

She Wears the Pants!

Today we are going to consider the deeper meaning of this very popular saying, ***“She wears the pants.”*** If you were to pick out any other article of clothing, and make the statement: She wears the (shirt, coat, shoes, etc.) people would look at you in a funny way, wondering what point you were trying to convey. But if you say, ***“She wears the pants,”*** they know exactly what you mean.

So we are going to consider why this is such a profound and significant statement. It may open our eyes to a subversive agenda we have never before considered.

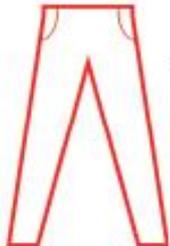


First, let's take a look at some formal definitions for the idea of wearing the pants:

"Wear the pants" means to be boss. This term was long applied to women, particularly wives, who assumed the domineering household role that was believed to belong to the husband. —*Have a Nice Day, A Dictionary of Clichés*

"Wear the breeches." (Of women) to usurp a husband's authority, be 'boss'. —*Dictionary of Slang & Unconventional English*

"To Wear the Breeches", a phrase said only of women; and signifying to rule; to usurp a husband's prerogative; to be 'master.' —*Slang and its Analogues*

She Wears  The Pants

“Wear the pants” means to be the person in charge in a marriage or family.

<http://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/wear+the+pants>

To “wear the pants” then is a phrase given to women who usurp the authority of headship given to men. Pants are symbolic of authority. As one worldly woman put it: “Pants are allied to Power.” – Mary Tillotson (American Costume Wearer)



From Forbes Magazine: “Who Wears The Pants? The Women Of Course! While our grandmothers may not have been allowed, women today are literally and figuratively wearing the pants. . . .” Forbes.com 11/18/2011

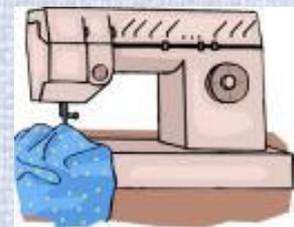
Women boldly proclaim, regarding their marriages, and every other realm of human relationships:



Love To Sew Studio

From a sewing website we read: “ ***‘Who wears the pants?’ is not a question of fashion, but a question of power. In the Western world, who literally wears pants is no longer a large concern, although historically it was. But what the question does reveals is that on some level, pants still symbolize power, whether in a romantic relationship or professional atmosphere. Understanding a bit about the history of pants, the changing lines and styles, and who wore what, when, where, and why can shed some light onto why this is.***—

<http://www.lovetosew.com/breeches.htm>



This secular source informs us that understanding history will help us understand why pants are symbolic of power.

Today, “Who Wears the Pants?” is a rhetorical question. Everyone knows who wears the pants!

Who Wears the Pants?

A wide brim hat can bring a little sophistication to any outfit.



This season is all about showing whose boss for fall, masculine turns fem with the **STRUCTURED SUIT**.

With designers like Balmain, Saint Laurent and Stella McCartney showing off these looks.

You too can make this new trend yours for Spring.



Bring out your inner Annie Hall with a structured jacket and straight pant.



A bold cuff and ring can add a feminine touch



Point yourself in the right direction with a pointed heel and break up the monotony with a gold tip.



It's repeated over and over in numerous publications:
SHE wears the pants!

am
NEW YORK

Play **MEGA** JACKPOT Over **\$86 Million!**
All you need is a dollar and a dream.

NOW SHE WEARS THE PANTS

Wives more than ever are supporting their husbands, study says
Page 4

Glimpse into a 'new' East Side
It'll be friendlier to bikes and buses
Page 3

Jets will stick to same tricks against Colts
Page 36

at&t
That world. Different.

WHO MAKES MORE MONEY IN YOUR MARRIAGE?
A HUSBAND OR WIFE
Copyright © 2008 AT&T Knowledge Ventures. All rights reserved.

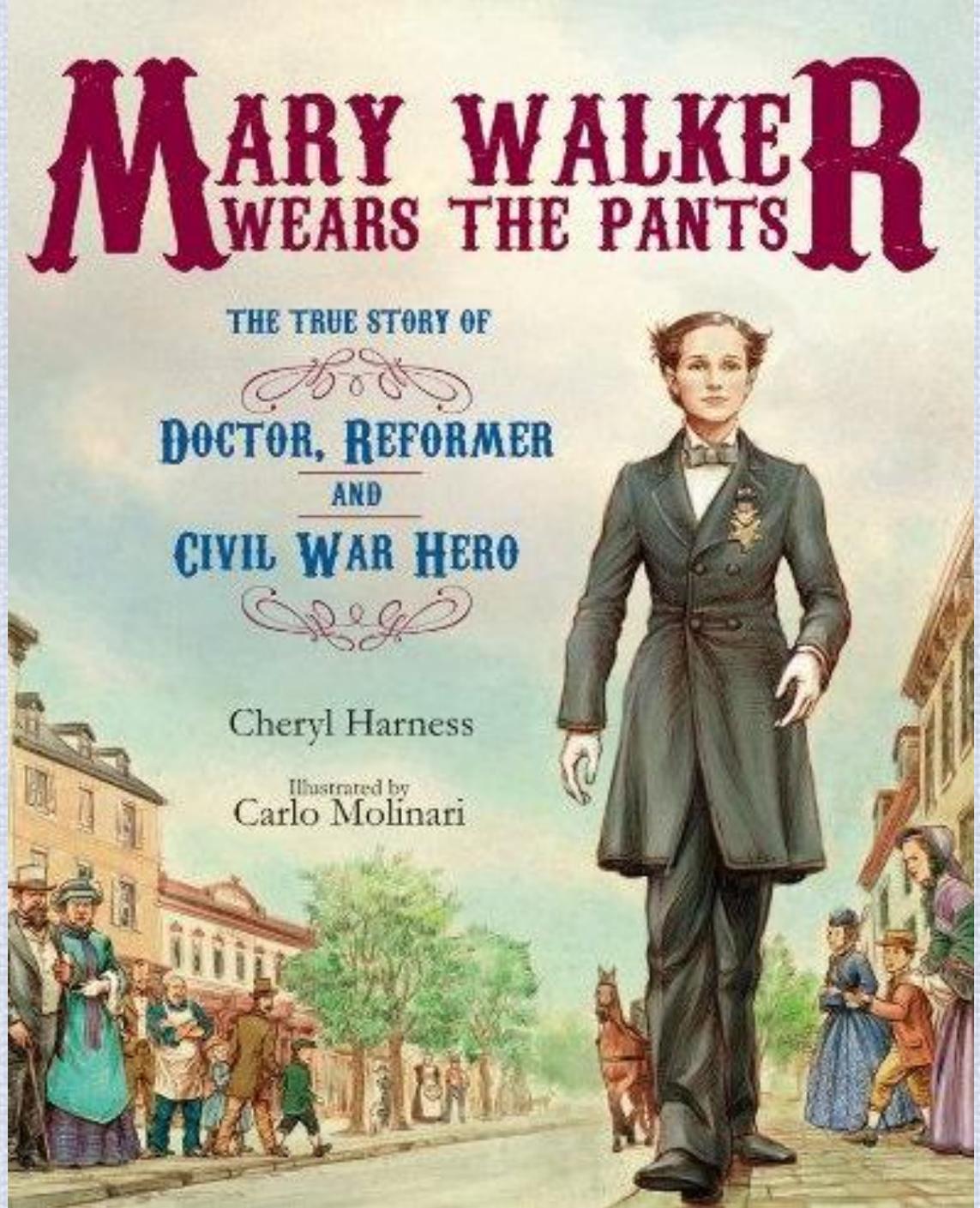
The image shows a collage of newspaper clippings. At the top left is the 'am NEW YORK' logo. To its right is a blue banner for a 'MEGA JACKPOT' of '\$86 Million!'. The central focus is a photograph of a bride and groom figurine. The bride is on the left, wearing a white lace dress and holding a bouquet of flowers. The groom is on the right, wearing a black tuxedo jacket over a white shirt and a black bow tie. To the left of the figurines is a large headline: 'NOW SHE WEARS THE PANTS'. Below this headline is a sub-headline: 'Wives more than ever are supporting their husbands, study says' followed by 'Page 4'. To the right of the figurines are two smaller headlines: 'Glimpse into a 'new' East Side' with sub-headline 'It'll be friendlier to bikes and buses' and 'Page 3', and 'Jets will stick to same tricks against Colts' with 'Page 36'. At the bottom right is the AT&T logo and a small advertisement for 'WHO MAKES MORE MONEY IN YOUR MARRIAGE? A HUSBAND OR WIFE'.

