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PSYCHOLOGY

Sexes Have Same View Of Highly Masculine Man

➤ MEN AND WOMEN agree on the description of "a real man," Donald K. Pumroy told the meeting of the Eastern

Psychological Association in New York.

It is "highly masculine" to be strong, to play football, to be a boxer, both sexes agree. Wearing glasses, driving a sports car, swearing or playing the drums are also "masculine," 103 college men and women believe.

The students viewed having been in jail, having been married several times and liking to watch birds as not masculine.

They rated 70 items that could have described a more or less masculine male. Women were inclined to think all the items were more masculine than men did, the University of Maryland, College Park, psychologist said.

He told the meeting that a person's individual view of masculinity is only one aspect of the complicated subject.

Science News Letter, 83:292 May 11, 1963

PSYCHOLOGY

Immobilization of Body Disturbs Mind, Vision

➤ TO TAKE AWAY a sense of touch and

motion from the body upsets the mind. When the body is immobilized, intellectual functions, visual processes and brain waves are disturbed, psychologists have found.

To determine the effects of immobility, 22 students were strapped in coffin-like boxes. To minimize pain and cramps they were unstrapped for 15 minutes at mealtimes, one hour in the afternoon and nine hours at night.

Otherwise, the world around them was a normal one of changing sights and sounds and smells.

After a week of this confinement, brain waves in the occipital lobe, the center of vision, were disturbed. Tests showed impaired verbal, mathematical and perceptual abilities, Drs. John P. Zubek and L. gosh of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada, found.

Patients in iron lungs, men in space capsules or children in swaddling clothes are subjected to similar conditions, they noted in Science, 140:306, 1963.

They caution that prolonged immobilization may result in adverse psychological consequences unless appropriate measures to stimulate bodily activity are taken.

• Science News Letter, 83:292 May 11, 1963

BIOCHEMISTRY

Hardening of Arteries In Rabbits Reported

➤ HARDENING of the arteries in rabbits is reported by the Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory at Bar Harbor, Maine. Less frequently, gallstones and other similar formations in kidney, bladder, prostate gland and ovarian ducts are found in the rabbit colony. These conditions are believed due to vitamin A deficiency in the diet.

Science News Letter, 83:292 May 11, 1963

Questions

ANTHROPOLOGY-What group of people spends the most money on voodoo ceremonies? p. 299.

GEOPHYSICS—What was the starting point of the new moon theory? p. 291.

PUBLIC HEALTH-What are the three types of rats that plague us most? p. 298.

SPACE—Why should spacecraft returning from the moon be quarantined? p. 293.

VITAL STATISTICS—What age-group accounts for the sex difference in death rates? p. 297.

ZOOLOGY—What causes the increase in heart problems for animals in the zoo? p. 296.

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