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Communities thrown together (SR 3/94)

Reading this article about the family made me angry. (...) To make the statement that the basic family (two parents plus children) started only two hundred years ago is an outrageous lie. It lacks general knowledge of history and society. The writer is even contradicting herself by using the «Holy Family» as an example. And shame on «Sämänn» to put the «Holy Family» in such a bad light. If the parents of the holy child were not married they would have been stoned to death according to the laws of their days.

K. Williams, Sydney, Australia

What about the responsibility of a father who abandons his children because he doesn't like their mother any more! «Happy patchwork families» is sickening! It's all wrong: shared children are in fact not happy at all. They are destabilised and seriously perturbed both in the present and for the future. The only thing considered is the pleasure of the parents. You're making a great error in trying to justify yourself by defining the family according to Pro Juventute.

Marie-Jeanne Ferrari, Maiche, France

The image of the family is not the one portrayed by the cinema, TV or articles like yours, but rather the divine family itself. (...) We are very far from «communities thrown together, patchworks, legos or puzzles». (...) Even if they live under the same roof, these children must be considered as «uprooted» because they are deprived of their home, i.e. a father and mother, brothers and sisters, issuing from the same parental stock. (...) The family is not cohabitation but a union – and a deep union, a union for life. (...) A union which includes fidelity with its rights and obligations. (...) I read this: «The aim of policy on family matters should not be to maintain a specific family form». (...) Well, I'm sorry, policy on family matters should be precisely to maintain a specific family form, an authentic family and not a family in the sense you mean.

Sister Simone Pont, Pluvigner, France

The article disappoints me since it shows an anti-family attitude. How can you learn more tolerance in a divorced family, where problems are not solved but dealt with through the «final solution» of divorce.

Max Eugster, Ampflwang, Austria ■

powerful job, is it just money? Whatever sinister motive may hide behind your one-sided «informing» the public, the population was not bought off by Brussels and can see therefore clearly what is at stake.

Elisabeth Cherney, Gwynedd Valley, USA ■

How I used to be proud of my red passport with the cross! Today, I would willingly exchange it with one from an EU country. For I feel discriminated against as a Swiss citizen. While as a Swiss/Finnish dual national my wife can seek work throughout the EEA and does not need a special residence or domicile permit, for me it is practically impossible to find work through the normal channels. The bureaucratic obstacles are enormous.

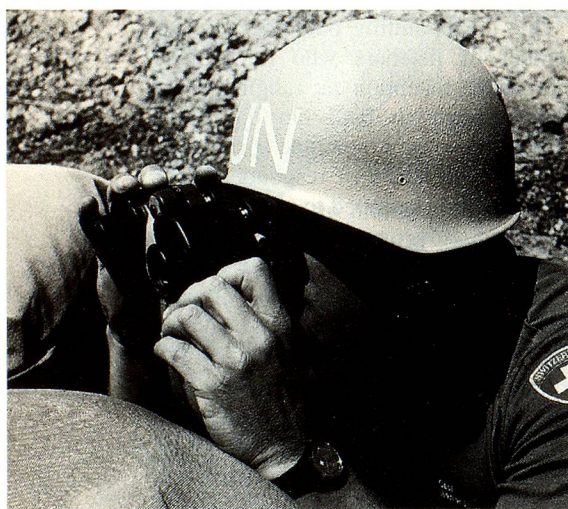
H. Beutler, Aminefors, Finland

Congratulations to Swiss Review

Iwould like to congratulate you on the way you put together Swiss Review. I enjoy reading every article very much. It is very informative to me as a Swiss living abroad. Keep up the good work!

Vera Wickesser, Bergenfield, USA

Switzerland and the EU/UN



Join or just observe? The extent to which Switzerland should move closer to international organisations is controversial amongst the Swiss Abroad too.

(Photo: Keystone)

You obviously believe, along with the arrogant Swiss Classe Politique, that only Berne knows what's best for those politically instinctless poor bastards of voters who do not recognize the sign of the times, and who (...) had the temerity, even audacity, to tell Berne that they won't submit to the UN, or to Brussels or any other foreign «Vögte».

Hansjoerg Schudel, Santa Rosa, USA

You call yourself the magazine for the Swiss Abroad. What you really are is a propaganda machine for your political agenda. The Swiss people and, I can assure you that includes the majority of the people living abroad, decided on December 6, 1992, not to join the EEA. When do you and the government finally accept that fact? (...) What makes you and the Swiss establishment join the force to dismantle the sovereignty of Switzerland? Are you lured into believing you will get a more

On the Liberal Democratic Party portrait

To say that the disputes with the former Catholic-Conservative Party, today's Christian Democrats, have disappeared is a complete delusion. The fact is that Rome still interferes directly in Swiss politics through the Swiss bishops. They put in question the law on compulsory measures in the legislation on foreign nationals voted upon in the December 4 referendum in an unusually sharp manner. The origin of the increase in the ideological gap between the Liberal Democrats and the Social Democrats is easy to see: today there are hardly any Social Democrats, but more and more Socialists with dictatorial tendencies. They want a Switzerland ruled socialistically in which economic and social freedom would be suppressed on socialist lines and the capital resources of the people plundered.

Alfred J. Bürki, Atibaia, Brazil ■