Prostitute Reflects On Financial Security

by Virginia Clift Editor

Editor's note: This is part two of a two part interview with an active prostitute. Some of the language is graphic and may not be suitable for all people.

Most prostitutes take each day as it comes. Starr (her street name) is different. She ended up hooking as a runaway, but now she is extremely concerned about her future.

"I'm 25-years-old and I figure by the time I'm 30 I will retire and I will never have to worry about money again in my life. I'll be financially set. Then I can settle down, put this all behind me, find a good man, get married and live a normal life," she expressed.

Starr is well known, especially by the Fresno police. "I'm one of the more fortunate ones. I don't cause any trouble." Many prostitutes steal from their clients, Starr said, and that clients sometimes steal from prostitutes. "I have been ripped off in the past by a guy that I picked up. They'll pull out a knife or a gun and it's like 'Hey, take my money'. Usually they just want sex, they don't want your money, just sex. They just don't have the money to pay for it, so they're going to try to use a weapon to get

"I know inflation has gone up and people don't have much money to spend. Some come out here and they have \$5 to \$10. Forget that cra. The lowest I go is \$40.

For \$40 you can get a (oral sex), that's it."

Starr has been in some very strange and unusual situations. Clients have asked her to do things that she just wasn't comfortable doing.

"I was in one situation with a guy and he was really big and fat and gross and he wanted to do gross disgusting things." She said the client wanted her to defacate, urinate, and vemit on him. "I couldn't do it. He was willing to pay \$400 to do these disgusting things, but I just couldn't see myself doing this stuff. I just had to leave and give him his money back."

There are other requests that Starr gets that she just won't go through with. "They want to have anal sex with you and stuff like that and I don't go for that either."

Starr occasionally comes in contact with women in sexual situations. "When I associate with women, it's usually a man and his wife. Either the women want to see their husbands having sex with another woman or else the husband wants to have sex with me while I have sex with his wife."

"In a situation like that, there's a lot of money involved. It doesn't really bother me, but they're the ones getting off on this, not me."

When Starr is working on the street she tries to detach herself from the situation. "I don't look into their eyes. I always have my eyes down and I'm looking somewhere else, thinking about something else, wishing this would hurry up and finish."

Starr sometimes feels uncomfortable when soliciting clients. "It's scary, especially by yourself. If you get into a car with a stranger you don't know what to expect. That's why I don't car date with anybody even if they just want to pull around the corner and get a quick No way, I have a hotel room and if they don't want to go to my hotel room, then they can go somewhere else."

Starr has a four-year-old son, owns a house in the Fig Garden area, and goes to Clovis adult school. She is studying nursing. Starr doesn't believe she has ever been in love, although she

See Starr on Page 3



Volume 44, No. 5

Fresno City College

April 24, 1987

Enabler Student Files \$2.7 Million Suit Against City College

by Darrell Johnson News Editor

Fresno City College student Andrea Prisler filed a \$2.7 million damage suit against FCC March 26 charging that she was rejected from the Enabler program because of alleged discrimination.

Priseler claims that her access to the Enabler program was denied last January because of her unusual disability. Prieseler has been diagnosed as having Agoraphobia, an anxiety disorder that involves fear of open places and unfamiliar people.

The State Center Community College District board of trustees rejected Priseler's claim at its April 7 meeting. FCC Public Information Officer David Jimenez said he was unable to comment on the action be-

cause of the pending litiga-

FCC Enabler Services Director Janice Emerzian and Enabler counselor Charlotte Arkalian are named in the suit for damages of \$1 million each. The claim also seeks \$750,000 from FCC for emotional distress.

Emerzian and Arkalian said they were unable to comment on the claim. Emerzian cited "confidentiality of student records" as the reason.

Priseler, who is 21, is housebound and had received schoolwork and counseling in her home through the Enabler program since 1985.

She said her conflict with the Enabler program began on Nov. 6, 1986 when she was denied help in obtaining a guaranteed student loan. She said that she was later refused in-home counseling and registration help from the program.

Priseler also displayed a FCC class drop form that she said Arkalian, who had been her counselor, had allegedly forged her signature on.

Priseler has retained the Fresno investigative firm of Harpercrisp inc. to conduct an investigation of the Enabler program.