When did this saying first become popular? Perhaps it was used to describe certain women throughout history, such as George Sand (her real name was Aurore Dupin,) a famous French author who took to wearing men's pants under a short dress in the 1830's. She was seeking to extend her influence and opportunities through wearing men's attire.

But such were extremely isolated and rare occurrences before 1850.



But it was the “reform dress movement” of the 1850’s that first got the attention of the public as significant numbers of women began wearing the bloomer or American costume which was a “short” dress over pants.



Then the campaign for women wearing pants grew exponentially when it was spread abroad through the “silver screen” in the 1930’s



The perfect picture from every angle—
title, cast, director, story and production
values, and exploitation possibilities.
Can't miss!

with
FIFI DORSAY
KENNETH MacKENNA
JOHN GARRICK
WILLIAM COLLIER, Sr.
RUTH WARREN
NANCY KELLY
ALTHEA HENLY

Dance numbers staged by
SEYMOUR FELIX

Directed by
JOHN BLYSTONE

Screen play and dialog by
Earle Crooker

You'll wear a smile
when you play

SHE WEARS THE PANTS



*Notice this newspaper article in
Rockhampton, May 1, 1933*

The Morning Bulletin:

SHE WEARS THE PANTS:

Women In Trousers

DIETRICH STARTS A NEW FAD



... Miss Marlene Dietrich began to appear on the screen slimly and attractively attired in trousers...She, moreover, created sensation by appearing on the boulevards of Hollywood clad in trousers with a double breasted coat. Soon she had such a following that the male actors of Hollywood, in self-defense, appeared on the streets dressed in skirts. The whole thing was taken up seriously.

**“Marlene Dietrich
furthered the cause
when she wore
pants in the 1930
film *Morocco*.”**



[http://womens-fashion.lovetoknow.com/
First_Woman_to_Wear_Pants](http://womens-fashion.lovetoknow.com/First_Woman_to_Wear_Pants)

Katharine Hepburn Wears the Pants

Notice the symbolism of the pants tug of war in this movie advertisement. The pants are symbolic of the power struggle this married couple was going through. Who was going to be in charge, thus, who wore the pants?



Using the “Who Wears the Pants” theme, means have been devised to help one determine who is in charge in their relationship.

“Wearing the Pants” is a synonym for authority even today, when 99% of women physically wear pants.



And so, for many years now, the concept of who wears the pants – i.e. who is in charge – has been deeply engrained in our society.



This idea of women wearing the pants has quite a history that we will review in this presentation. First, here are a few examples of how prevalent this concept is in our society, that women now wear the pants.



In this “She wears the pants” ad, the model portrays a powerful stance. The ad promotes “trousers with a take-charge attitude” that “come on strong” — strongly in charge, that is.

SHE
WEARS
THE
PANTS

Full and fluid trousers with a take-charge attitude come on strong for spring. Photographed by David Sims.



This, “She wears the pants” model declares her aggressive attitude: “I’ve always been independent.”



This “She wears the pants” actress declares that her trousers mean business! In other words, Watch out, I’m in charge!



Women who wear pants are declared to be “confident”



More “She Wears the Pants” examples in fashion.





SHE
WEARS
THE
PANTS



This meant-to-be humorous card portrays the power over men that women have achieved.

I'm going to start wearing the pants in this relationship if that is agreeable to you.



This cartoon speaks for itself.



"And this is my wife Alice, she wears the pants in our family."

You can even purchase items with the “She wears the pants” symbol on them.



The fact that woman have achieved the so-called right to “wear the pants” has only come about as the result of a long, tough battle waged by women deemed brave and courageous by society at large.

BATTLE OF THE SEXES



This war was officially declared in the 1850's, by women's rights advocates. While other issues were involved, it definitely included the right to wear pants.

The Tremendous Trouser Tug-of-War



In the 1890 – 1920 progressive era, the “New Woman is often portrayed in pants.





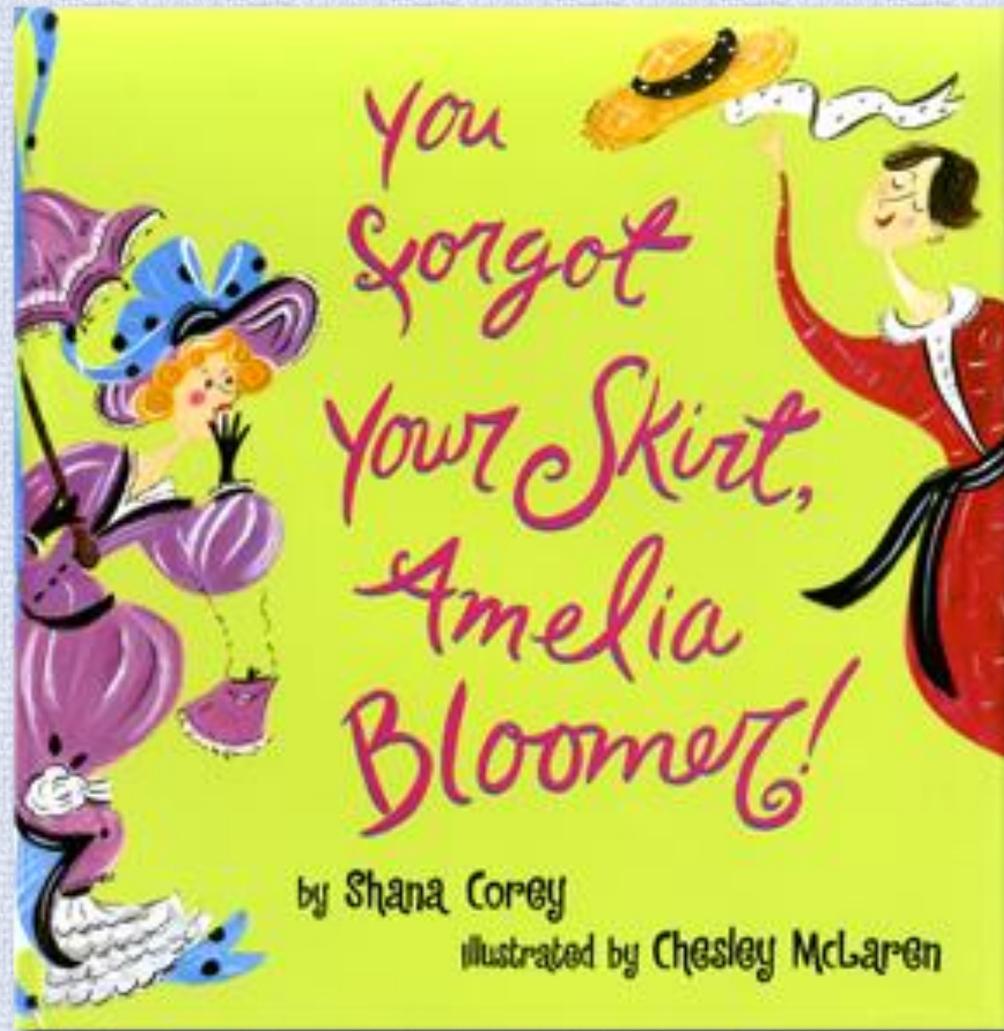
Bicycle Bloomers became quite popular in the 1890's.
The "New Woman" was becoming "liberated."

