

## **What's Wrong With Dressing Sexy?"**

The appropriate way to dress while out in the world can be a very real concern for Christians—especially for female young adult Christians, who perhaps feel especially the pressures of accepting as their own the standards of fashion and looks so aggressively and relentlessly target – marketed directly at them by a pervasive, corporate-driven media obsessed with the exploitation of human sexuality.

There's certainly nothing inherently wrong with a woman wanting to look pretty; that's only natural. And part of being pretty – in fact, the very definition of being pretty – is having the way you look be appealing to others. Again, nothing wrong with that.

What too easily does go wrong, though, with a young woman wanting to look pretty –as in appealing, as in admirable, as in manifestly worthy of respect---is that these days a young woman is likely to equate the idea of looking pretty with the idea of looking sexy. And as a look (and, too often as an attitude) it's almost impossible anymore for "sexy" not to get immediately translated into "is available for sex." That is how a lot of young and older men out there today are going to interpret a woman's "sexy" look—because boys and men, just like girls and women, have also been deeply affected by the radical sexualizing of our culture.

If you're a young woman – or anyone at all – don't ever broadcast to the world that you think the most interesting thing about you is your body. That's dehumanizing yourself. And the devil's primary delight and work lies in dehumanizing people. Don't make his work infinitely easier by volunteering to do to yourself what he's forever lying in wait, itching to do to you.

Make it so that all people (especially men, girls) either have to deal with all of you, or with none of you. Don't allow your spirit—the real you, the eternal you, the Holy Spirit within you – to be in anyway separated from the body God blessed you with as a temporary housing for that spirit. Don't let anyone treat you, in other words, as if you are primarily a body. It's wrong for anyone to treat you that way, and it's no less wrong for you to treat yourself that way.

It's up to every woman to decide for herself what she's most comfortable wearing. If ever you're having trouble discerning between what's "right" to wear, and what might be going too far, don't try to make that decision by looking in the mirror. Make it by imagining that you are Jesus, looking down at you from heaven. You'll then know what to do.

Donald