Priseler said her experience with agoraphobia began when she was 16. "It just began one day, for no reason," she said. She mentioned that the severity of the disorder fluctuates. "It comes in attacks," Priseler said, "when I meet certain new people I can become very nervous."

Though medical experts do not yet know what causes agoraphobia, abnormalities in the body's chemistry is

See Priseler page 3

Emergency!



Photo by Larry Aaron

If you have been wondering what all of those yellow phones are doing on campus, stop wondering. Fresno City College is installing eight emergency phones located all over campus. These phones are a direct line to the campus police designed to give instantaneous response to those needing assistance. The \$20,000 system is designed to cut school liability. The school hopes to have the phones fully operational by the second week in May.

ASB Sponsors Voters Rally

by Virginia Clift Editor

The Associated Student Body Senate is sponsoring a "Voters Registration Rally" in the free speech area on April 27 from 11 a.m. to 2

"Along with registering voters, the rally will promote a stronger voice for community colleges and allow the students, faculty and administrators the

opportunity to respond to the governors proposed budget that does not allow for an increase in programs and reinstitution of programs that were cancelled due to a lack of funding," said Susan Krikorian, ASB President.

Dr. Bill Stewart, State Center Community College District Chancellor, Ron

Manfredi, State Center Community College District Trustee, Renee Hudson, State Center Community College District Student Trustee, and Krikorian are scheduled to speak at the rally. Speeches are from 12 to 12:30 p.m.

Representatives and students from Modesto Junior College, Kings River Community College, College of the Sequoias, and West Hills Community College will be present.

Enabler Program Disqualifies Student--Are They Right or Wrong?

Point

by Randy Risner Managing Editor

The Fresno City College Enabler Program proved that it is just as insensitive and uncaring as any other state sponsored bureaucracy when it told FCC student Andrea Priseler, who suffers from Agoraphobia, she could no longer receive Enabler services.

Although Priseler has received support services from the Enabler Program for the past two years she was suddenly cut off in January because, she was told, agoraphobia does not qualify as a disability.

The Enabler Program's actions at the very least demonstrate a lack of sensitivity, caring, and understanding of the very handicapped people they are supposed to serve.

Indeed, if the Enabler Program does not consider Priseler, who is confined to her home, disabled who do they consider disabled? Is it just people confined to wheelchairs? Or is it someone suffering from a medical condition that substantially limits physical activity? Evidently, even they don't know.

The fact is agoraphobia is disabling since it can significantly impair normal life functions. Dr. Kevin O'Connor, a psychologist at the California School of Professional Psychology, said that agoraphobia is a "diagonostic category in and of its self." He further stated that the disease is disabling and is the most incapacitating of all the various phobias.

We as a society have a responsibility to provide people with physical and mental disabilities with the same educational opportunities available to all of us. The Enabler Program, as its name implies, was designed to do just that. But apparently, the Enabler Program no longer understands this if they ever did.

Guitar Concert

Fresno City College will host the internationally acclaimed classical guitarist Juan Serrano on Feb. 7 at 8 p.m. in a concert that will benefit "Friends of the Arts."

Tickets are available through the Community Services Office, which is sponsoring Serrano's appearance.

A native of Cordoba, Spain, Serrano now lives in Fresno.

Free Food

Low-income people living in the Fresno area can pick up cheese and butter from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 29 and 30. For more information call 237-3074.

Cheerleaders

FCC cheerleader, songleader, and mascot tryouts on May 2 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information call 442-4600, ext. 8448.

Counterpoint

By Virginia Clift Editor

When the Fresno City College Enabler Program told agoraphobic student, Andrea Priseler, she could no longer receive its services, officials were doing the correct thing, but allowing her to receive services for the past two years and then cutting her off is pretty ridiculous.

If the Enabler Program serviced every student with a physical or mental or a unique problem, every student would attempt to qualify. Could someone be considered disabled with allergies, if his health was impaired seasonally?

Sure, Priseler has a problem, since she can't leave her own house, but if a person has a severe mental problem, which Priseler does since she can't function in public, he or she shouldn't even attempt to try to go to school until well.

Priseler should focus her complete attention on her problem and make every effort she has to get her life in order and walk outside.

Was Priseler really getting a complete and adequate education for the past two years by having other students attend classes for her. I really doubt it. The education she has received so far is probably similar to a mail-order education.