From the Baltimore American Journal, 1895— “Bicycle bloomers should be proud of the sensation they have created. They appear as topics of earnest discussion on the lecture platform, in the club, and even in the pulpit. And the agitation is still growing. Not the silver question itself has more hopelessly divided families, separated friends and made sworn enemies than the now end-of-the-century theme — the bicycle bloomers.”



Just a note of clarification. It's not the pants that are the problem on women. It's the lack of a long skirt that is the problem!

Amelia Bloomer shortened her skirt to her knees, and then the bicycle bloomers took the skirt off altogether!



Thus, “She wears the pants” could apply to a woman who neglected to put on modest attire, literally and figuratively.

In this drawing, the pants wearing progress of the “New Woman” of 1895 is contrasted with the bloomers of the 1850’s.



A PICTURE OF THE PAST AND A VISION OF THE PRESENT.
Did Mrs. Amelia E. Bloomer in 1841 foresee the Bicycle Bloomer as It Is Today

The “New Woman” in her pants is here portrayed as the boss of her hard-working husband. The pants and the pose speak of authority and domination.



The New Woman - Wash Day.
Copyright 1905 by Eastwood & Eastwood

Notice that the “New Woman” in her pants is tending to business matters while the husband in a long skirt cares for the children. While this was meant to be funny, it also spoke to the concern people had when women put on pants.





World War 1, from 1914-1918 provided a new opportunity for women to wear pants. But most went back to dresses after the war.

But what was it that really caused the transition from women wearing dresses, as they had done for hundreds of years, to the wearing of pants as is popular today?

It takes organization and planning to win any war. So it was with the war over the right to wear pants by women.



Women declared in the 1850's that they were fighting for the right to dress as they pleased, which included dressing similar to men, in pants.

This drawing appeared in a newspaper in 1875, showing the gender blending dream of the women's rights visionaries.



THE DAY AND NIGHT DREAM
OF THE CONVENTION OF THE NEW ERA

Women have gained the victory—they now can wear pants freely without any reprisal.

This was not the case 100 years ago.

It did take a lot of organized effort behind the scenes to win this war.

The fact that trousers are no longer taboo for women is the result of a long process led by trailblazers who fought, sometimes with their lives, for the right to put on their pants, one leg at a time. (Joan of Arc)

The fact that this was a serious war should not be missed. In our own Seventh-day Adventist periodicals, the battles were fought.

In the July 16, 1895 issue of the Adventist Review and Sabbath Herald, the editor commented regarding the bicycle bloomers of that day. Calling it a heaven-daring, outrageous, and most shameful innovation, he wrote:

“May the time be far distant, may it never come, when Christian women who discern the signs of our times shall be seen in this abominable display.”

Three months later in the same periodical we find “The devil is constantly trying to mix everything up, to destroy the line of demarcation between the male and female....God’s people must not now or ever let the barriers down.”



MISS LONDONDERRY.

We will now consider quite a few photos of famous women: celebrities, politicians, models, and the like who were the soldiers in this war to win the right to wear pants.

These were the TRAILBLAZERS and TRENDSETTERS highly esteemed by society. They are praised and lauded as the very ones who made pants-wearing popular for women.

The fashions that society follows are highly influenced by these trendsetters.

Should we admire these women for their accomplishment?



Elizabeth Smith Miller, Amelia Bloomer & Elizabeth Cady Stanton – 1850's



Lizzie Stamp, Lucy Russell & Lucy Stone
American Costume 1860's



Dr. Harriet Austin – 1860

Dansville Physician



Mary Tillotson – 1860
Women's Rights Activist



Dr. Mary Walker – 1865 & 1870
Women's Rights Activist



Calamity Jane – 1890

Vaudeville Actress



Fellows- Lesbian Singing Group - 1890



Amazons – 1896

Actresses



Greta Garbo – 1920s

Actress



Clara Bow – 1929

Flapper – Actress

“In the 1920s, French fashion designer Coco Chanel, who is considered one of the founders of modernist fashion, changed women’s clothing forever with forward-thinking looks inspired by men’s wear, including trousers for women.”

<http://www.lovetosew.com/breeches.htm>



Coco Chanel – 1930

Fashion Designer



Marlene Dietrich – 1930s

Actress



Katharine Hepburn – 1930s

Actress



Joan Bennett – 1940s

Actress



Joan Crawford – 1940s

Actress



**Geraldine Hoff Doyle - Rosie the Riveter
– 1943**



Elizabeth Taylor – 1944

Actress



Rita Hayworth – 1944

Actress



Charline Arthur – 1950s

Musician – Performer



**Marilyn
Monroe –
1950s**



Young Lucille



Lucille Ball – 1950s

Actress



Jean Seberg – 1960

Actress



Mary Tyler Moore – 1960s

Actress



By the 1960's, the battle claiming pants for women had been won for the most part. But there were still some minor skirmishes ahead. Pants on women were well accepted by the world and Christians alike. But there were some who were still holding out, wearing knee length dresses that left the lower leg bare, and cold! By following this immodest, impractical and uncomfortable worldly fashion, Seventh-day Adventist women were setting themselves up to receive the next fad: mini-skirts!

It was the introduction of the appalling mini-skirts that broke down all the barriers against wearing pants.



Mary Quant – 1970

was the fashion designer who introduced the mini-skirt, and made pants even more popular





The fashions continued to evolve. Rudi Gernreich, a gay fashion designer, introduced the Unisex fashion. This allowed men and women to wear identical clothing.



The Unisex styles of the 1970's and 1980's which were widely accepted by society effectively removed all distinction between the clothing of men and women.

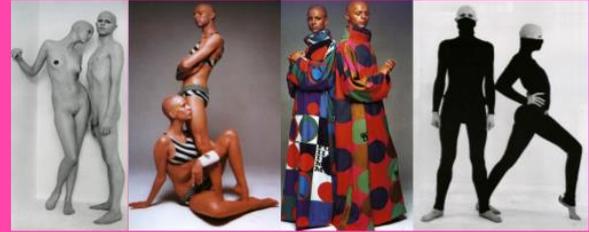


Gay fashion designer Yves St. Laurent has been recognized as the most celebrated and influential designer yet. His designs have shaped the fashion world for a quarter of a century. He dressed many of the stars in his “power suits” and tuxedos.

Here are some interesting thoughts on unisex fashion in "Looking Good," published in 1976 by Clara Pierre. In chapter 10 "From bralessness to unisex," she writes about the connection between sexual liberation and unisex clothing:

"for whatever reason, we began to feel more comfortable first with sex pure and simple, then with homosexuality and now with androgyny."





**RUDY
GERNREICH
UNISEX
1970**

Gay fashion designers Yves Saint Laurent and Rudi Gernreich with some of their unisex/androgynous fashions – 1960-1980

While this particular Unisex trend of identical clothes has become less popular today, it set the tone for what was to follow. It numbed the collective conscience of society so they fail to recognize the need to keep a plain distinction between the sexes. The war is over. Society has embraced pants on women without any reservation whatsoever.



