

SHOULD YOU ALLOW YOUR TEENAGE DAUGHTER TO BECOME A CHEERLEADER?

Michael R. Baggett

Naturally most parents want their children involved in school activities. It brings a glow to the face of any father whose son makes first string on the football team. It causes parents to be proud of their son or daughter when they excel in various sports, in the band, or other school related activities. However, parents, not all school activities are good or wholesome, nor should we be proud our child is involved in such. Sometimes Christians fail to ask: Is this activity my teenager is participating in at school something a Christian ought to be doing? Should you allow your teenage daughter to become a cheerleader for the football team?

Some parents seem to think that since it's a "teenager" involved it is somehow alright for them to allow them to do things. You know the type... "leave them alone, they are just teenagers." Whether they are teenagers or seniors in college is not the issue. The issue is: Is cheerleading harmless or is it harmful (sinful)?

Do you really condone the manner in which a cheerleader dresses? If your daughter is a cheerleader, more than likely she must dress in violation of 1 Timothy 2:9. This verse teaches that women, young as well as older, "*adorn themselves in modest apparel.*" Modest here, has nothing to do with "what's in," but with "how" a Christian lady is to dress. "*Modest*" means "becoming" or in other words, in our language, "decent"! All of the cheerleader uniforms I have ever known of are designed to draw stares and, believe it or not, they do "light the flames" of young men!

Do you want men "lusting" after your young lady, fathers? Yes, I'm aware that some will lust anyway, but should your daughter dress in such fashion as to cause young men to stumble? Jesus says: "*Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom offenses come*" (Mt. 18:7, NKJV).

Do you approve of "dancing"? Now mothers and fathers, there is no denying that this is what cheerleaders do! The fashion of the "cheer-dances" some do these days, one needs to wonder who the crowds are cheering for — the football team or the girls! The lewd, lascivious movements of these dances make one think of

the sinful places where men go and watch the "Las Vegas Show Girls"! Someone had to say this! The dancing your daughter does as a cheerleader makes her guilty of the "*works of the flesh*" (Gal. 5:19-21). These shall not inherit the kingdom of God!

Wake up parents! Stop teaching your children the ways of the world! Stop approving of activities God disapproves! "*But bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord*" (Eph. 6:4).

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GENDER IDENTITY

John Edwards

Some today are having a crisis when it comes to gender identity. A February 13, 2014 ABC news report identified 58 "gender options" introduced by Facebook for users to identify their gender. Schools are "educating" students in "Gender Identity Terminology" for students to "self-identify their gender" and "select the gender identity term that best describes their experiences". So, I searched the Scriptures and compiled a list of spiritual gender identify terms. After all,

it is God “that hath made us, and not we ourselves” (Ps. 100:3).

MALE AND FEMALE.

Genesis 1:27 affirms, “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; **male** and **female** created he them.” Nothing said about gender options. Genesis 5:2 says, “**Male** and **female** created he them....” Jesus asked this question: “Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them **male** and **female**...?” (Mt. 19:4). God made us either male or female and we identify accordingly.

MAN AND WOMAN. At the beginning God said, “It is not good that the **man** should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him” (Gen. 2:18). Thus, “... God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from **man**, made he a **woman**, and brought her unto the **man**. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called **Woman**, because she was taken out of **Man**” (Gen. 2:21-23). Paul wrote the Corinthians, “For the **man** is not of the

woman; but the **woman** of the **man**. Neither was the **man** created for the **woman**; but the **woman** for the **man**” (1 Cor. 11:8-9).

MANKIND AND

WOMANKIND. “Thou shalt not lie with **mankind**, as with **womankind**: it is abomination” (Lev. 18:22).

BOYS AND GIRLS. The children born to Isaac and Rebekah were called “**boys**” — “And the **boys** grew...” (Gen. 25:27). Joel 3:3 contains this statement: “And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a **boy** for an harlot, and sold a **girl** for wine, that they might drink.” Zechariah 8:5 records, “And the streets of the city shall be full of **boys** and **girls** playing in the streets thereof.”

SONS AND DAUGHTERS.

When Jacob and “his seed” went into Egypt it is said, “His **sons**, and his **sons’ sons** with him, his **daughters**, and his **sons’ daughters**, and all his seed brought he with him into Egypt” (Gen. 46:7).

PRONOUNS. The Scriptures use these pronouns with respect to male and female, man and woman, mankind and womankind, boys and girls,

sons and daughters: “**he**” and “**she**” (Gen. 3:6), “**his**” and “**hers**” (1 Sam. 25:42), “**him**” and “**her**” (1 Sam. 18:21). An individual is not a “they” or a “them”!

DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE SEXES. God intends for men to be men and women to be women. The law of Moses taught: “The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman’s garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God” (Dt. 22:5). Paul penned, “Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her...” (1 Cor. 11:14-15).

We don’t have any trouble with gender identify down on the farm! Question: “What did your heifer give birth to last night?” Answer: “We’re calling it a “they” until it selects the gender identity that best describes its experiences!” Are we wise or have we become fools? “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools” (Rom. 1:22). “...the world by wisdom knew not God...” (1 Cor. 1:21). “Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men...” (1 Cor. 1:25).

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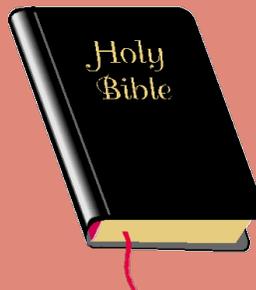
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