In George Orwell's 1944 future fiction novel, Nineteen Eighty-Four, the governmental department that surveilled and tortured dissenters was called the Ministry of Love, the department that constantly rewrote old newspapers and history texts to conform to the most recent party ideology was called the Ministry of Truth, and it used a language idiom called "newspeak" in order to make unorthodox opinions impossible to conceive. The party proclaimed that 'war is peace, freedom is slavery, and ignorance is strength.' To doubt the party line was a "thoughtcrime," apt to bring one into conflict with the 'thought police.' Orwell realized that the manipulation of language could be as deadly as the use of weapons. He said, "Mass-suggestion is the science of the next 20 years, and we do not yet know how successful it will be."

The much dreaded year 1984 is now actually here. For all but the very young among us, 1984 was something far in the future that would arrive when we were "old." We must be old, because here it is. It therefore seems appropriate to devote the major theme of this TIPS issue to societal trends, much as we did the issue of February 1983. While we have a great deal of material on a number of other themes which we hope to bring in the future (e.g., social advocacies, aging, contemporary human service practices, and repeat themes such as residential services and imagery), we are afraid that if we do not publish this material as soon as possible, we may not get another chance.

In our opinion, George Orwell's novel, Nineteen Eighty-four, should really be read together with Aldous Huxley's novel Brave New World. Some of the things envisioned in Brave New World are now also with us.
Nineteen Eighty-four-Speak

*Imagine the following satire of a weather forecast: "20% hazy, 40% sunny and windy with 55% chance of showers and an 80% chance of clearing, changing to sleet" (Time, 10/31/83). If this sort of thing were presented about 30 times a day by respected highly-paid meteorologist experts with straight faces, we would all become crazified without thinking that anything were amiss--yet this is exactly what has been done to our language and to ourselves, the language of nuclear energy, nuclear weaponry and the military being prime, but by no means the only, examples.

*A group that advocates for the death penalty is called LOVE, which stands for League Of Victims and Empathizers. LOVE members gleefully gather outside of prisons when someone gets executed.

*The showing of "The Day After," the fictionalized account of nuclear holocaust, had a rather paradoxical impact among its viewers. After seeing it, a larger proportion of the population believed that the US was doing all it could to avoid a nuclear conflict, more people approved of the US defense policies, and more approved of President Reagan—all of which shows how totally deadened the perceptions and passions of our population are (Time, 5/12/83).

*One fascinating element of a recent showing of "The Day After" was that dire warnings were sent out beforehand by all sorts of parties that people should not watch the show alone. The rationale for this recommendation was not precisely spelled out, but seemed to imply that people nowadays are no longer capable of facing even fictionalized accounts of our contemporary realities by themselves and on their own, but can only do so by clinging to each other. This kind of assumption reflects what the TIPS has been teaching about contemporary "externalism," i.e., an excessive reliance upon external supports because of internal emptiness and shallowness.

Almost everybody also uttered dire warnings that children should probably be prevented from watching the show. Rarely does one encounter any similar warning about any number of entertainments which revel in violence. As we mentioned in a previous TIPS issue, it is well known that TV, including TV shows aimed at children, capitalize relentlessly on violence. Apparently, people object to the depiction of violence only when it is the kind that actually happens in the world, that must be fully expected to occur there, or that occurs in educational programs, but not violence as entertainment.

*In the language of the American nuclear power industry, an emergency at its lowest level of alarm is euphemistically but officially called an 'unusual event.' The next step is "an alert"—and after that, there are only two more steps. At the Three Mile Island nuclear plant in Pennsylvania, a fire broke out in November 1983—but not to worry, it was classified as an 'unusual event' (Syracuse Herald Journal, 10/11/83).

*Sixty-three percent of private US wells are now contaminated. Despite this fact, the euphemistically named federal 'Safe Drinking Act' has not covered ground water at all, even though ground water supplies about half the nation's supply. This is another example of how citizens are blatantly lied to, and how detoxifying language is used to mislead them. One can now get one's water tested for a range of herbicides, pesticides and industrial pollutants by sending $35 to Water Tests, Box 186, New London, New Hampshire 03257. They will send you a kit with instructions how to sample your water, you use one of their containers to send them your samples, and a few days later you will get the results (Environmental Action, 11/83).
*A physician writing to the Syracuse Herald Journal (21/10/83) equated the federal efforts to prevent infanticide in hospital nurseries with '1984,' with not a word said about the infanticide wave itself being a manifestation of a 1984 society.

**Big Brother is Watching**

*Telephones can now be bugged in such a fashion that they can monitor conversations in a room even when the telephone receiver is on the hook. This is certainly nothing short of a 1984 vision. However, apparently this is only possible, so far, with computerized pushbutton, rather than dial, phones.

*One can now buy video tape programs that will add subliminal messages to the other TV programs one is watching. These messages are designed to "overcome annoying habits and build new and positive ones." One can select programs for weight control and physical exercise, reducing one's smoking, increasing one's sexual confidence, control drinking, etc. Advertisements claim that these programs will "strengthen your will but not compel you to do something against your will." (Source item supplied by David Pickard.)

**Big Brother Bears Down on Little Sibs**

*A friend of ours protested his food stamp reduction and received the following phenomenally bureaucratized letter.

'We are writing to let you know the results of an inquiry conducted on your behalf, regarding your February 28, 1983 letter. You alleged discrimination, based on handicap, because your food stamp allotment was reduced....

Our representative visited your food stamp office and reviewed your casefile along with those of other randomly selected program participants. The records showed that all applications had been processed in accordance with the Food Stamp Program Rules and Regulations. The records further showed that you were in the Work Relief Program. While able to work, you were allowed a work deduction for earned income in the calculation of your food stamp allotment. However, when you became disabled and could no longer work, you were not eligible for the work deduction because you were receiving unearned income. Therefore, your food stamp allotment was reduced by $12 per month.

We have concluded that there is no evidence to substantiate your allegation of discrimination based on handicap. Therefore, we have closed our file on your case."

In other words, because he experienced a loss of work capacity or opportunity, and therefore suffered a loss of income, his food stamps were reduced. The irony of this is heightened by the fact that the letter was signed by someone in the Office of Equal Opportunity in the US Department of Agriculture. (Apparently, feeding animals and feeding people is all handled in the same agency.) Note also the accusatory tone of the letter which repeatedly accused the protestor of "allegations".