But, we're still in 1970
in our review of
history.

What has happened
since that time, as
fashions have
progressed?



Jacqueline Kennedy – 1970s

More movies and fashions promoting menswear on woman further sealed the victory for the pants war.



Diane Keaton in Annie Hall – 1977

Actress

"We are becoming the men we wanted to marry."—
Gloria Steinam



"We are still identified by our looks instead of our hearts or heads. That's why it's so much better to break the rules."—Gloria Steinam

Gloria Steinam – 1980

Feminist Leader



Princess Diana – 1980s & 90's

The influence of admired royalty should not be underestimated.



Madonna – 1988

Singer/Performer



Nancy Pelosi – 2006

Politician



Katie Holmes – 2008
Actress



Boyfriend Baggy
Jeans - 2008

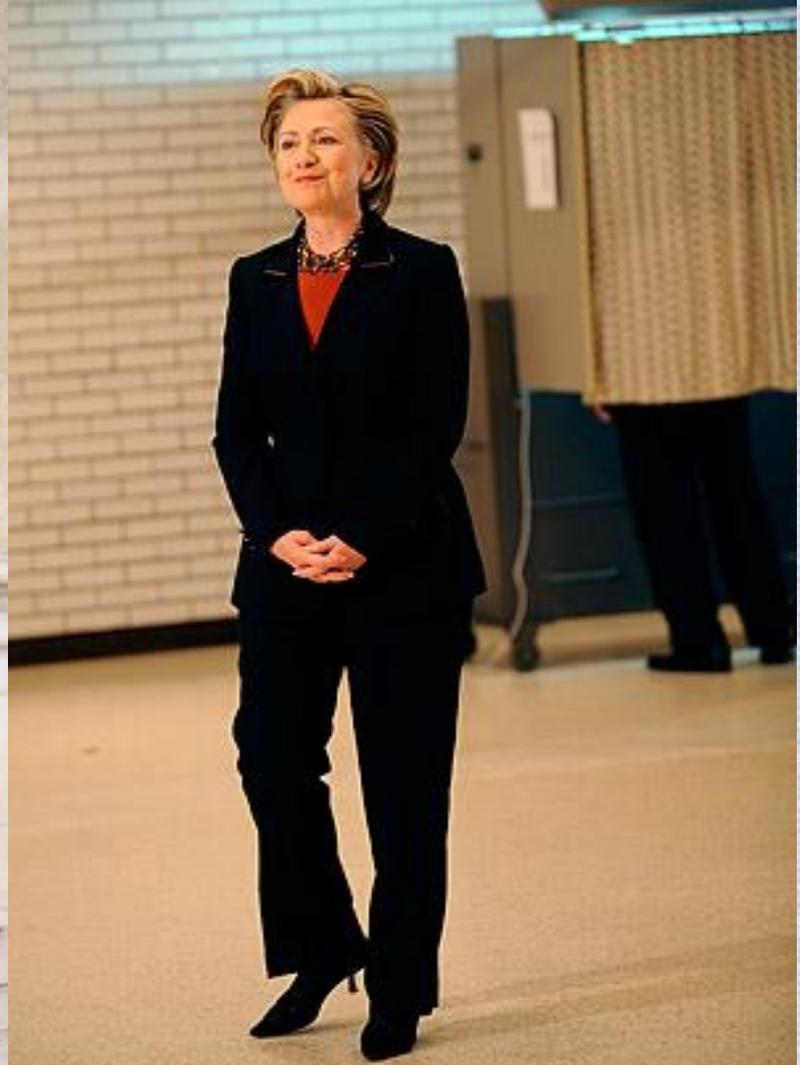


Skinny jeans for guys in 2009



Lady Gaga – 2009

Singer/Performer



Hillary Clinton – 2010

POWER SUITS



Menswear for Women – 2010



Androgyny – 2010



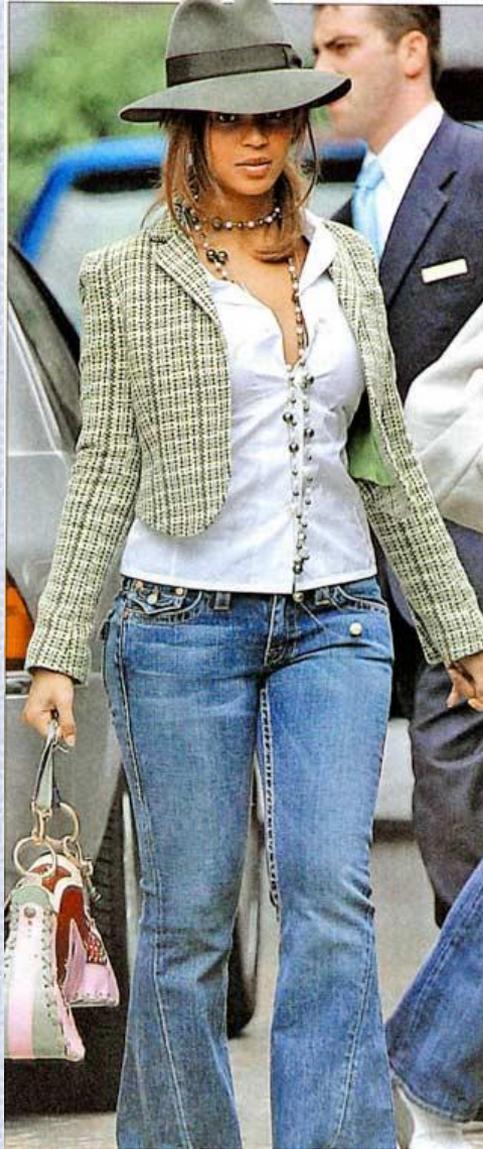
Menswear for Women – 2010



Androgynous fashion – 2011



Menswear – 2011



Beyonce – 2012
Singer/Performer



**Jennifer
Lopez**



**Kate
Bosworth**



**Jennifer
Aniston**

Actresses - 2012



**Naomi
Watts**



**Jessica
Parker**



**Keira
Knightley**



**Miley
Cyrus**

Actresses - 2012



Androgynous fashion - 2012



Annie Lennox – 2012

Singer-songwriter, Political activist



Kate Lanphear

Tilda Swinton

Actresses – 2012



Michelle Obama – 2012 & 2013



Alexa Chung – 2012

TV Presenter, Model, Vogue Editor



Anne Hathaway – 2013

Actress



Kim Kardashian – 2013

Socialite Celebrity



*Androgynous company provides
androgynous shirts at
WearAndrogyny.com*



Wildfang – 2013

A lesbian-owned company for “stealing menswear for women”



Tomboy Tailors – 2013

Lesbian dykes can now buy men's suits customized to fit them.