Priseler is suing FCC for emotional distress for losing one semester of school, an amount of \$750,000. This is outrageous!

She is also pointing fingers at Janice Emerzian, director of the Enabler Program, and Charlotte Arakelian, Enabler counselor, suing them for \$1,000,000 each for punitive damages. Priseler also organized and circulated a petition to remove Emerzian and Arakelian from their jobs. This is going a little bit too far--it would shut down the Enabler Program and that way no one could benefit. By removing Emerzian and Arakelian, that's just about what you'd be doing.

Priseler has two private detectives working on her case, who are present when outsiders ask Andrea questions. Instead of focusing her entire attention on this lawsuit, Priseler should try to get out more.

Vintage Days

Otis Day and the Knights, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. during Vintage Days at the CSUF amphitheatre. The Beat Farmers, Town Cryers, and Miss Alans on April 26 in the Amphitheatre. For more information call 294-2741.

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mon.-Thurs. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

SOCIAL SCIENCE MUSEUM HOURS

Mon. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

STUDENT LOUNGE HOURS
Daily 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Political Satire

Political satirist Mark Russell will perform his satire set to music on Sunday, May 3, at 3:00 p.m. in the William Saroyan Theatre.

Russell is considered to be one of the foremost political comedians in the country today. His syndicated column appears in the Los Angeles Times and other newspapers. He appears regularly on PBS television and has written a book, "Meeting Mark Russell."

There are a limited number of tickets still available. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with \$15 check to Town Hall, 2995 East Buckingham Way, Fresno 93726. For information call 432-9671.

His performance concludes the San Joaquin Valley Town Hall 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Piano Concert

Danish Pianist Jurgen Thomsen will give a recital in Fresno at Northwest Church (West & Barstow Ave.). He will perform on Thursday, May 7, at 8:00 p.m.

Thomsen made his debut in Copenhagan, Denmark and has been a professor of piano at Aarhur Conservatory since 1961.

Maestro Thomsen's West Coast appearance will mark his North American debut. Tickets are available at LJ's Sheet Music, Miller Sheet Music or at the door on the night of the concert. General admission is \$7; students and seniors \$4. For further information call (209) 233-2221.

Talking Hands

On May 2, from 12 to 6 p.m. Alpha Gamma Sigma and the Talking Hands Club will hold a fundraiser in Forum Hall A.

ADVERTISEMENT

Philosophy Lecture Announcement

On Tuesday evening, April 28, beginning at 7:30 in the Music Recital Hall of Fresno City College, Dr. Roger F. Gibson, Jr., of Washington University will speak on the writings of the Harvard logician and philosopher of language, W. V. Quine. While this colloquium will be open to the general public, I should like to extend to members of the faculty and student body a special invitation to hear Dr. Gibson's address. I am aware, however, that many individuals at our institution are unfamiliar with the topic of his proposed lecture and that they would therefore be inclined to attend only with some understanding of the subject matter already well in hand. The following overview, which, originally, I composed for circulation within the Humanities Division, should provide that understanding:

What distinguishes Gibson from other commentators on the subject is his thesis that Quine's philosophy is systematically unified. In this regard, he has specifically argued that Quine, unlike many other analytic philosophers, has never investigated traditional philosophical problems in a piecemeal fashion but has steadfastly conducted his inquiries and proposed his solutions to problems from a singular point of view -- what Gibson calls "a uniquely naturalistic-behavioristic perspective." This thesis, in fact, regulates Gibson's discussion in his book The Philosophy of W.V. Quine: An Expository Essay and can be illustrated by a summary of some of Quine's most important views.

To begin with, Quine accepts the notion, inherited from natural science, that human beings are complex physical organisms whose behavior may be explained in terms of the same laws that govern the universe generally. He therefore rejects the older doctrine of dualism, according to which an individual's nature is divisible into mind

and body. An immediate consequence of this aspect of his naturalism, however, is that all talk of mind, if it is to be useful in our attempts to understand the human animal, must be defined in behavioristic terms. In particular, an individual's beliefs may no longer be said to find their home in his mind but must be understood to be something in the public domain. But what, Quine asks, might a belief be, if not an intangible mental object? His answer is that a man's beliefs must be identified with the uttered or written sentences of his language that he believes to be true (or is disposed to observably assent to). However, this is not equivalent to saying that a man's mind is inscrutable. What Quine means to suggest, rather, is that there is simply no such domain as mind to scrutinize.