*The poor, they wait....Social security cost-of-living adjustments are now running 21 months behind, and Congress is trying to keep future increases below the real cost-of-living increase. One of the outrages here is that the squeeze on Social Security is in good part due to the costs of drugs, hospitals, physicians, nursing homes, etc., going up much faster than the cost-of-living, while Social Security benefits go up much slower than the cost-of-living. However, the above service providers are big business—and the Reagan administration has a policy of not interfering with big business, while it does have a policy of interfering negatively with poor people's livelihood. It is also not well-known that the government has not only stopped paying interest on money coming into the Social Security funds, but has actually borrowed from them and thus, in effect, has subsidized its military expenditures, and thereby has stolen twice from old and poor people. (J. L. Hess column, in Syracuse Herald Journal, 25/11/83).
According to Time (28/11/83), "most unbiased analysts agree that the only way to get significant slices out of domestic spending is to take a knife to... medicare and social security." Hundreds of billions of dollars go to warfare, scores of billions go to pork barrel projects, waste has always been rampant since the government got big, the Congress itself has apparently always had a great deal of corruption (especially in the House)--but the only things the analysts can think of cutting are programs for the poor and handicapped.

*The 1985 federal budget proposed by President Reagan in early 1984 had implications which became concretely clear in the case of New York State. The state was estimated to lose about $200 million in social programs, but gain back about half in military projects.

*Americans who make more than $200,000 a year can expect a tax break 33 times greater than the average worker (NCR 17/2/84). In essence, what it amounts to is that the tax system taxes income heavily and wealth hardly at all. Americans do not want to admit that in the US, there are gross economic inequalities not too much unlike those of some nations to which one often points, as in South America. One percent of US families own 25% of the wealth, 5% own 40% of the wealth, and the top 20 hold 76% of the wealth.

*The American people have also not woken up to the fact that much of American international finance consists of the transference of the money of the American people to its own corporations. The government taxes the people and then gives the money to other nations that buy from our rich corporations. When the other nations default, the American people are taxed once more so that the nations can be lent even more money so that the indebted nations can pay off their debts to the rich American corporate leaders.

*It is very revealing of the current political climate that the first psychologist to be commemorated on a US stamp, Lillian Gilbreth who appears on the 40¢ stamp of the regular issue, is a relatively obscure one that most psychologists would not recognize--but she made great contributions to time-and-motion studies which are generally considered to be tools of management to coerce maximum work out of employees.

*The question has often been raised how it was possible for millions of Jews to traverse Europe in box cars to their deaths with most people later claiming that they knew nothing about it. It has now become public that a very special and conspicuously designed fleet of white rail cars have transported nuclear weapons across the United States for more than 20 years without the public being aware of it!

In Nineteen Eighty-four, the big powers were constantly at war in order to keep down the population, give adventure-hungry people a chance to find adventure, and to stimulate the economy. Our society, too, can only keep its economy going by preparing for, or conducting, warfare. Those who oppose war are obviously threats to the economy. This helps explain why the federal government is trying to pass laws that would attach a 20 year prison sentence and a $100,000 fine for sharing any information about the movement of nuclear weapons. Thus, telephoning up along the track that the white train is coming so that peace demonstrators can get ready could put you in prison for the rest of your life. Such heavy-handed-ness smack of tyranny, and may bring our society to the crossroads where it must choose between conducting itself like an open society or possessing nuclear weapons.
The Geneva convention forbids manacling and blindfolding prisoners of war, but American soldiers learned some bad habits in Vietnam from their allies, and began to do as they did, which often included blindfolding and binding prisoners. How thoroughly this was learned was manifested in the American invasion of Grenada, where prisoners, including civilians and women, were manacled and blindfolded. This obviously served no military purpose, only that of humiliating the captives. (NCR, 2/12/83).

For some years, futurists have predicted devastating famine in parts of the world. When such famines do happen, they often go virtually unreported elsewhere in the world, or people ignore such unpleasant news. In recent years, a new area has joined previous famine areas, and that is Northeastern Brazil where five years of drought have killed virtually all plant and animal life. Infant mortality has soared to about 25%, and those infants that do survive are stunted in body and mentality. Paradoxically, Brazil is potentially a very rich country, but it has been ruthlessly raping its own land, turning jungle into desert, and engaging in unwise economic policies, so that it is now one of the most heavily indebted countries in the world. The mindless destruction of the Brazilian jungle may have contributed to this calamity.

The poorest nations of the world owe more than $500 billion to the rich, and 20 countries now say that they cannot even meet the interest payments on their debts. Furthermore, the rich nations have lent money to the poor mostly on condition that it be used for purposes which would be destructive to the poor nation in the long run, such as reshaping their economies to export economies, and disowning small peasants. There is a fair likelihood that the house of international finance will collapse, though this may actually be a blessing in disguise because it may involve a transfer of wealth from the richer to the poorer nations, and end at least some of the oppressive strategies of the former. Mexico and Brazil are the world's most deeply indebted nations, and even though they are, in a sense, not poor nations, the majority of their people are indeed poor. This once more shows how destructive our investment policies have been in that despite the vast sums poured into richly endowed nations, their populations have still remained impoverished.

Many futuristic people have said that one of the most likely scenarios for nuclear war is for a starving third-world nation to make nuclear weapons in order to blackmail the wealthy nations. We now learn that Brazil, plagued by environmental disasters, famine, and mass death, has begun working on the atomic bomb.

While India certainly has an educated and skilled upper class, it is a country that is profoundly problem-ridden and has a hard time keeping some of its high technology projects going. A good example is its nuclear industry. While India is short on resources and technology, it is very long on cheap and unskilled manpower. Thus, when a nuclear reactor needed service or repair, supervisors found it cheaper to hire unskilled labor to perform short periods of work exposed to radiation than to send in skilled workers who were properly protected. Thus, scenes like the following may happen. A long line of unskilled and unshielded day laborers, each holding a wrench in one hand, forms outside a contaminated area. When given a signal, the worker at the head of the line rushes into the contaminated area, turns a nut through one or two rotations, or hammers a knob once or twice, and rushes out again—to be followed by the next worker. Indian officials justify the practice with the claim that Indian citizens have not had as much exposure to radiation to begin with than Western ones, and that this method will not harm them (Science, 5/8/83). By the way, India has the capacity to produce nuclear weapons on fairly short notice.
*Curiously, mass deaths occurring in far-off parts of the world may rate hardly any news coverage. The *Syracuse Herald Journal* (16/12/83) reported casually in a small (about 2 x 3 inches) article that more than 100,000 people are estimated to have died from warfare and famine in 6 months in Mozambique.

**Big Brother is Loved**

A 1983 Gallup poll showed that Ronald Reagan was the most admired man in the United States—the same as he had been in 1982 and 1981.