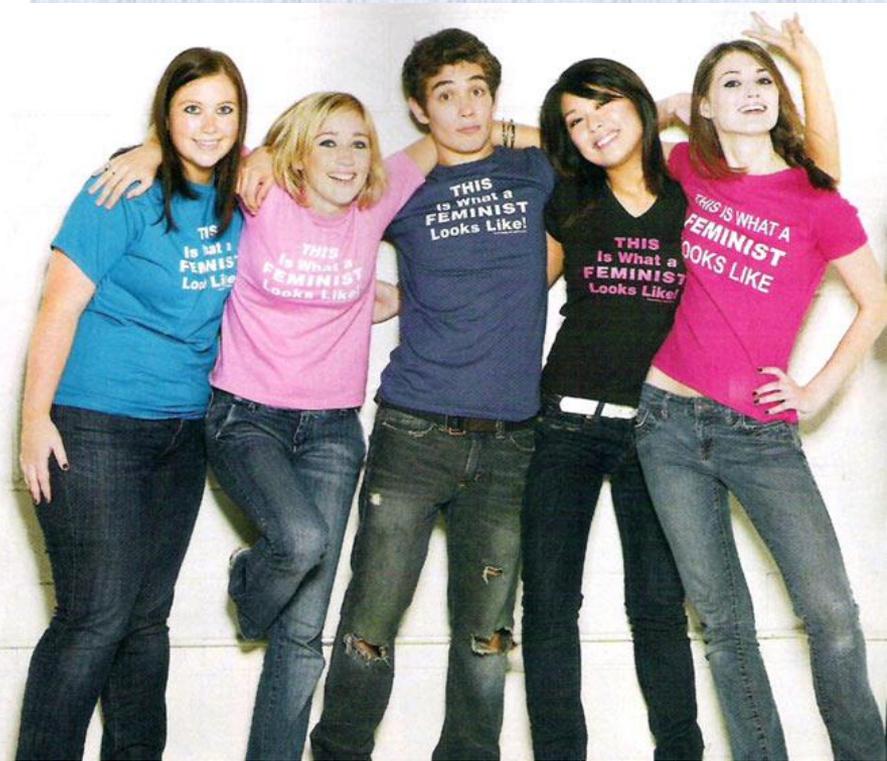
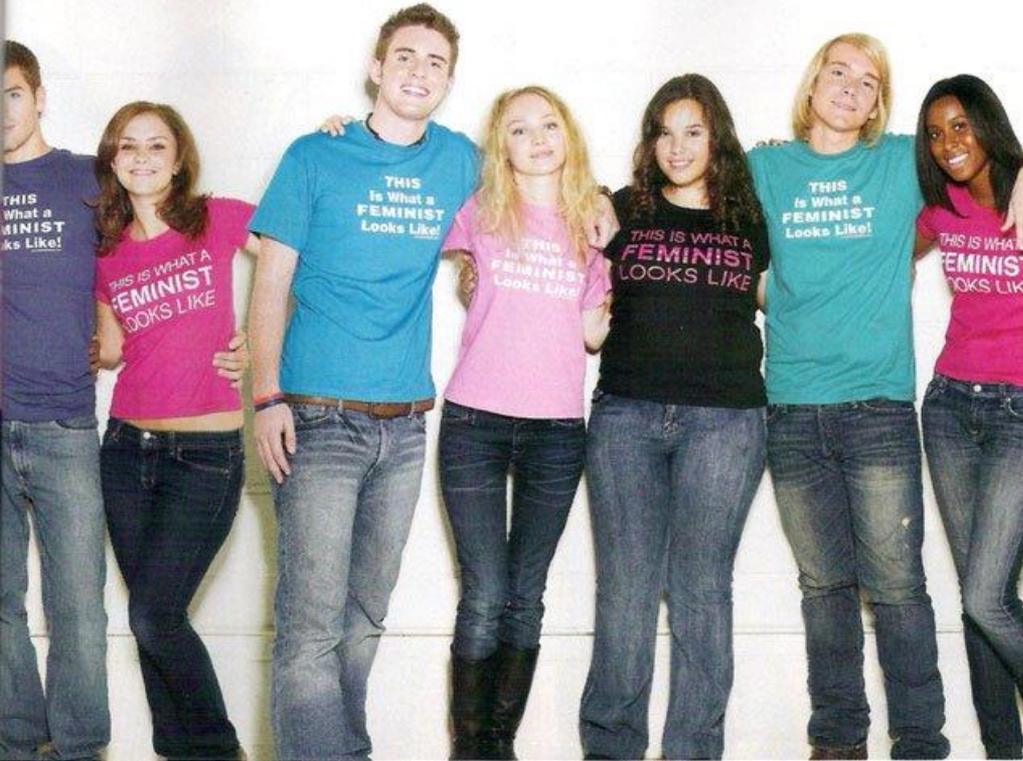
The fashion trends have included unisex, gender blending, gender bending, androgyny, and now gender fusion and genderlessness.



We have become so familiar with pants and jeans on women, we don't give it a second thought.

One fashion blogger states: “In fact, a T-shirt and jeans combination is the simplest of androgynous looks, popular with all genders.”



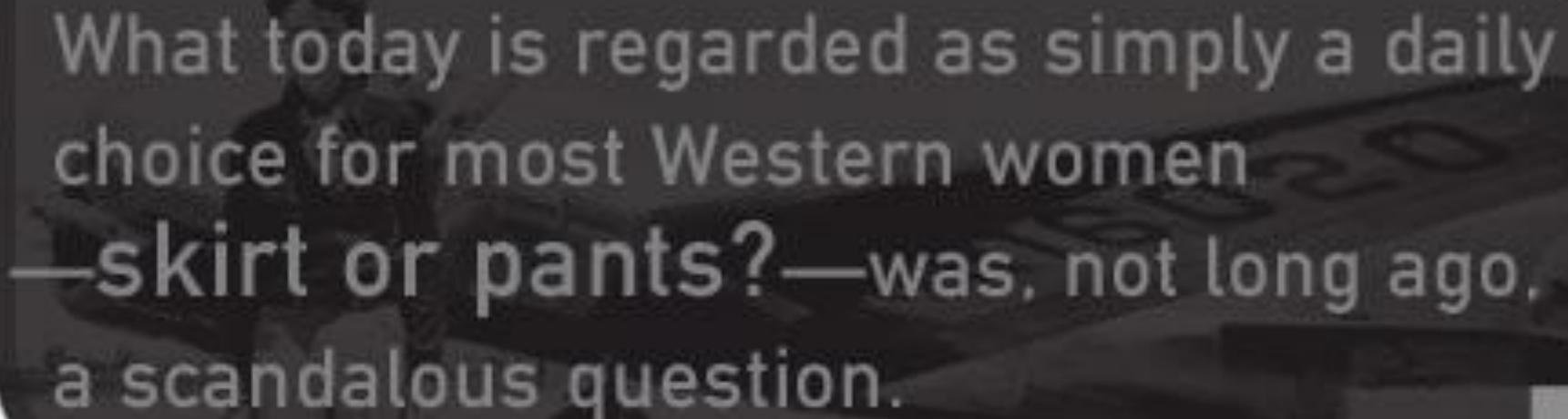


Another fashion expert declares: “Gender-neutral staples like jeans and t-shirts have become generic uniforms for both sexes. These basics allow for any gender associated with garments to be stripped away, placing the focus on the identity of the individual wearing it. Androgynous fashion at its best.”



We can dress just like the guys, and no one cares one bit.

Over 150 years ago, a battle began, and it has been stealthily progressing over the years into total victory. Many of us were born after the war was pretty much won. Most of us are strongly influenced by the prevailing fashions of the day, without giving them serious thought.



What today is regarded as simply a daily choice for most Western women—skirt or pants?—was, not long ago, a scandalous question.

Most of us were never confronted with the decision whether we should wear pants or not. We grew up in pants. Our mothers wore pants. Our teachers wore pants. It was not even a question if we should wear pants or not.





When the church at large accepts a worldly fashion, the generations that follow cannot correct that departure from right without deep repentance and thorough reformation. Without this, the rebellion deepens with each successive generation.

It cannot be denied that the church has followed worldly fashion, specifically the unisex fashion, for many years.



Because our current generation did not take the first steps in accepting this fashion, but simply followed the lead of the previous generation, it is difficult for us to feel repentant and desire reformation.



Somehow, by forgetting the past, we assumed that somewhere along the way, God changed from considering menswear on woman abominable to acceptable. “Everybody does it” means it’s OK.