But a logical consequence of this rejection of mentalistic semantics. Ouine concludes, is that certain familiar conceptions of the nature of language are erroneous. There is, for example, the notion that when a bilingual switches from one language to another on a given occasion, he has not switched the meanings he intends to communicate to his listeners but only the linguistic labels for doing so. This notion, Quine says, captures the myth of the mental museum, whereby meanings are the exhibits on display in a speaker's mind and words are their labels. It implies, moreover, that language is theoryneutral, that is, that the way we view the world is independent of the natural language we speak. And that doctrine, he argues, is clearly false. For contained in every natural language is a theory of the world to which its speakers are to some extent committed. More importantly, since Quine insists that the process through which children learn a natural language can be explained in behavioristic terms, his own behavioristic account of that process answers a question which has puzzled philosophers at least since the appearance of John Locke's An Essay Concerning Human Understanding. That question is not 'What justifies our theories of the world?' It is 'How do we arrive at our theories?' And according to Quine, the answer lies in the very nature

of language-learning. For inasmuch as a natural language contains a theory of the world, a child who is learning such a language is necessarily learning a theory. Thus, whatever behavioral and neurological mechanisms are involved in the acquisition of a language must also account for the way we learn theories. In short, conceptualization of a world of spatially separated objects that endure through time cannot be divorced from verbalization.

What should be noted, finally, is Quine's position on the role of the philosopher in the academic world. It was once believed, almost universally, that a major task of philosophy was to explain the nature of science in ways that made no use of the empirical method of science. To make use of that method was deemed circular and uninformative. However, while it is abundantly clear that Quine seeks to explain what goes on when men of science are observably engaged in research and theory-formation, both of which are captured in their verbal and nonverbal behavior, it is just as clear that the explanation he proposes is grounded in the empirical study of language-learning. His explanation is therefore circular since it constitutes a scientific theory about scientific theorizing. Indeed, it is circular since what confirms it is precisely the empirical method it seeks to explain. Of course, Quine is aware of the circularity, but he argues that it is virtuous rather than vicious insofar as it informs us that there is no conceptual vantage point outside of science. Philosophy, then, is an enterprise that takes place within science. It can therefore provide no conceptual ground or justification for science that is more fundamental than what science can provide for itself.

I hope that the foregoing discussion of Quine, which I base largely on his book Word and Object and his essay "Epistemology Naturalized", demonstrates that Gibson's lecture will be most stimulating.

David B. Dye Philosophy Instructor Fresno City College

Starr from front page

often tells clients that she loves them. "Maybe I was in love with my child's father, but he's with the Italian mafia. I almost got killed getting out of that situation. They don't know where I'm at now, so I don't worry about them anymore.'

Starr said that her son knows she has a lot of boyfriends, but "he doesn't know that I come out and walk the streets. He's never seen me do that and he's never seen me doing drugs.'

She said that her regular clientelle come to her house and bring her son gifts and sometimes take him places. One client took them to Disneyland.

"Only regular my clientelle, the ones that I met when I first moved here and I've been seeing ever since, come to my house. They pick me up or they just come over to the house and we stay there. It's just like a regular date. We'll sit back and TV watch or play backgammon."

"The regular clientelle aren't boring, they're interesting because most of them are married and have interesting jobs," she commented.

She said if she could live her life over again she wouldn't choose the same path. "I see a lot of young girls 14 to 15-years-old out on the streets and I try to tell them to 'go home, go somewhere else, get off the streets'."

The youngest prostitute that Starr knows is 12 years old, the oldest 48. "I'm not going to be doing this at 48, I can tell you that.

"A lot of people ask me 'don't you have any morals or values in life?' Yeah, I have a lot of them. I don't have anything to hide. I'm not ashamed of what I do. I make more money than most people who work 40 hours a week. All their lives they work for what I already have."

Starr acknowledged that most prostitutes get into the business because they were either raped by their fathers or molested by someone when they were really

"I came from a very wealthy family. I was nothing but a tramp, a little runaway slut. I'm still in contact with my family. They don't degrade me for what I do. They don't approve, but they don't put me down for it. When I see them, we just don't talk about it."