**Big Brother Makes Babies**

*We have previously reported on a California sperm bank which collects the sperm of geniuses to make it available to women who lust for genius babies. An unmarried Los Angeles psychologist had herself impregnated with the sperm of a genius computer scientist and classical musician, father "No. 28." The baby, called Doron (Greek for "gift"), has indeed turned out to be able, at 14 months, to play the piano and use an electronic music synthesizer (*Newsweek*, 5/12/83).

**Big Brother Wobbles a Little**

*Though the US Defense Department pretends to be utterly rational, it reportedly has been subsidizing secret research into telepathy and similar phenomena. According to some alarmists, there is a research gap in the use of such phenomena for military purposes, with the Russians way out ahead. These allegations are contained in a book called *Mind Wars* about to go to press.

*The latest nuclear reactor scandal has occurred at the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station in Moscow, Ohio. Like everywhere else, everything went wrong there too, and cost estimates have scooted out of sight. $1.6 billion has been spent, and if the plant were to be completed, it might cost $3.1 billion. Interest charges alone are accumulating at the rate of 500,000 a day. The project may yet be abandoned. (*Time*, 31/10/83). Power plants in Illinois, Texas, and California are in similar shape, with costs having increased somewhere between 5 and 10 times their original estimates.


According to Rifkin (1980/1981), an optimal strategy toward the second law of thermodynamics would be to draw both on the traditional Christian as well as Eastern religious interpretations, by on the one hand recognizing that history is linear and has a distinct beginning and end, and on the other hand, by minimizing the energy flow and thereby lessening the accumulation of disorder and the rise in entropy.

Probably one of a number of reasons why things work poorly is that our society has made such a thorough commitment to high technology that under the second law of thermodynamics, it is also contributing phenomenally to the increase of entropy. Thus, each new set of problems becomes more difficult to solve than the ones that came before because almost any technological innovation has unforeseeable secondary effects which are injurious, every day there is less available free energy, and it thus becomes harder and more costly to generate order. The same principle may help explain why over the long run, so-called "economies of scale" turn out to be illusory. In large part, they merely capitalize on so-called external costs that shift the real cost of development into the larger environment, the larger society, or into the future. Further, the larger and more complex social systems become, the more energy it takes to support them, and eventually they may become too big for the available amount of energy to support them, and disintegration sets in.
The connection between time and the process of death also becomes clearer when we consider that following the second law of thermodynamics, energy is always moving from an available to an unavailable state, i.e., from a state of low to one of high entropy.

The islands of higher-order, and concentrations of, energy differentials which, among other things, have been capable of sustaining life, are actually being sustained at the expense of even greater energy utilization and entropy cost.

The flow of physical energy is closely linked to social stratification. Those in control of the tools or the transformation, exchange and discarding of energy hold power in a society, and extract energy generated by those below them so that they can be the ones who discard it.

The chemist, G. T. Miller, pointed out that a human being could live on 300 trout a year. However, these trout would have to consume 90,000 frogs, which in turn must consume 27 million grasshoppers, which in turn live off 1,000 tons of grass.

Consciously or unconsciously, it is widely held that in the face of a problem situation, doing anything is almost always better than doing nothing. Yet the second law of thermodynamics would suggest that activity is apt to increase the disorder in the cosmos, particularly if it is frenetic and not precisely planned and calculated. In fact, Eastern religions have generally held that frenetic activity is apt to increase confusion and remove one further from the divine revelation one may be seeking.

People Rise Up Against Big Brother

*In protest of Massachusetts plans to build, at a cost of $3.1 million, new units for its Belchertown institution for the mentally retarded, more than 500 people held a protest rally on the Belchertown Common. Among the speakers were many handicapped people, some in wheelchairs, who shared their experience in institutions, including at Belchertown. The event must be considered historic insofar as public rallies on behalf of retarded people are virtually unheard of, and especially not in order to plead for community services.

*Now here is truly good news. An 84 year old woman in a St. Paul nursing home wanted out, and her 56-year old cab driver son took her out on what was supposed to be a three-hour visit and spirited her to a secret location where she is reportedly very happy. The Empire was not pleased, and had the cab driver slapped into prison. Said he, "by mother's wishes were not to go into a nursing home. I am going to abide by my mother's wishes. She'll be free, and she'll have a good Christmas, and I'll be in jail." The court says he'll stay there until he "cooperates."* (Syracuse Herald Journal, 17/12/83).

A Little More 1984-Speak

"Doublethink means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously, and accepting both of them....In our society, those who have the best knowledge are also those who are furthest from seeing the world as it is. In general, the greater the understanding, the greater the delusion: the more intelligent, the less sane."

"Don't you see that the whole aim of Newspeak is to narrow the range of thought? In the end we shall make thoughtcrime literally impossible, because there will be no words in which to express it....In fact, there will be no thought, as we understand it now. Orthodoxy means not thinking - not needing to think. Orthodoxy is unconsciousness."

"The Ministry of Peace concerns itself with war, the Ministry of Truth with lies, the Ministry of Love with torture, and the Ministry of Plenty with starvation."
In the light of the above, we might reflect that the US Department of Defense invades the tiny nation of Grenada and installs first-strike nuclear weapons, the Department of Energy builds nuclear bombs, and the Environmental Protection Agency oversees the systematic destruction of our water, air, soil and food.

**Holocaust II**

The TIPS editor has decided to use the term "Holocaust II" to refer to the contemporary massive deathmaking—indeed, genocide—of handicapped and otherwise devalued people. We now estimate that 200,000 such lives are taken outright, or significantly abbreviated indirectly, every year in the US alone. We have extensive documentation for this estimate, and we present some of it at our various multi-day workshops on the issue (see "Upcoming Events").

**The New Federal Regulations and Infant Treatment Resolution**

January 1984, the US government issued new 'Baby Doe Regulations' to replace the 3/83 ones invalidated by a federal court in 4/83. In essence, and contrary to government statements, these are at least a partial capitulation to medical and hospital pressures. Among other things, hospitals are now to set up internal infant care review committees, and although outside members are to be included, such committees can probably be easily manipulated. Nevertheless, almost all the groups that opposed the earlier regulations are still opposing the revised ones—which is a good sign, because if they did not see the regulations as obstacles to unfettered infanticide, they would probably not oppose them.

