

SOCIOLOGY

Red Chinese Exploit Love

► AN ADMIRER of a Communist Chinese girl told her that he was going to Korea to fight against the Americans. She told him, "Go ahead. It is only after you say you are going to Korea to fight for our country that I feel I love you."

This is how Chinese Communists weave indoctrination into love stories. The example is from Chinese magazine literature and was reported by Dr. Lucy Jen Huang of Boston University to the American Sociological Association in New York.

She cited a similar sentiment, expressed by an admirer who watched the beautiful colors of the sky at sunset with his Chinese girl friend.

He waxed poetic and said he would like to weave her a cloth from the multicolors of the sky. His much more practical girl friend answered that in this time of urgent production and reconstruction he should rather weave blue and gray cloth for the soldiers.

Dr. Huang said that today the editors of Chinese magazines are told by the leaders of the country what stories to publish in order to indoctrinate the people. She told SCIENCE SERVICE that she got the data for her report from the bi-weekly Chinese magazine, *Women of China*.

Dr. Huang reported that the patterns of dating and courtship are changing in Communist China, although some of the old customs still influence the thinking of the people.

She said there is much greater freedom in choosing a mate in China today than there was in earlier times. There are no arranged marriages any more, she said.

There are, however, some semi-arranged marriages, mostly aided by friends of the couple.

The women of Communist China tend to exploit the male more than in former times, and they negotiate more to get what they want in a spouse, Dr. Huang said. There is a great deal of dependency on women in the Communist Chinese society, and men cater more to women than they used to do.

Chinese engagements are short, Dr. Huang said. Just as in older times, young Chinese find it difficult to meet for a long time and get emotionally involved without getting married. Illegitimacy is frowned upon today as it was in earlier times.

The legal age for marriage in Communist China is 18 for women and 20 for men. This is earlier than before. Because of the early marriages, many women have three children by the time they are 25 and lose valuable working hours for the state.

This worries the leaders of the regime, and they therefore try to persuade women to marry at a later age. Today many poems praise the woman who goes to work on her wedding day. Such a woman is called a heroine in Chinese literature, Dr. Huang said.

Today the ideal woman works for five years while she lets her marriage wait until

she has fulfilled this duty to the state. This type woman in Chinese literature even forgets dates with her fiancé as she works eagerly for the state.

There are many reasons for the early marriages in Communist China, Dr. Huang said.

1. Not much money is needed. Communist Chinese do not have elaborate weddings. If they do, people criticize them. Weddings used to be great occasions in China, and Dr. Huang said that older people regret these new modest marriages.

2. When young people get out of school, the state sends them anywhere. Therefore many young people marry someone from the home environment so the two can go away together instead of finding a mate in a strange environment.

3. There are no worries about getting a job. Everyone has to work, regardless.

The Chinese Communists teach through their magazine literature a "socialist morality" in which the state comes first ideally and where love is based on contribution to the party, Dr. Huang said.

She said that Communism is trying to capitalize on old teachings that emphasize that one should think about the family, not about the self. The leaders call the revolution "the large family of revolution," asking for personal sacrifice for the good of the "family."

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IQ and Creativity Probed

► TWO GROUPS of young people—both superior in scholastic achievement—have been found to be vastly different in family background and ways of thought.

Drs. Jacob W. Getzels and Philip W. Jackson, both of the University of Chicago, told the American Sociological Association's annual meeting in New York that they had found one group of superior students high in IQ but low in creativity.

A second group of superior students was lower in IQ but high in creativity. Although both groups did well in school, the researchers found teachers preferred the high-IQ students to the creative ones.

The career choices of the two groups, however, were quite different. The high IQ's chose more conventional occupations.

The family life of the two groups was also different. The educational level of both parents tended to be higher for the high IQ's than for the high creatives, and there was a greater age difference between the parents of the high IQ group.

The parents of the high IQ's belonged to more exclusive clubs, participated in more self-educational activities and took more mass media magazines.

The parents of the high IQ's seemed generally to be more watchful about their children's upbringing than the parents of the high creatives.

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ASTRONAUTICS

Metal Disc Trains Men To Move on Cushion of Air

► AN AIR-ELEVATED metal disc is being used by the Air Force to train men to function efficiently in a weightless environment.

The disc, which is lifted only a fraction of an inch from the floor by a cushion of air, was designed by Air Force engineers at Wright Air Development Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

Men in training for the Air Force's man-in-space program are tested on the air-borne platform wearing full pressure suits.

Each trainee learns to master the principle that every action has an equal and opposite reaction. Then he is able to move the disc with himself on it in the direction he chooses. To do this he must turn his body to the left if he wishes to move the disc to the right.

Unfortunately, this device provides a simulated weightless condition only in one dimension. WADD has plans to construct a sphere-shaped device to which a man can be strapped and rotated in all directions.

This platform, also raised by compressed air, will give a three-dimensional simulation of weightlessness.

It will provide more comprehensive knowledge on some of the effects on man of weightlessness, still one of the unknown hazards of space travel.

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SPACE PLATFORM—The air-elevated disc is being used to train men to function in a weightless environment. The trainee is able to move the disc in any direction he chooses. If he wishes to move to the right, he must turn his body to the left and vice versa.