

# CRUSADE FOR MORALITY

An Oration

by  
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From a speech delivered at the National Convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, San Antonio, Texas, June 10, 1970. Permission granted by the author to the WETMORE DECLAMATION BUREAU, Sioux City, Iowa.

. . . Most of us remember the carefree days of our youth when the parks were fun places for the kids to play after school, when families looked forward to an evening at the movies, window shopping along the way back home, or a nice stroll after supper. These, and many other little innocent pleasures are not enjoyed by most of us who are living in cities. We are afraid to be on the streets after dark...

Police records show that a crime is committed every split second around the clock, day and night. And, as unbelievable as it may seem, the crime rate is getting worse, not better. The chance of any of us becoming a victim of crime is much greater today than it was ten years ago.

Home, often thought of as "Man's Castle" and looked upon as a sanctuary here in America can no longer be considered safe for women and children. It can be dangerous to be at home in \_\_\_\_\_ (present year.) Last year, kidnappings, rapes, murders, attacks on young children reached an all time high. Across the nation, small towns and big towns, few were exempt from danger.

This is unthinkable, unconscionable and unbelievable to most people. We have become so accustomed to reading about murder, rape, robberies, auto thefts, gangs, kidnappings, hijackings, wars, riots, communism, smut, dirt, pornography, dirty movies, dirty books, and even crime in the school house that we seem to have become immune to the very danger that lurks outside our own door. Or, could it be that decent people are suffering from a state of shock?

These things did not start happening all at once! They have been building gradually and steadily since World War Two. We have had plenty of warning but, like the warnings we have had about the danger of communism infiltrating our communities, our schools, our churches, our government, our industries, our courts and in some instances even our press, radio and television we just could not believe it could happen here. We just seemed to take it for granted that things were not really that bad. We preferred to believe that those who pled with us to listen were alarmists, extremists or crackpots...

I am sure we all remember Nikita Khrushchev's threat to bury us. However, this was not original with him. Karl Marx was the author in his early years of "Blue Prints for Conquest of the Free World."

There is an even more important threat which has been made by the Soviets and one we should not ignore. Back in the 30's a member of the Soviet hierarchy boasted that they would destroy the United States and its capitalistic system one day without a war. That most Americans were so naive and so stupid it would not be necessary or economical to fight us in open combat. When pushed for the answer the Soviet official replied--"It won't hurt to tell you because you still won't believe it or understand. But," he continued--"it is all so very simple. We will just make you rotten.--Rotten to the core!"

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