In a related development, a number of voluntary and professional associations have signed an agreement entitled "Principle of Treatment of Disabled Infants" which is being widely hailed, but which is also an extensive capitulation to medical interests. The agreement denounces "discrimination" and makes general statements about the rights of all citizens but does not mention the fact that infanticide of handicapped infants is now almost universally accepted and widely practiced, and therefore, the statement also fails to condemn the practice explicitly. It also fails to mention that in the light of recent court decisions, much like the unborn, the newborn can no longer be considered to be citizens in any unequivocal sense. In essence, it surrenders crucial life and death decisions to the medical profession and the parents, thus going along with the claims of the medical profession and with the trend within society to simply reclassify moral decisions as medical decisions. This is accomplished by statements such that a person "should be cared for in the medically most appropriate ways," when it is so obvious that to many physicians, the "most appropriate" way is to prescribe death. It is regrettable that this statement was endorsed by the following organizations: National Down's Syndrome Congress, Association for Retarded Citizens-U.S., American Association on Mental Deficiency, American Association of University Affiliated Programs for the Developmentally Disabled, American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities, National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions, Spina Bifida Association of America, The Association for the Severely Handicapped, and American Academy of Pediatrics. Apparently, none of these groups is fully aware yet of what is going on, or fully committed to reject infanticide. In fact, the last-listed of the above groups had previously been a major opponent of the March 1983 federal regulations mentioned above.

*The July 1, 1983 (Vol. 72, No. 1) issue of Pediatrics, the journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, published a two-page commentary which so blatantly put forward the arguments on behalf of euthanasia from a materialistic/hedonistic/individualistic/relativistic/utilitarianistic viewpoint as to warrant extensive excerption here.

'We can no longer base our ethics on the idea that human beings are a special form of creation, made in the image of God, singled out from all other animals, and alone possessing an immortal soul... Once the religious mumbo-jumbo surrounding the term 'human' has been stripped away... we will not regard as sacrosanct the life
of each and every member of our species....Species membership alone...is not morally relevant....A dog or pig, dying slowly and painfully, will be mercifully released from its misery. A human being with inferior mental capacities in similarly painful circumstances will have to endure its hopeless condition until the end and may even have that end postponed by the latest advances in medicine."

The moral atmosphere in Western society has now progressed to the point where these viewpoints can be expressed explicitly rather than in the disguised, euphemistic way in which they have often been expressed so far.

It is particularly noteworthy that the person who wrote the above is a member of the Centre for Human Bioethics in Victoria, Australia, but according to The Human (9-10/83), he is actually an animal rights activist. Thus, we have here a phenomenon commented upon repeatedly in TIPS, namely the blurring of the differentiation between animals and humans, and increasing sympathy for animals and less for a great many humans. It seems inevitable that this phenomenon, and the opinions expressed in the commentary, will gain further ground, and by any objective judgment have to be predicted to become the dominant ones.

*The Training Institute has run an ad in Exceptional Children and two in the newsletter of The Association for the Severely Handicapped (TASH), calling upon people in human services to wake up to the gathering genocide of handicapped people, to take a stand against it, and to come to our workshops on these events. The business office of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, in consultation with some of the AAMD national officers, decided not to accept a similar ad for Mental Retardation (despite the fact that the ad fee was very high) on the grounds that the use of the words "genocide," "deathmaking," and "new holocaust" in the ad were "unacceptable." The very same association hesitates not to run all kinds of advertisements for institutions in its publications. Its actions could be compared to a psychiatric association in Germany in 1939 refusing to run an ad announcing that handicapped people were being killed, that Jews might be next, and that psychiatrists were playing a major role in all this. Readers might also note that the above article in Pediatrics was obviously judged perfectly acceptable.

*In January 1984, a US District Judge not only dismissed a suit that would have continued guardianship over Baby Jane Doe, but (a) also ruled that parents will be assumed to have the welfare of their children at heart, and (b) imposed a $500 fine on the lawyer who had sued to have surgery done on the baby. This fee was imposed under a new rule which allows judges to penalize lawyers who are trying to "harass or cause unnecessary delay or needlessly increase the costs of litigation." This development should serve warning that advocates of those whom society has decided to make dead can expect yet another form of persecution, and may very well experience even more severe forms in the future.

*A teenager in California killed his father. At the trial, he said to the court, "There was no reason for a trial. The man deserved to die. You had no right to interfere in my life. It was a family affair." The boy has a point. If parents have a right to decide privately to kill their handicapped children, why can't handicapped children kill their parents? In this case, the boy had been mentally handicapped in the sense of having been badly abused all his life, and the parent he killed did appear, indeed, to be a very sadistic person. We can thus see how the individualistic arguments that killing babies is a private family decision are gradually extending through all of society, and are being extended (as by this boy) to all kinds of other people (Syracuse Herald Journal, 14/12/83).

*We see an increasing trend toward afflicted or devalued people choosing suicide as a result of a broader pro-suicide campaign in society. Many people who are doing very well themselves are advocating that misfortuned people should commit suicide. Some of them promise to do so themselves, but when the time comes, some of them change their minds. An example is a 48-year old Florida man who signed a suicide pact with his wife, age 34. After watching her shoot herself and die
painfully rather than painlessly, he changed his mind (UPI, Syracuse Herald Journal, 13/11/83). Nevertheless, it appears as if an increasing number of afflicted people are acting out in their own lives the glorification, by others, of suicide by afflicted people. On the surface, this appears to be a voluntary choice, but underneath, it is a choice strongly influenced by all sorts of brain-washing based on materialistic-hedonistic values.

A nurse in Cincinnati asked her dentist what drugs she could take to commit suicide so quickly that she could not be revived. When she was imprisoned on a drug charge, she concealed on her body the medication he had recommended, took it within hours of imprisonment, and promptly died (Cincinnati Inquirer, 15/12/83; source item supplied by Jack Pealer).

In California, a cerebrally palsied young woman, Elizabeth Bouvia, had seen the film, "Whose Life is it Anyway," which glorifies suicide and "suicide assistance," i.e., "euthanasia." When things went poorly in her life, she checked herself into a hospital psychiatric unit specializing in suicide prevention—and demanded to be starved to death, refusing to eat. A court appropriately authorized the hospital to force-feed her. Our position is that if someone decides to commit suicide, they should not ask others to become accomplices—especially not medical personnel or hospitals, and not at public expense.

An 85-year-old man institutionalized in a Syracuse nursing home called the Plaza Health and Rehabilitation Center (!) heard of the Bouvia case, and promptly decided to starve himself to death. After a 40-day fast, the facility finally asked a court for legal clarification. The court ruled that the nursing home could let the man starve himself—and the local newspaper reported the event on its obituary page. A few days later, the man died. Letters to the editor were mostly concerned with the fact that after his death, the paper revealed his identity, rather than with the essence of the case, and the fact that it had set a new US legal precedent. In turn, Bouvia cited the Syracuse case as a legitimization for her own quest. All this goes to show how the glorification of suicide/"euthanasia" of handicapped people in the entertainment and art media are, indeed, contributing heavily to the shaping of public and legal opinion, and brainwashing the victimized to accept society's death wish toward them.

