

CHILDHOOD

kindertjare



There's nothing wrong with
ROCK 'N' ROLL

JUNE
1957

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ROCK 'N' ROLL
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MORE SLEEP**

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**Waar Kom
Babas Vandaan?**

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**THE TRUTH
ABOUT
WONDER-FOODS**

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CHILDHOOD

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Vol. XXXIX

THREE SMART GIRLS

THE three smart girls on our cover this month are just three Johannesburg teenagers who, like most of them, are fond of Rock 'n' Roll.

Dr. Macalister Brew's spirited defence of teenagers and Rock 'n' Roll addicts must, at the least, compel the attention of our readers, even if they do not agree with all she has to say.

It is obviously true that young people of this generation are no different from any others in seeking outlets for their emotions, their energies and high spirits. We wonder, perhaps, why it is necessary for so many of them to "lose" themselves in the drug-like motions of Rock 'n' Roll. There *should* be more creative outlets that would interest and excite them to the same degree.

For while Rock 'n' Roll is another version of the same old jazz with its compelling rhythm that has appealed to young people for countless years, it is not entirely the same old jazz. Anyone who has listened to the king of

Rock 'n' Roll, Elvis Presley, must accept that the mumbled words, groans and shouts, are suggestive and unpleasant. It is just that much more decadent, more sexy, more vulgar, and at the same time, more dull; that much less in the spirit of fine jazz that true artists have created in the past.

However, the key question is what other scope we offer our adolescents. If they have a balanced interest in other activities, if there are some opportunities for cultural development, then there can be no harm in the craze for Rock 'n' Roll.

At least, that is what one mother thinks. That is why we put three smart girls on our cover to support this contention.

They are: Ilse Fischer, Barbara Harmel and Tony Bernstein, and they were taken in Johannesburg by photographer Eli Weinberg especially for this issue of CHILDHOOD.

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