

Spock is a crock

By M.C. MONGOOSE

As a Monmouth College student who is interested in peace, I feel that it would be best to ask people who give "the movement" a bad name, to step back and let us do it. No doubt when a nationally recognized author fades from the spotlight, it is a temptation to pick up a banner that will put his name back in the headlines. This fame is also very profitable. Just ask how much we pay to have a Speaker at Monmouth. Anyone with a nationally recognizable name commands more money.

I feel that the Doctor's antics which have gained fame over recent years, have been motivated first by the national recognition due to a champion of a cause backed by the youth, and secondly—by the added revenue from speaking engagements which wouldn't hurt (might even add a pool behind his home in sunny St. Thomas, VI).

Keeping in mind the beginning of the Vietnamese war, consider these quotes from books Spock wrote in 1961 and 1962: (it took some time for him to get on the bandwagon, his book (note the modest title) Dr. Spock on Vietnam, did not come out until 1968, only two years ago!

DR. SPOCK TALKS WITH MOTHERS—1961

(Pg. 228-9 "...they have so recently become aware of their intense ideals that they have had too little time in which to practice them. They have to try to seem very knowledgeable with quite incomplete knowledge. Their feelings are too new and impulsive to be handled with sophistication..." "...it's easy enough to daydream about coping suavely with these situations, but when they actually come up they create turmoil..."

(Pg. 237) "...another aspect of the herdlike behavior of teenagers is their isolation from other age groups. They are trying hard to outgrow their own childishness, so they prefer to think of themselves as not children at all. Yet they are not really accepted into the adult world..."

(pg 237-8) "...but in America today we keep our adolescents in schools and colleges for years...they not only don't hold regular jobs, they still have to live on allowances from their parents and submit to their judgement and authority...they make a virtue of their isolation from the adult world. They invent their styles of dress and hairdo. Rather hectically they foster their own...enthusiasms. Then if it turns out their ideals happen to irritate their elders, that's an extra advantage." (advantage for someone who wants to be a national figure too no doubt, eh?)

PROBLEMS OF PARENTS-1962

(pg 282) "...unprepared to see beyond the horizon of their private pursuits, to understand the relationship of their lives to the fateful issues confronting their country and their world."

So the spotlight faded from the baby doctor. But in using his knowledge (?) of American youth, the doctor has catapulted back into the spotlight, and of course back into the money.

One of the major downfalls of people who take over legitimate causes for their benefit, is that they forget—we 'herdlike, impulsive' people do know how to read! Spock is Crock!