

Sex is in the air at Awareness forum

BY THOMAS MOORE
NEWS EDITOR

Sex and ignorance. Sex and education. Sex and our children.

These topics will be addressed tonight at 7 in the forum titled, "Sex Education in Our Schools" in the Mayer Student Union, Room 201.

The forum is sponsored by KUNV and chaired, in part, by Patricia Pearlman.

Pearlman is the host of "Awareness," a call-in radio show on KUNV that addresses many of the same subjects.

Panelists include: Pearlman; Marie Tange, clinical director of Planned Parenthood of Southern Nevada; Gene Butler, a science and health administration specialist; Mary Beth Sew, the chair of

the sex education committee for CCSD; Candice Nichols, health educator for Aid for Aids of Nevada; and Margaret Wilgar, a registered nurse also with CCSD.

Pearlman said the forum is an attempt to discuss whether the current level of sex education in schools is adequate. She said the need in the Las Vegas community, as well as in its schools, for more information about sexual matters is also a motivation behind "Awareness."

Pearlman said the show deals with all aspects of human sexuality and although the topics are often slightly controversial, she has received only one major complaint.

"The most annoyed person called when we were off the air," Pearlman said. "I had been detailing safe sex practices includ-

ing masturbation. She was horrified that we described masturbation on the air, but it wouldn't be education if I couldn't talk about things like masturbation."

The show has had a diverse group of guests including a prostitute and a juvenile sex offender. However, Linus Litowsky, the producer, said he and Pearlman do not want to create another "Cecilia" show.

"We're about educating people and talking about things that people don't want to talk about candidly and in a positive light," Litowsky said. "We don't want a confrontational show."

"Awareness" discusses all aspects of human sexuality including stress in relationships, impotence, prostitution, abuse, menopause and homophobia.

Faculty Senate

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TOEFL and participate for up to a year. Once a student finishes the program and passes the TOEFL with a score of 500 or above, the student can then be admitted to the major of their choice within the university.

"UNLV was the only university in the southwest that did not admit foreign students into its school," said Vickie Holmes, director of the program. "We were turning away a lot of talented people with high GPAs and IQs because of a language barrier."

This program will bring UNLV up to the stature of other southwestern universities of the size of UNLV, Holmes said.

In other news, Dr. Matthew Simons, dean of libraries, addressed the Senate with the challenges facing the library and the importance of a good library.

"The building has a certain peculiar charm in the poster five year, but the building is an abomination," Simons said. "We need to be concerned with research needs and met for our students."

HIV

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"There's a big fear of getting it, but I still think they have that self-righteous, pompous attitude that it will never happen to them," Tomory said.

Tomory also said students often pay lip service to safe sex.

"We give out a lot of condoms," Tomory

said, but added that he is not sure what that means. "I think they're being cautious intellectually but their behavior doesn't change."

Rodriguez said many students feel they are being cautious because they are in a monogamous relationship. However, it is important for students to understand that in order to protect oneself against AIDS monogamy means spending the rest of your life with one person who has been

tested for HIV.

An average of 10 students go to the health center each week to get tested for the disease, Tomory said. When they do, they are also given pre-test counseling to help them fill out the forms and answer any questions they might have.

They also provide post-test counseling in which the test results are explained and risks as well as precautions are discussed.

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