

C STREET TO JENNY SANFORD: KEEP FUCKING MARK, EVEN WHILE HE'S CHEATING ON YOU

I really had no interest in reading Jenny Sanford's book. But I might have to read it only to get clarity on this tidbit that Ruth Marcus writes about. (h/t Rayne)

After one of the all-too-rare pre-affair moments in which Jenny gets angry, Mark enlists leaders of a congressional Christian fellowship to talk her down. They told her she was right to be angry, Jenny recounts, but that "staying angry with Mark was not an option. If I wanted to heal the relationship, I had to open my heart and be kind, even if Mark was in the wrong. They would work on Mark. We even went so far as to talk about sex and [one of the leaders] told me not to withhold it as punishment as that would make everything worse." [my emphasis]

So those beacons of Christianity told this woman that she should keep having sex with her husband ~~even though he was cheating on her~~. It was awfully nice of them, wasn't it, to eliminate one source of pressure Jenny Sanford had over her husband. Because we can't have women have any source of power in a traditional Christian family, don't you know? [ed.—see Frank Probst's comment; on re-reading I agree the implication is this advice came pre-affair.]

The clarification I want, though, is whether OB/GYN Tom Coburn—who we know was actively counseling Mark Sanford on this affair—was involved in the advice to Jenny Sanford that she should just keep having sex with her husband, ~~even as he was fucking another woman~~. I'd really

like to know what the fine doctor would say in
such a situation.