It is particularly revealing that whereas forcible feeding of people who want to starve themselves to death seems to be on its way out, forcible administration of even the most dangerous and most potent tranquilizers is still quite legal. This contrast communicates to us that if one is a nuisance to agency personnel, one may be permitted to starve oneself, but if one insists on neither starving oneself nor on ceasing to be a nuisance, then they have the right to reduce one to a vegetative state by means of tranquilizers that can, over the long run, destroy the brain.

*A study conducted by the New York Mental Health Department has confirmed what many observers have known all along, namely that psychoactive drugs cause choking deaths, pneumonia, etc. Up to 40% of "chronic schizophrenics" have been found to have a gag reflex impairment. Astonishingly, the Department interpreted these studies as meaning that "it is by no means clear whether psychotropic drugs substantially increase the risk of choking," probably because they have been a prime promoter and user of such drugs (This Month in Mental Health, 3/33).

*When a fire broke out in a high-rise apartment project for the elderly in Wilmington, North Carolina, even many of the elderly people who were woken up by the fire fighters found it difficult to escape because they were on such heavy medication that they could hardly get up (AP, in Syracuse Herald Journal, 16/2/83). This vignette illustrates the subtlety of deathmaking which puts such large proportions of elderly people on drugs, which incapacitates them for all sorts of adaptive behavior.
*Like clockwork, every winter season, some poor people who cannot pay their bills have their utilities cut off by the utility companies, and several of them die as a result. On Christmas 1983, a 93-year old man in St. Louis died of cold in his home after the local utility company had turned off his utilities (Syracuse Herald Journal, 25/12/83).

*An example of what can happen to street people is Rebecca Smith who was schizophrenic and who had been dumped out of a New York State institution. First she resided in a single room occupancy hotel in New York City, then on the streets for eight months. In early 1982, she froze to death in a cardboard box on the corner of 10th Avenue and 17th Street in Manhattan (Albany Times-Union, 2/14/82). Similarly, during the 1980/81 Christmas season, 20 other homeless people died of exposure on the streets of New York City (New York Magazine, 12/21/82).

*The US Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta had scheduled a scientific meeting in February 1984 to discuss "preventing lead poisoning in young children." The meeting was cancelled because a law firm hired by the Lead Industries Association threatened legal proceedings if the meeting was not cancelled (Science, 17/2/84).

*Scientists believe that they have identified the approximate chromosome location of the degenerative Huntington's Disease or Chorea, and that it will soon be possible to identify affected persons prenatally. A researcher called this "wonderful news," though undoubtedly it would mean death for up to approximately 20,000 unborn babies every year (Newsweek, 21/9/83).

*There is an amazing new treatment for people who suffer extensive damage to their skin. It consists of the use of fetal placenta tissue as skin and works very well where the skin has been damaged by burns, ulcers and certain types of infections. In our workshops on the increased endangerment of the lives of handicapped people, we have noted that fetuses have been used for experimental purposes and are increasingly looked to as "farms" for organs, tissue, etc. One therefore cannot help but wonder where the amniotic membranes for such treatments may come from in the future, and whether their use will not be yet another justification for the performance of abortion.

*At our Training Institute workshops, we emphasize the importance of being coherent in defending life in all spheres, and of combating deathmaking in all of its expressions. Most people simultaneously support some forms of life defense and some forms of deathmaking. To most people, obstacles to a coherent position are wars in presumably just self-defense, capital punishment and abortion. There are very few organizations, secular or religious, that take a coherent stand in defense of life. Most religious bodies defend at least just wars, self-defense and capital punishment. One organization which at least on a secular level strives for coherency is called Prolifers for Survival, which tries to link all kinds of life-related issues together. It does not take any specific legislative stances, but appeals to the minds of the members who, in turn, may involve themselves as separate individuals in other organized legislative or international efforts. The national office is at P. O. Box 84, Damascus, Maryland 20872. An annual subscription is $5, and membership dues are 1/1000th of one's income.

*The 24-hour hot line of the US Department of Health and Human Services that accepts notifications or complaints about potential deathmaking of infants is 1-800-368-1019.
In the April 1983 issue of TIPS, we mentioned that a very worthwhile film, entitled "Breaking Through: The Story of Norman and Tom," had been produced by the Canadian National Institute on Mental Retardation, and was available within Canada from them. At that time, the Training Institute had the only copy of the film in the US, and the film was not yet otherwise available for rental or purchase within the US. However, the film can now be rented within the US from Stanfield House, 900 Euclid Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403 for $75 plus shipping costs. (The film is still available within Canada from NIHR, for $750 (purchase) or $20 plus shipping costs (rental).) We still recommend that anyone who plans to show the film obtain from our Training Institute the lengthy written critique and discussion guide that we have developed over many showings of the film, in order to enhance the benefit that viewers can derive from the film. The critique is available for $10 from the Training Institute. Also, the Training Institute can arrange for almost compellingly effective interpreted showings of the film.

The TIPS editor has long been interested in the history of mental retardation, and has collected voluminous archives on the topic. One of the projects he has been working on is the iconography of mental retardation, i.e., how mentally retarded people have been portrayed in representative art, or how people were portrayed in order to indicate or suggest that they are mentally retarded. I have acquired a great deal of good material on this, and would appreciate any help TIPS readers might be able to give. Aside from historical material, I would be interested in any clippings of cartoons and similar sources which attempt to portray someone as lacking intelligence. A good example is the character of Zero in the Beetle Bailey comic strip. One also finds promising material in newspaper editorial cartoons.

An insurance group, the Bridge Foundation, has advertised that it has "a solution to a major human concern as old as reported history: What happens to a chronically dependent child of any age who continues to need help after the parents die?" The Bridge Foundation Plan could have powerful appeal to worried parents, but it is very expensive and, we believe, very faulty. We have prepared a 6-page double spaced analysis and critique of the plan which can be obtained for $5.00 post free by surface mail.

People, Past Events & Openings

Susan Thomas, training coordinator of the Training Institute, gave the first PASSING workshop in England in February 1984, as well as our history of human services slide show and a day of leadership issues for PASS/PASSING/Social Role Valorization leaders.

Many of our readers may know Al Marks, who used to work in human service agencies and is now preparing to become a minister. In his human service work, Al participated on numerous occasion as a PASS team leader, and such participation—especially in a leadership capacity—is very hard work with little sleep. As a student at bible college now, Al has had to get up at 4 in the morning in order to study Hebrew and Greek, and recently told his wife that he needed to attend a PASS workshop again so that he "could get a rest."