In her spare time, Starr enjoys spending time with her son, relaxing at home and in her jacuzzi. "When I want to work, I work, and when I don't, I don't," she expressed.

Starr doesn't know if she'll stay in Fresno, but she said "when I retire from this business, I will be a nurse."



Andrea Priseler, an agoraphobic, stares out through her front Photo by John Tipton

Priseler from front page

suspect. According to phobia expert Dr. Harold N. Levinson, agoraphobia may be caused by abnormalities on how the brain relates to the inner ear.

Dr. Kevin O'Connor of the California School of Professional Psychology asserted, "It (agoraphobia) is a diagonostic category in and of itself. Of all the phobias it is the most incapacitating."

Priseler has been an FCC student since 1983. She has received Dean's List honors for three semesters and is

majoring in psychology. "I chose the major because of my disorder," she said.

Prieseler's claim is based

on section 504 of the 1973 federal Rehabilitation Act which forbids discrimination on the basis of a handicap in institutions receiving federal funding.

The federal court has acted on section 504 in the past when a nursing school did not have to lower physical requirements in order to admit a hearing impaired student.

Transfer

Thinking about transferring? You can obtain transfer information in the Transfer Center located on the second floor of the Student Services building.

The center has information available on admission, general information about a college. plus you can meet with a college or university representative by making an appointment.

See your counselor for more information.

Computer Lab

The computer lab is open on Saturdays from 12:30 to 4 p.m. in room Be-127. Students are encouraged to use the lab.

Housing

A list of available housing is compiled for students looking for a place to live in room 224 of the Student Services building. For more information call 442-4600, ext. 8646.

Summer Session

The application deadline for registration in FCC's summer session is June 5. Application deadline for late summer session registration is June 29. Instruction for the summer session begins June

Modern Dance

A modern dance performance will be held at the FCC theatre on April 30, May 1-2. FCC students and staff admission is \$2.50. General admission is \$4.

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All Nine Cal Campuses Represented at U.C. Day

Representatives from the nine University of California campuses were at Fresno City College on Wednesday as part of the first annual "U.C. Day."

The purpose of the event is to provide FCC students and members of the community with admissions requirements and other information about California's U.C. system, according to David Waring, Fresno area U.C. representative.

The event included both morning and afternoon forums in FCC's free speech area, in which students were able to meet with U. C. campus representatives.

"Students asked questions about specific majors and have relayed concerns about housing," commented U.C. Berkeley representative Lynn Barronoe.

The day also featured workshops on transfer proceedures from community colleges to the U.C. system.

According to Dr. Alice Cox, Vice President of Academic Affairs for U.S., "The number of community college students trasfering to the University of California

system has dropped in recent years." Cox added that the average transfer student from the community college is considered well prepared for the U.C. system.

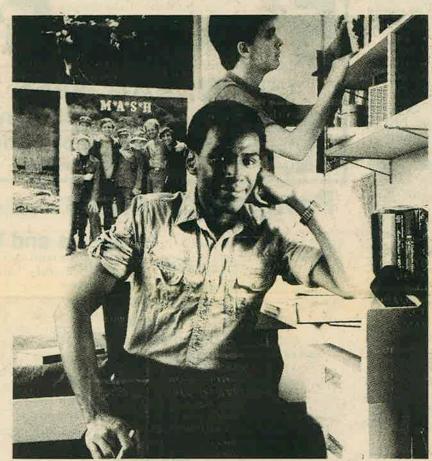
Cox spoke in the FCC Library along with U.C. Berkeley graduate Mario Olmos, a superior court judge and former Kings River Community College student.

Art Space Gallery

The FCC Art Space Gallery will host Los Angeles artists Weisberg, Harkness and Chan from April 27 to May 29. The opening reception will be April 30 from 6 to 9 p.m.

The FCC choir will hold a concert May 4 at 8 p.m. at the Recital Hall (MS-132). Admission is free.

'HOW I MADE \$18,000 FOR COLLEGE BY WORKING WEEKENDS."



When my friends and I graduated from high school, we all took part-time jobs to pay for college.

They ended up in car washes and hamburger joints, putting in long hours for little pay.

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