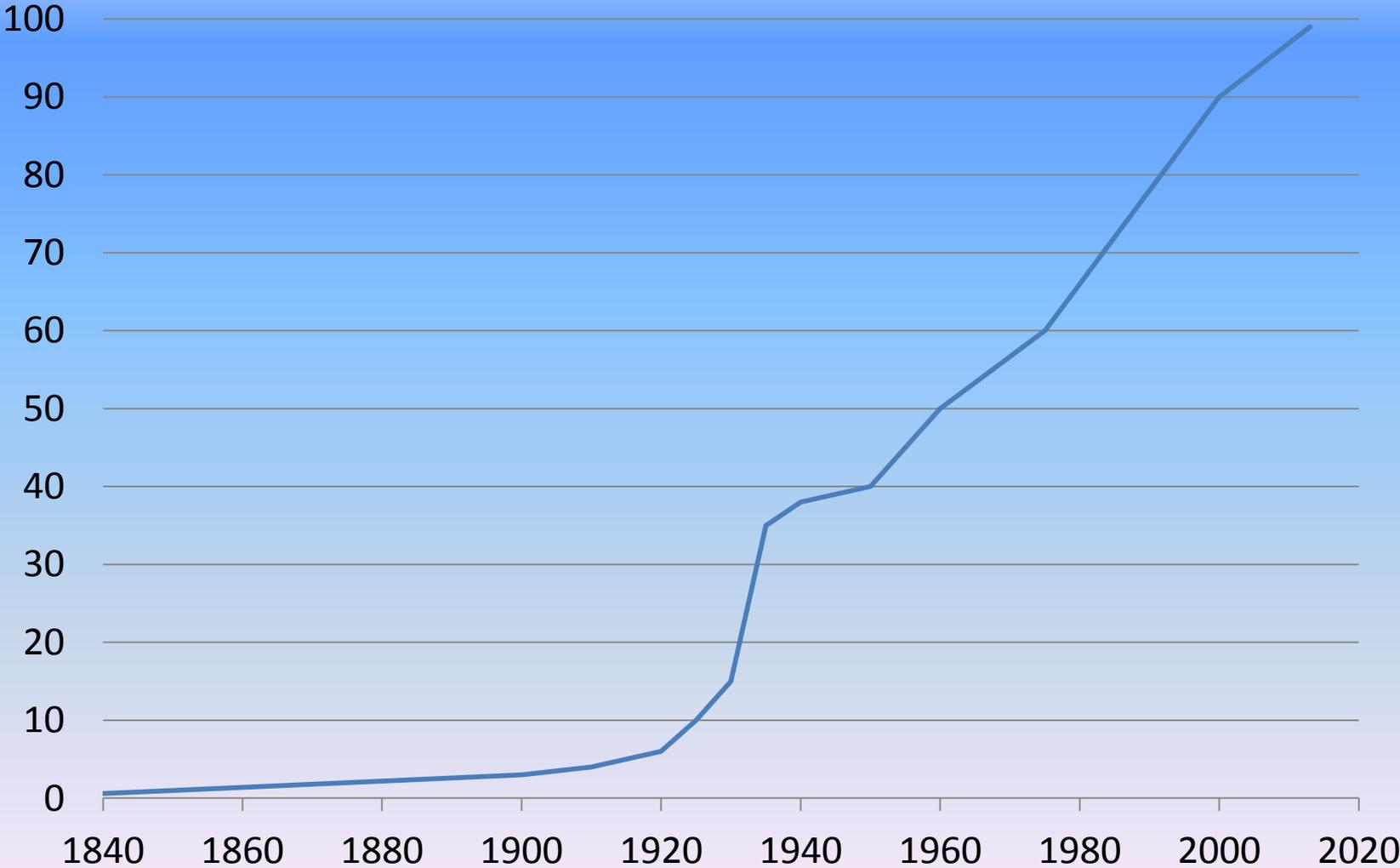
Is it possible that we, as Seventh-day Adventist Christian women have become lured into a mindset that makes us blind to the abominable fashions of the world?



Now, women celebrate their victory in winning the right to wear pants.

This chart reveals the time-frame of this victory.

Percentage of Women Who Wear Pants From 1840 - 2013

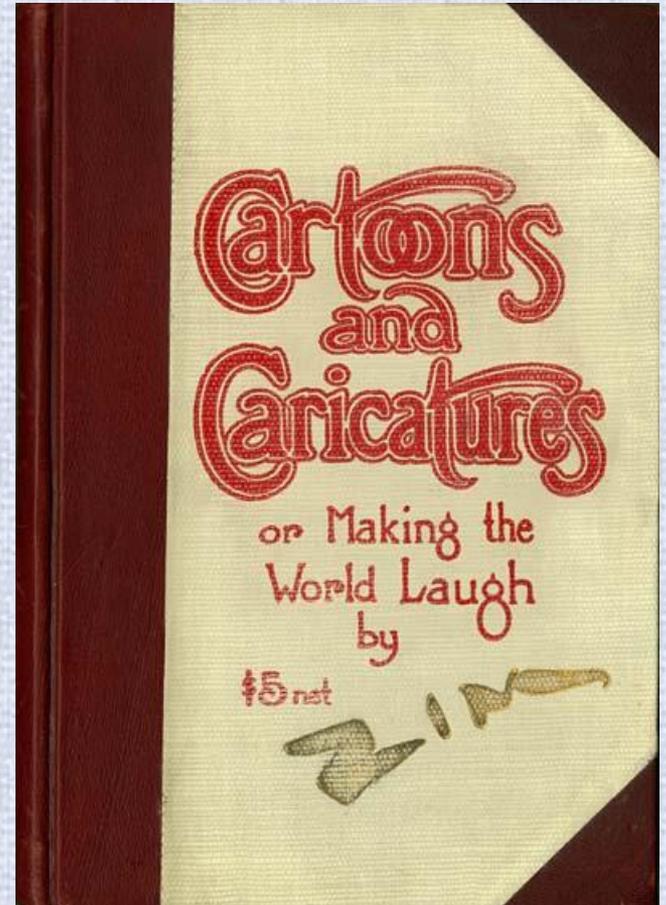


But now there's another battle on the horizon. Have you seen men walking around in skirts? If you haven't, you will soon. The first time you see it, it's shocking.

Each time thereafter, it becomes a little less shocking, until finally it will be accepted as normal.



In 1900, a cartoonist drew a picture that has become prophetic. But at the time he drew it, it was an outrageous thought. NOBODY dressed like that! Well, maybe some lesbian and gay cross dressers, but they generally got arrested promptly.





Here is half of the cartoon he drew. With the tight pants and the tight, low-cut top, she would fit right in with society's fashion today.

The amazing thing is, when he drew this picture, NO ONE dressed like this!



Here is the other half of the cartoon he drew.

While men are not quite running around in dresses yet, they are appearing not far from this on fashion runways. How did this cartoon artist know this would happen?