The l'Arche community in Syracuse needs one or more assistants to live in one of its two homes with retarded adults for at least 6 months. Interested persons can contact Doug Mouncy, Director, 1701 James Street, Syracuse, NY 13208, 315/437-9337.
Upcoming Events

*The Training Institute will, among other things, hold two 3-day workshops on Holocaust II, i.e., the increasing danger to the lives of handicapped, elderly, and certain other devalued groups. The first one will be March 23-25, 1984 in Syracuse, NY. The second one, June 22-24 in Holyoke, MA. Interested parties please contact the TI Training Coordinator (see letterhead), and do likewise if interested in hosting an event on this issue in your locale.

*Social Role Valorization workshop with PASSING orientation, Goffstown, NH, March 31-April 4, 1984, Joe Osburn and Darcy Miller, trainees. Contact Area Agency for Developmental Services, 23 Factory Street, Nashua, NH 03060.

*PASS workshop in Griffin, GA, March 19-23, 1984, under Beth Mount, 1226 Springdale Road, Atlanta, GA 30306, 404/373-2781.

The Family, The Sexes, Love and Sex

*In Nineteen Eighty-four and Brave New World, all sorts of things related to the above title took place which had an uncanny resemblance to what is not only actually happening now, but is even becoming common or accepted.

*Human ova fertilized outside the womb and thus transformed into embryos have been deep-frozen and subsequently thawed again without apparently losing viability. This has created the possibility for so-called 'embryo banks,' in contrast to the already established semen banks.

*We are all aware that for some years, human embryos have been created in the laboratory. Soon, it will be possible, and even likely, that such embryos may be grown and harvested for medical research as well as tissue transplants (The Human, 11/82).

*The enhancement of human characteristics, including height or intelligence, is being seriously discussed via genetic engineering (Science, 10/12/82).

*"Mensa" is an organization of people who have an IQ high enough to rank in the upper 2% of the population. It publishes a bulletin which announced in 1980 that business tycoon Robert Graham had written to 20 Nobel Prize winners in California, asking them to donate sperm with which exceptionally intelligent young married women could be artificially impregnated, so as to improve the human race. Five of the 20 donated sperm, and 25 women inquired about the program, several of which have by now been successfully inseminated. Graham calls the genius sperm bank the Muller Repository for Germinal Choice, named after a 1946 Nobel Prize winner who advocated such a sperm bank (Toronto Star 1/3/60). The editor of TIPS herewith emphatically denies any participation in this project.

*Apparently, it is quite legal in at least some of the American states for a woman to bear a child for another couple in return for pay. Such a child may be that of the couple's husband, or of another party (The Human, 10/82). A number of women who have done this have been quite open about the fact that they have done it purely for money, a typical fee being $10,000. One woman did it with the consent of her husband in order to help put him through school. A New York man promised to pay a married woman in Michigan $10,000 to bear him a child through artificial insemination. When the baby turned out to have microcephaly, both the man as well as the baby's mother and her husband completely disowned the baby and wanted to have nothing more to do with him (AP in Syracuse Herald American 1/23/83).
*This month's prize for the confusing of tongues goes to an article on herpes in Mother Jones (11/82, P. 43) which concludes with the following paragraph.

"The much-maligned St. Augustine said, 'Love means: I want you to be.' Sex can be the gradual making of love between two persons and between them and the world. Love is not always there in the first place, and it may not mean that the couple stays together. But within and about it, when sex is the making of love, is a desire for the other to be, an honor given to the simple grace of his or her existence."

*A deliberate decision by a virgin to engage in premarital sexual relations is now dignified by the high-sounding term "terminating one's virginity."

*A great deal of sex education and similar programs—for handicapped people no longer teach sexual morality, or right and wrong, but 'appropriateness versus inappropriateness,' and "public versus private."

*In England, it is illegal to get married below the age of 16 and the law forbids copulation with a girl under 16—but in 1981 an arm of the Church of England apparently called for the distribution of contraceptives to children under 16 so that they can exercise their 'right' to copulation. (The Wanderer, 5/11/81). One must assume that this implies (or soon will) the right of 5-year olds to copulate with adults of any age.

*The trend toward legalization of so-called consensual sex between adults and children was exemplified by a 12/83 state appeals court of Florida ruling that it was not a felony for an adult to have sexual relations with a consenting 12-year old girl—if the girl was not a virgin. The assumption was that "unchaste children" who wish to have sex have the same status as consenting adults. (Source item supplied by John Morris.)

**The Phyony Professionalization of Sexual Mores**

*One of the phenomena of our time is the pseudo-scientification and pseudo-professionalization and/or pseudo-medicalization of sex and sexual relationships—mostly by the mental professions.

*There now exists a new profession that reflects the medicalization of just about everything: the "sexual health care clinician," one of whose tasks is the sexual rehabilitation of people, and who conducts "sexual assessment, diagnosis and management." In classic stereotypy, the "profession" emphasizes "early recognition" and "experimentation with various sexual alternatives" (Rehabilitation Literature, 12-12/81, p. 389).

*In 1980, it was estimated that there were approximately 1200 certified sex therapists" in the United States and another 4000 non-certified ones. In an effort to increase the attraction of this art, "specialists" are constantly devising new variations on earlier forms. One major form of sex therapy involves efforts to "teach women how to masturbate pleasurably," and to do "what feels good." A common recommendation for clients is to become experts at masturbating before going out and seeking "sexual partners." Dr. Virginia Johnson (of the famous Masters & Johnson sex therapy team) has interpreted their own work as being "research," and Johnson is quoted as hoping "that people would modify, elaborate and develop research designs themselves" (Newsweek, 17/11/80). She is very unhappy about the fact that "piano teachers, lawyers and engineers" have been starting to "give" "sex therapy," and there have been demands for states to regulate the practice of sex therapy.
What must certainly stand as one of the most mechanical approaches to the "treatment" of purported "sexual problems" in women has recently been hailed as "an essential text" by "an extremely creative clinician" in the Bulletin of the Menninger Clinic. The work is entitled *Women Discover Orgasm*, and promises "preorgasmic group process, preorgasmic homework, they will teach them how to have partners--of either sex, to become orgasmic quickly ("short-term"), easily, and cheaply by using "behaviorist techniques." The inventor of this technique is an assistant professor at the University of California Medical School in San Francisco. The treatment consists of a "preorgasmic group process" and a few other little tricks including "homework" with vibrators. The book has been offered as a selection of the Psychotherapy and Social Science Review Book Club of February 1983, and is recommended to religious counselors among others. Mechanical approaches which are one of the saddest aspects of modern sex are exactly what is hailed by today's bankrupt human service professions as being what is needed, in line with our society's expectations for quick, easy, and technological solutions to whatever ails the human heart.

