

## LETTERS

Obviously Brenda Butka [Autumn 1971] looks at [women's liberation] through the tinted spectacles of modern thought. For Seventh-day Adventists it is advisable to focus on this problem through the lens of God's original purpose for man and woman.

Let us commence with the genesis of woman at God's Creation: "Now the Lord God said, 'It is not sufficient that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper completing for him'" (Genesis 2:18, Amplified Bible). The divine intention and pattern was set at Creation. Woman was made to complement man. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and shall become united and cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh" (verse 24).

In God's pattern, however, woman was not meant to be a separate entity. Originally marriage implied a blending of the man and the woman. "For this reason a man is to leave his father and his mother and be united to his wife, and the two shall be as one" (Ephesians 5:31, Weymouth). This [implies] that man felt lonely, and the God who [created] him knew his makeup and knew that love and companionship were necessary for his physical well-being and for his emotional satisfaction. [These same needs were] effectually fulfilled in the woman. The love atmosphere created by this relationship would also be the right climate for their young children.

If the husband were a barrister and his wife were an executive in some business, both being involved with heavy responsibility, time-consuming work, and pressures, which one would be companion to the other? Who would be capable of creating the needed emotional love-climate for their children?

The devil's design is the breakdown of marriage and consequently the breakdown of society. This effect can be seen in the liberated loneliness of husbands and wives. Their homes become merely places to sleep and often not even the place to eat. Resultantly, hearts long for love and companionship. Sometimes a husband looks for another female who will stop and listen; then illicit lovemaking follows and the triangle is created! The warmth and cheer of the mother is not even in the home, and it's only a house for the family.

If women must be liberated in order to follow a career, let them be unmarried; and God's blessing will be on them as they devote their lives in such a capacity to benefit the world. Homemaking is a full-time occupation, and it is not possible to carry two important responsibilities at one time successfully. If wife-mother hopes for a healthy happy family, whose members will benefit the world in their adulthood, and she keeps her health in the process, hers is as great a challenge as any career in the world.

There is no [way] for the women's liberation movement to elevate women. But there is necessity to educate women to know and follow God's intended pattern for their effectual living. This expectation is recorded in Proverbs 31:26-28: "She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her."

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