MODERN MARRIAGE - MODERNE EHE
Anno 1900



She's wearing the Pants
Sie hat die Hosen an

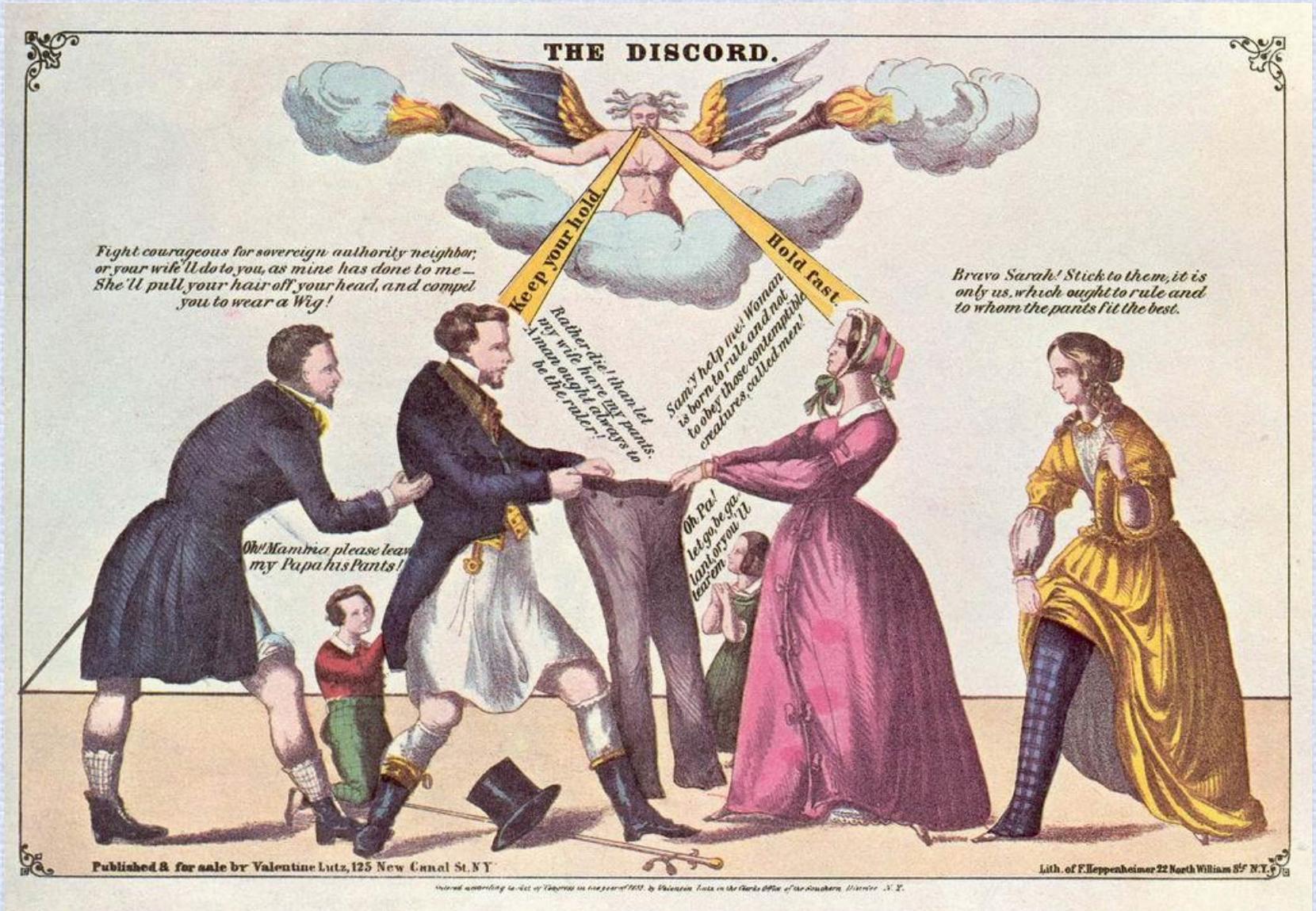
Modern Marriage—Moderne Ehe, 1900. European caricature of spousal relations with "the new woman."

He could see the trend, and knew where it would lead.

The caption states:
"She's wearing the
Pants."

It was an outlandish, unthinkable thought in 1900. What about today?

Do you think perhaps this war has had a master planner behind the whole idea? It certainly was not God!



Women have been endeavoring to steal men's clothing for quite a long time!





In the 1970's I personally purchased these clothes at a men's store, the identical size and style as my boyfriend's. Not one thought entered my mind that this might be displeasing to God, even though I considered myself a faithful Seventh-day Adventist.

I wonder now why I never heard any of my church leaders or teachers warning me against the Unisex fashion.

It is very important for us as Seventh-day Adventist women to understand what God's will for us is regarding the wearing of fashions that tend to blur the distinction between the sexes.

For over 150 years there has been an increasing tendency to blur the distinction between the sexes. Each influential woman and fashion designer who blurred the distinction paved the path for the next one.



Here are some comments by famous fashion designers:

Dries Van Norten: “When I think about pants, I think of the Flemish saying, ‘I’m the one who wears the pants,’ indicating the husband’s authority over the wife. . .

Pants are linked to power.” —Pants: A History Afoot by Laurence Benaim



Dolce & Gabbana (gay fashion designers)
– “Pants allow women to express their masculine side, to play at role reversals, something always fascinating and seductive. Today we’re experiencing the advent of a new unisex—fifteen to twenty year-olds, whether boys or girls, are wearing the same pants.”



Eric Bergere – “I grew up in the world of pants. It was the great era (1980’s) of the unisex, the androgynous style. It is easy. My girlfriends and I had the same ones . . . ***Women who prefer to conceal themselves would do better to choose a long skirt.***” —Pants: A History Afoot by Laurence Benai