Sex therapy that is "administered" by "surrogates" (i.e., women prepared to engage in sexual relationships with male "patients" and under the supervision of, and via a "prescription by" a psychiatrist) has even come to the relative backwoods of Syracuse, NY. The local newspaper (Syracuse Herald American) examined the issue in some depth, in August of 1981, interviewing people on all sides of the issue, including some in between. It turned out that what the sex surrogates do is called "exercises," and that they had to go to a ten-day training course in California and pay $1000 to learn how to do it. The qualifications include a "wellrounded life experience." Said a local surrogate: "I am a caring person...helping people had always been my calling." Apparently, many sex surrogates are people already in the helping professions, such as nurses and teachers. Said the same surrogate: "I don't work well in the bureaucratic setting." Now in her late forties, she draws $40-60 plus "expenses" per session, but expects that her fee will go up as she becomes "more experienced." (Interesting questions are raised whether surrogate fees will keep going up with age and experience.) This surrogate "works from her home," and is considering redecorating a basement room as a "studio." Some surrogates charge $75 a session (plus expenses), and "see" as many as twelve "clients" a week. There even exists an International Professional Surrogate Association, IPSA--the acronym of which is the feminine form of the Latin word for "self".

While all this is going on, Dr. Thomas Szasz (who lives in Syracuse) is having fits and is giving the newspaper plenty of good copy. While Dr. Szasz has not come up with many answers or solutions to contemporary problems, he certainly has been a most astute identifier of absurdities and atrocities.

The new sexuality has resulted in all sorts of books on sex therapies and sex advice, and associated problems, including how to interpret one's sex behavior to one's children. For instance, the divorced mother is advised by the mental health, sex, sex therapy and child psychology experts to explain to her children that adults have sexual needs, and that therefore "a man may sleep in mother's bed" (New York Times Service, carried in the Syracuse Herald Journal, 3/3/81, p. 1).

Unholy uproar. A group of Methodist ministers personally produced and filmed a series of "sex education" films that included explicit scenes of men and women undressing, masturbating, and engaging in homo and heterosexual intercourse to the point of climax. About 100,000 people have seen these films, which are "so good" that they have been shown in pornographic movie houses, which compelled the producers to take precautions that this would not happen. A contract requires that users only show this film in "religious or educational settings." Not surprisingly, these developments have caused quite an unholy uproar in Methodist circles (Syracuse Post Standard, 29/12/79).
*A book entitled Love and Love Sickness that appeared not too long ago was authored by John Honey (1980). It might be recalled here that in psychoanalytic theory, money is often interpreted as being symbolically equivalent to love, especially by anal personality types. It is also interesting that in a book with such a title, Love and Love Sickness, failure to live promiscuously and share one's sex partner, or failure to copulate with more than one person ("supplemental relationships"), is interpreted as being "self-righteousness" and equated with the creation of suffering. Terms such as "exclusivity" have now acquired negative rather than positive connotations.

*Analyzing the antecedents to the suicide of a 14-year old girl, a Pulitzer Prize-winning psychiatrist at the Harvard Medical School noted that one of the early signs was that the girl shunned sex and found it demeaning to have physical intimacy with boys who tried to get close to her (AP in Syracuse Herald-American, 15/8/82). Obviously, in the mainstream of our culture and its mental business, a 14-year old who still believes in virginity is a potentially suicidal mental case. Of course, we know what the "treatment" is, probably preferably administered by "skilled and experienced psychotherapists."

*Time (27/12/82) carried a humorous article on the new detoxifying language of sexual promiscuity. Couples having indiscriminate sex with each others' partners has become "multilateral interfamilial relationships." For orgy, read "sharing" "group sex." People who prefer kinky or homosexual sex are now called "sexual minorities" or "sexual variations" some of whom employ "sexual aids" or "sexual toys," or who perhaps have "alternate sexual preferences." The words "perversion" and "fornication" are definitely out. "Wife swapping" is condemned as sexist; after escalating to mate swapping, swinging and sharing, it has now gone to "expanding the circle of love." Masturbation has become "self-help," "self-pleasuring," "auto manipulation," "the first step in the process of the sexualization," and "self-remedy for orgasmic dysfunction." Even foreplay has been replaced by "high stage of sensate focus exercises." The casual one-night (or even shorter) stand is now called a "satellite relationship," "brief encounter," "instant liaison" or "one-night friendship."

*Tenure at CSU. A professor of the California State University at Long Beach was suspended for 30 days, but with pay, for giving academic credit for several semesters to students participating in orgies and gay encounters. Apparently, the professor himself did some of the educating (and demonstrating), having relations with a number of students during these "sessions." The professor admitted to no wrong-doing, and showed no remorse (AP in Syracuse Herald Journal, 27/5/82; UPI, in Syracuse Herald Journal, 28/5/82).

*Aren't we TIPS readers lucky we are normal. A TV show coming from California features couples washing their dirty mental and family wash in front of the TV audience, with a psychiatrist doing some of the shrinking. While he spouts psycho-babble, the couple reveal some of the most intimate and embarrassing details of their relationship, especially their sexual one. The show is called "Couples" and trumpeted as showing "real couples with real problems talking to a real psychiatrist." The psychiatrist says that the couples are "genuinely seeking help," but Newsweek says that they are indulging "in a kind of psychic flashing." Amazingly, shows of this nature rake up huge ratings. A similar TV show, called "Getting Personal," has a female psychiatrist presiding over a whole studio audience of people responding passionately to marital misfits bickering and sniping on the stage. One is somewhat reminded of the Roman arena. (Newsweek, 23/8/82).
*A survey of 86,000 readers of Ladies' Home Journal appears to reveal a sizable generation gap between older and younger women. Women under 26 were compared to those over 40. Of the younger ones, 41% said they used drugs regularly, while 90% of the older ones said they had never used drugs. Of the unmarried young women, 40% said they were living with men, but only 15% of the older unmarried ones did. Oddly enough, 87% of the young shacker-uppers said they did not believe in infidelity, while only 75% of the older ones did. 17% of the younger women said they were pregnant when they married, vs. 2% of the older ones. 20% of the younger women had abortions, seven times the average of women older than 35. Given a few free hours with their husbands, 1/3 of the women below 35 said they would like to make love, while those over 45 said they would like to watch television with him (AP in Syracuse Herald Journal, 17/1/84).

*The peacemaker role. When 1200 American marines landed in Lebanon, they built bunkers and installed artillery. The French did similarly. When 2000 Italian soldiers landed, they brought with them a large team of nurses, medics and physicians, and several ambulances, and treated a large number of Lebanese civilians every day and provided transportation to health services for people. One of the results was that the Marines were receiving and/or trading fire almost daily, while the Italians went about fairly freely, and were mourned when they left.

*A 1984 report to the President, entitled Chaos in the Classroom, said that every month, 3 million American highschool students are victims of classroom violence.

