

# Life isn't always fair

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When we were kids our sense of security was in its developmental stages. We watched closely how mom and dad treated sister or brother. We didn't want them to get a larger share of anything that might indicate they were in more favor than we. Through such experiences we learned to measure our sense of "OKness" by continually checking ourselves against the imaginary line of fairness.

## "Foul"

If brother or sister got more cake and ice cream, we yell "foul". If they happen to start school with three new shirts and we only have two, it's foul again, and so we learn over the years that our worth as human beings is directly proportional to the amount of "favors" we experience. We yearn for the day when we will be big enough to take charge and make decisions to have it "our way" instead of getting the short end of the stick.

## As adults

And so, now we are adults and things haven't changed much. We continue to seek "truth, justice and the American way" everywhere we turn, and when we don't find it we cry "foul" again and the disappointment sets in over and over. We are expecting the world to live up to a concept of what is "fair, right and good". But we are not living in a fair world.

The idea of fairness does not exist except in our minds. It is not "fair" that the worm is eaten by the robin nor that the robin is pursued by the cat, the cat by the dog and so on. Floods and tornados that leave thousands homeless are not "fair" - but they are

## Handicapped children have exciting program

The Able Children Together Program (ACT) for handicapped children is meeting twice each month on Saturdays at the McNair Recreation Center.

Children are treated to arts and

real. We continue on in a child-like magic forest, seeking the illusion of fairness and tell ourselves that it isn't "fair" how others have treated us. Because we have less than our neighbor, it isn't fair; that we are on the duty roster again before another has been on it once. It isn't fair. Isn't it strange that we never seem to say Abortion isn't fair to the baby.

Inequalities in our human experience are certainly enough to make any of us feel less that adequate because we take our sense of worth from what others say about us and how they behave toward us.

## Perceptions

All of our perceptions are selective, that is we become anxious and scared primarily because we have chosen to believe in and accept the myth of fairness in the world. We tend to believe those things that will support our personal bias and desires. We can view a glass of water as half full or half empty - the choice is ours. The perception and outlook however, will be determined by the position we choose to accept. The fairness of the world is the same - we can be realistic and believe our life experience, or we can be unrealistic and continue to pursue our fantasy of fairness with all of its "unfair" consequences.

## Fantasy chasing

The Judaeo-Christian ideal is that of good mental health, the acceptance of yourself as created in the image of God and the loving acceptance of others - there is no room in this ideal for fantasy chasing. (Chaplain (Maj.) Pedder is the 22nd Signal Brigade Chaplain.)

crafts, music therapy and an assortment of recreation activities. Volunteers are also needed for this worthy program.

For information on the ACT program call 2315-898 or 2311-8234.