

Sex forum gives students an opportunity to ask questions

Christian Fellowship hosts sex discussion

BY TREVOR HAYES
STAFF NEWS WRITER



PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN

Larry Thiel speaks before a standing-room-only crowd Friday

More than 120 students packed a room in the Moyer Student Union to hear Larry Thiel, a graduate student in history, talk about sex and advocate abstinence before marriage.

"Sex, the candy everybody wants," as quoted from a song by 10,000 Maniacs, was the subject of the forum, sponsored by the Inter-Varsity Rebel Christian Fellowship.

The forum began with Thiel's 20-minute speech, followed by a question and answer period that lasted an hour-and-a-half.

Thiel's speech was filled with humor and reality, interspersed with quotes ranging from Woody Allen to Michael Douglas.

"There are only three things important in life," Thiel said, quoting Woody Allen. "The first is sex and the other two seem to slip my mind right now."

Although Thiel said it's normal to think about sex a lot—"It's everywhere you look, T.V., magazines, radio, and even at school. It would be abnormal not to think about it,"—he advocated abstinence before marriage.

Sex, said Thiel, should be comfortable, and he said pre-marital sex is filled with anxiety. "The scandal of pre-marital sex has been replaced by the scandal of virginity," Thiel said.

Thiel said the ideal condition for sex is a loving marriage. When asked from the audience, "Isn't love enough?" he responded, "If you truly love someone, then the best gift you can give them is allowing them to save themselves for their future spouse, and hopefully that spouse can be you."

Thiel quoted statistics that supported his stance, including a report from *Time* magazine that stated a majority of married women regret having pre-marital sex. Another survey Thiel quoted indicated that 65 percent of married people have a happy sex life,

while only 45 percent of single people say the same.

Thiel read risqué passages from the Book of Solomon in the Bible describing a first sexual encounter between a young couple. Many times he emphasized the point that he thanks God as the creator of the orgasm.

"What if my spouse isn't any good?" was another question from the audience.

Sex, like everything else in life Thiel said, isn't perfect every time. He said good sex takes open communication, love and hard work. He added that with time, sex can be the most wonderful experience in life.

Thiel went on to explain that if a first sexual encounter is with a spouse, then no comparisons exist and that spouse will obviously be the best sex-

ual partner.

"Sex is more than a game," Thiel said. "If it wasn't, then date rape would be like forcing someone to play volleyball."

"I thought it went very good, people asked a lot of good questions," said Thiel following the discussion. "The most provocative response I got was from a student who wrote, 'This was not what I wanted to hear, there was a little too much honesty to what you said.'"

The Inter-Varsity Rebel Christian Fellowship meets every Friday at 6 p.m. on the second floor of the M.S.U. The group discusses social, political and religious issues in an open, non-judgmental atmosphere. The student organization has been on campus for 10 years and has more than 150 members.

E-mail

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proximately 50 percent of his operation management students claim to use e-mail services.

Junior Jason Williams, political science, has been using e-mail frequently and regularly for nearly a year. "I use e-mail to talk to my friends at other colleges across the country," Will-

iams said. "It's cheaper than using the telephone and it's faster than the postal service."

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