*We have reported several times on Nestle marketing infant formula in such a fashion in underdeveloped countries as to lead to infant deaths. After years, the Nestle boycott was finally suspended in January by the Infant Formula Action Coalition, in response to a pledge by the company to modify its practices.

*After previously having been wishy-washy on the subject, the American Nursing Association has finally come out with a statement that a nurse must not directly or indirectly participate in a legal execution (NCR, 23/12/83).

*While almost everyone is aware of the fact that infants have been surviving at ever lower birth weights, it is not equally well known that with aggressive neonatal management, fewer and fewer low birth weight infants are suffering handicaps.

*New York State has begun issuing "vanity plates" to "permanently disabled" vehicle owners. These plates bear the international symbol of access and the individual's choice of up to six characters (letters, numbers or spaces). One only wonders what startling messages will come of this. I SEE? HEARME? CRIP 1?

*In 1915, Scott Nearing was dismissed as a professor from the University of Pennsylvania because he denounced child labor. In 1917, he was fired from the University of Toledo for advocating pacifism. Nearing died in 1983 at age 100. We are now at the point in our society where a professor might conceivably be ousted for opposing abortion.

*It has recently come to light that the American Red Cross contrary to our stereotype of its devotion to such things as disaster relief, spends about two-thirds of its resources serving the US military.

*The newsmedia have begun to refer to the infanticide of handicapped infants as 'infanticide" (e.g., Time, 9/1/84).
*How professional counselors with an anti-life bias will often present their case to parents was made dramatically clear in the Bloomington Infant Doe case. Here is how the family's physician, Dr. Walter Owens, described his counseling of the parents: "I insisted upon giving the parents a choice...I insisted upon telling the parents, pointing out to the parents that if this surgery were performed and if it were successful and the child survived, that this child would not be a normal child. That it would still be a mongoloid, a Down's Syndrome child...That they did have another alternative which was to do nothing. In which case the child probably would live only a matter of days...." (Americans United for Life Newsletter, 10/27/83).

*In a community south of Chicago, Illinois, a veterinarian noticed in the delivery room that his wife had given birth to a baby that had a cleft palate, a harelip, and clawed hands. Twenty-nine minutes after the baby's birth, he picked the baby up by the feet and smashed it twice on the floor of the operating room, killing the child. Even though the community had very high indices of religious participation, it rallied around the father when he was put into prison, one reason being that he had taken such good care of their animals (Syracuse Post Standard, 5/1/84).

Every pastor in town and every member of the local Chamber of Commerce offered to testify as a character witness. Collection boxes appeared in stores throughout the area labeled "Help Doctor Dan," and more than $4000 was collected (Philadelphia Inquirer, 8/1/84).

*There are apparently very few provisions for retarded children in China. One of the few is a special school in Shanghai which ironically is located on a thoroughfare called "Foolish Garden Road." Thus, deviancy imaging is by no means a particularistic phenomenon. The new Chinese constitution closely regulates the marriage of Chinese citizens, and prohibits idiots and schizophrenics from marrying normal people. The murder of retarded children who are not necessarily any longer infants may also be incentived by the state's attempt to limit families to one child, since having a retarded child is considered a great misfortune, and the child's survival would jeopardize one's ability to have a normal child (Toronto Globe & Mail, 3/1/84; source item submitted by Gary Warren).

*The District of Columbia has come up with an astonishing scheme to rob the mentally retarded persons in its institution, Forest Haven, and at its various group homes, of what little money they may possess. The plan is to confiscate the savings accounts of the residents, which mostly contain the pittances which they earned doing menial labor. One resident had been scrubbing floors six hours a day starting at 5:30 a.m., at $2.00 an hour for over 20 years, accumulating $13,000. Once the retarded people have been rendered destitute, they become eligible for Medicaid, and can then be placed into private residences at federal government costs, enriching DC the second time. Amazingly, not even the supervisor of volunteer advocacy services of the DC association for the mentally retarded was too upset over the plan.

Furthermore, the institution is encouraging its residents to spend their money and go on buying splurges so as to become poor. A quick way to spend a lot of money is to buy a TV set or a lot of expensive clothes.

Emarrassingly, a supposedly severely retarded resident of Forest Haven absconded to Baltimore, got a job in a fast-food restaurant, and was fending very well on his own and had even gained weight. When discovered, he was quickly returned to the institution (Institutions, Etc., 12/83).

*In the book Tim by McCullough (1971), there is a scene in which a mentally retarded laborer is being made the object of ridicule by his fellow workers by being induced to eat a "turt sandwich." We now learn that fact has almost caught up to fiction, in that workers in a downtown Baltimore eatery served a mentally retarded employee a dead mouse sandwich. After the retarded man took a bite from it, he noticed blood dripping from the sandwich. The employer who was in on the joke thought it was exceedingly funny (Syracuse Herald Journal, 6/11/83).
TIPS Editorial Policy. TIPS comes out every other month, and contains articles, news, insights, reviews and viewpoints that relate to the interests and mission of the Training Institute. At the present, this mission has to do with reading "the signs of the times," and interpreting their meaning for human services. While TIPS is mostly concerned with phenomena and developments that have to do with human services, reading and telling the "signs of the times" necessitates that TIPS also address some of the larger issues which affect our society and the quality of life on earth, as well as the ways in which decisions are made in our society, because these higher-order phenomena will eventually express themselves in human services in various ways, including in human service values and funding. Usually, each TIPS issue will focus primarily on one specific theme. TIPS addresses relevant developments whenever and wherever they occur, so disclosures of adaptive or horrific developments promoted by a particular political party or government should not be taken as partisan political statements. We assume that subscribers are people who lead hard lives struggling against great odds, and are aware of many shortcomings in human services. Thus, we try to inject levity into TIPS so as to make subscribers' lives more bearable (or less unbearable, as the case may be), even if not deliriously joyful. In fact, the "signs of the times" are depressing, and thus some TIPS content is in need of occasional levitation. TIPS tries to report developments truthfully, but since it gets many items from other sources, it cannot be responsible for errors contained in original sources. Specific items from TIPS may be reproduced without permission as long as the full TIPS reference is cited/acknowledged, and as long as only small portions of a TIPS issue are so reproduced.

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Invitation to Submit Items for Publication. We invite submissions of any items suitable for TIPS. These may include "raw" clippings, "evidence," reviews of publications or human service "products," human service dreams (or nightmares), service vignettes, aphorisms or apothegms, relevant poetry, satires, or brief original articles. We particularly welcome items telling of positive developments since bad news is so frequent as to be the norm. Send only material you don't need back, because you won't get it back. If we don't goof, and if the submitter does not object, submissions that are used will be credited.

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