will be: Playoffs for all the House League teams; FREE refreshments (1 hogdog, 1 hamburger, 1 beverage) will be served to the players and members of the club.

CAROLE BELL and others will be there to play a fun game of soccer.

Guest host will be MR. GRAHAM LEGGAT, Sports Director for TSN.

In the evening the club will hold its THIRD ANNUAL SOCCER DANCE

held at CROSBIE ARENA, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. HOT BUFFET, LIQUOR LICENCE, DISC JOCKEY, DOOR PRIZES

Tickets are available for this dance from the Social Committee or CALL

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The Lost Boys ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT
 Mon-Sun 6:45 & 8:50

3 Snow White SPECIAL FAMILY PRICES IN EFFECT
 Mon-Sun 2:00 & 4:05
Full Metal Jacket BRUTAL VIOLENCE
 Mon-Sun 6:50, 9:05

4 Hamburger Hill ADULT ACCOMPANIMENT
 COARSE LANGUAGE VIOLENCE
 Mon-Sun 1:40, 3:50, 7:00 & 9:15

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