

UNION CITY, N. J. -- Rules for dating, dress, drinking, driving and diversion are cited as the basic points in a "conduct code teen-agers live by," according to an article in the June issue of The Sign, National Catholic Magazine published here.

The code, entitled "Tips for the Guidance of Teen-agers," was drawn up by the St. Louis Archdiocesan Committee after an extensive survey in which more than 10,000 parents and teen-agers were interviewed, according to John S. Hellman, author of the magazine article.

"Less than seven months after publication," Hellman says, "more than 50,000 copies had been distributed (and half of them sent outside the St. Louis area)..."

"Requests for the code came from people everywhere--from a Lutheran minister in Milwaukee serving as chairman of the Metropolitan Crime Prevention Commission, from an associate professor at Memphis State University as a help in 'teaching my education courses,' and from a missionary priest in Sao Paulo, Brazil, who conducts a summer camp each year for more than a thousand teen-agers."

Highlights of this code, summarized by The Sign magazine as "The St. Louis Code's 5 'D's'," are:

"Dating: Steady dating (the exclusive and frequent dating of one boy and one girl) not allowed for any high School teen-agers, except juniors and seniors for whom the prospect of marriage is both immediate and prudent. Group activities encouraged on all grade levels; parties limited to six a year for 7th and 8th graders, with a 9:30 p.m. curfew. Legion of Decency A-III, B and C movies, as well as all Drive-In Theatres banned.

"Dress: Modest and attractive clothes encouraged.

"Drinking: Can create major problems. Alcoholic beverages should not be served at any teen-age party, and their use by teen-agers should be prohibited except as accepted within the family circle at home.

"Driving: Teen-age use of the automobile is a privilege not a 'right.' Title and full responsibility of a second car for the near-exclusive use of teen-agers should be kept by parents.

"Diversion: Social entertainment and religious activities for teen-agers in the home should be encouraged by parents. Dating curfews on weekends, 12 midnight; on nights preceding school, one to one-and-a-half hours after event ends; and for proms, 1-2 a.m."

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