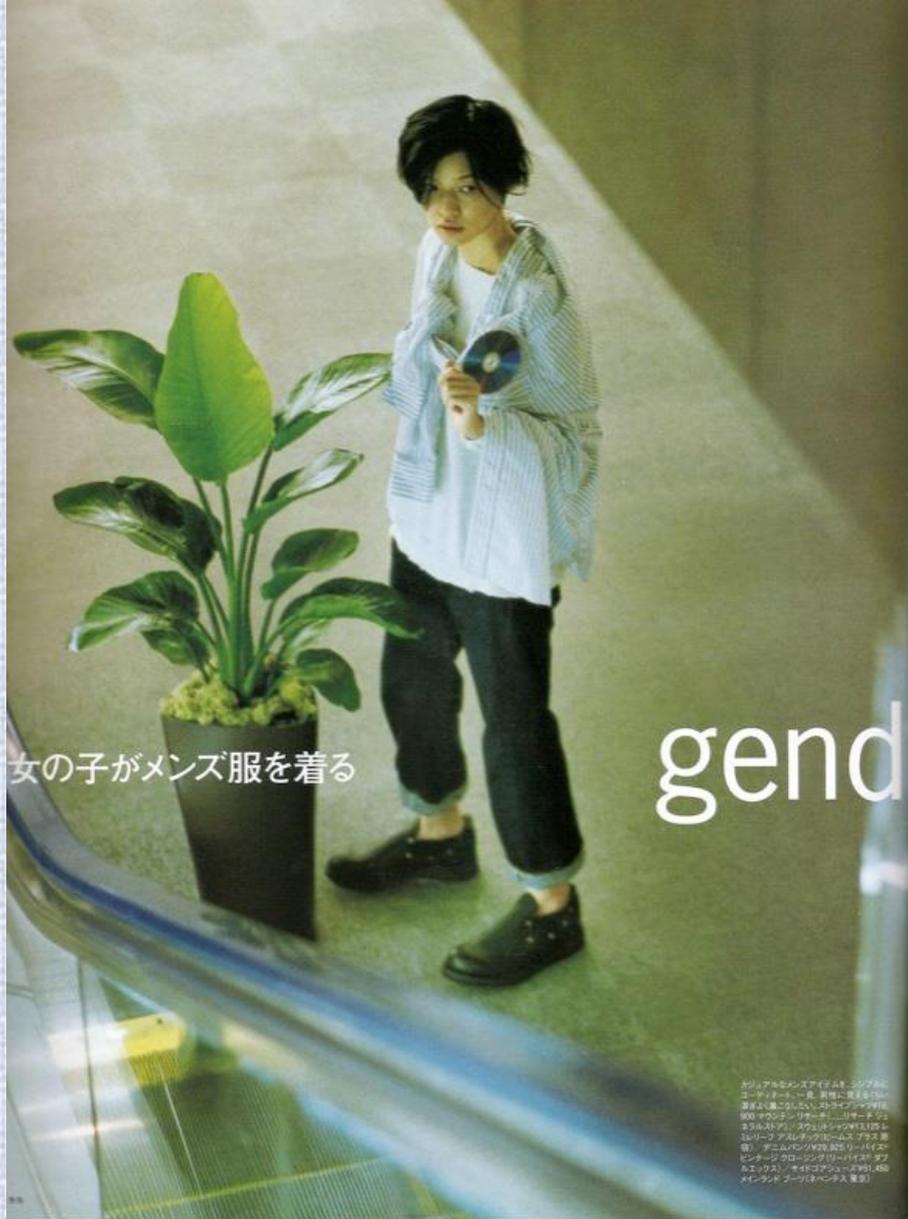




Johji Yamamoto – “I haven’t really created pants. I’ve just proposed men’s pants for women . . . For women it was an **enormous revolution** which was linked to liberation.” — *Pants: A History Afoot* by Laurence Benaim

Thierry Mugler – “I love pants for what they free, not for what they hide.” — *Pants: A History Afoot* by Laurence Benaim





女の子がメンズ服を着る

genderless



パンツの裾をロールアップしたり、
 シャツをまくってみたり、アイテム選びや
 ティーラーのバランスに気をつけながら、
 リアルなメンズ服を
 女の子が着こなすのが新鮮。
 思い切って全身メンズ服に
 チャレンジしてみたい。

photographer : Masahiro Senze
 hair : Kazuya Matsumoto (FEMME)
 makeup : Masayo Tsuboi (mod's hair)
 styling : Yuriko S. / model : Ito

がリアルなメンズアイテムを、シンプルに
 ニューロネーター。既。実用なアイテムを
 選ぶと、どこかいい。ストライプシャツ ¥1,980
 900 円のデザイン。リネン。リネン。リネン。リネン。
 50% オフ。ストライプ。ストライプ。ストライプ。ストライプ。
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Now we will see how this idea of “She wears the pants” has progressed.

Androgyny is the fashion today.

It's even more confusing than Unisex, because both men and women are involved in the effort to obliterate distinction between the sexes. Genderless clothing is the rage.



The fashion goddess
doesn't propose to make
an entire swap, with
women only in pants and
men only in skirts.

No, goal of androgyny is a
mix and match
conglomeration of
confusion, a jumble of
genderlessness.



“The rise of androgyny in popular culture has also been on the increase in the 21st century and beyond, with an increasing rise in both fashion industries, as well as pop culture for acceptance and even popularity of the "androgynous" look, with several trends set by current pop stars, being hailed as creative trendsetters.”

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Androgyny>



Are we, as Seventh-day Adventist Christians to admire and appreciate these trendsetters who have paved the way for women to wear pants?



Here are some inspired quotations that should give Seventh-day Adventist women some serious thoughts.

“There is an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible and to fashion their dress very much like that of men, but ***God pronounces it abomination.*** "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety." 1 Timothy 2:9. . . . {CG 427.2}



“In this style of dress God's order has been reversed, and his special directions disregarded. Deuteronomy 22:5. "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.***" This style of dress, God would not have his people adopt. It is not modest apparel, and is not at all fitting for modest, humble females who profess to be Christ's followers. God's prohibitions are lightly regarded by all who would advocate the doing away of the distinction of dress between males and females.”
{2SM 477.8}



“God designed there should be a plain distinction between male and female dress, and has considered the matter of sufficient importance to give explicit directions in regard to it; for the same dress worn by both sexes would cause confusion, and great increase of crime. {2SM 477.8}



This is the style and influence of the "American Costume," taught and worn by many at "Our Home," Dansville, N.Y. It does not reach to the knee. I need not say that this style of dress was shown me to be too short. {3SM 278.2}



Notice how Elizabeth Cady Stanton promoted a type of androgyny long ago: *In 1855, Cady Stanton forged an explicit link between dress reform (i.e. bloomers) and the natural equality of the sexes when she argued that the dress of men and women should be similar so that it would reflect their common natures. . . . that given the similarities between men and women, there could be no justification for maintaining distinctions between their attire: “Surely, whatever dress is convenient for one sex must be fore the other also.”* –The Political Thought of Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Women's Rights and the Women's Rights and the American Political Traditions by Sue Davis



This statute memorializes the costumes that Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Amelia Bloomer wore. Ellen White warned against minimizing the distinctions between the sexes.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton made many disparaging remarks against the Bible, and God's plan for distinct roles of men and women. She declared: "If God has assigned a sphere [role] to man and one to woman, we claim the right to judge ourselves of His design in reference to us. . ."



She admonished that the only truly happy households were those in which husband and wife "share equally in counsel and government. There can be no true dignity or independence where there is subordination, no happiness without freedom." —*The Political Thought of Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Women's Rights and the Women's Rights and the American Political Traditions* by Sue Davis

This certainly contradicts God's plan for His children: Ellen White writes: "God has given the man the preference, he is the head, and the wife is to obey the husband, and the husband is not to be bitter against the wife, but love her as his own body." {10MR 781}

As the leader of the women's rights movement Elizabeth Cady Stanton was declaring war on God's principles of family order. She insisted on giving the women equal authority to rule. She proclaimed: "We declare war to the death on the idea that woman was made for man. . ."

Trumpet to Arms: Alternative Media in America By David Armstrong

Therefore, along with literally wearing the pants, she also promoted figuratively allowing the woman to wear the pants. She basically started the war over who wears the pants.





Should a Christian woman participate in this battle of the sexes?

Can we “wear the pants” and still be committed to the Seventh-day Adventist message, the three angels messages?

Notice this quote:

BATTLE OF THE SEXES

“There is an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible, and to fashion their dress very much like that of men, but God pronounces it abomination. ‘In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety.’ 1 Timothy 2:9. ***Those who feel called out to join the movement in favor of woman's rights and the so-called dress reform might as well sever all connection with the third angel's message.***” {1T 421}

This quotation is extremely relevant to our discussion in this presentation.

Why do you suppose Ellen White quotes 1 Timothy 2:9 in connection to describing the abomination of women who dress closely to men?

Because that's where God has given women the biblical standard of womanly modesty. This verse is discussed in detail in the presentation called ***A Plain Distinction***.

And why do you suppose she says that those who join the women's rights movement and adopt the so-called dress reform (i.e. bloomers/American Costume) are out of harmony with the third angel's message?

Let's take a closer look at the third angel's message:



Here is a brief summary of the Third Angel's Message:

1st Angel: We are admonished to fear God, give glory to Him, and worship Him as our Creator. We are to manifest humble, obedient submission to our Maker. This precludes all pride, rebellion and self-exaltation.

2nd Angel: Babylon is fallen. Babylon means confusion and represents a vile, adulterous, apostate woman— who is joined to the world. The contrast is a chaste, virtuous woman, clad in modest apparel, faithful to her Spouse. A pure church keeps herself apart from all worldly influence.

3rd Angel: A dire warning is given against worshipping the beast and his image. This would include those whose influence leads to the violation of God's commandments, specifically the Sabbath, which symbolizes our reverence and homage to our Creator. In contrast, God's saints are those who keep God's commands and possess the abiding faith and victorious experience of Jesus.

This Third Angel's Message is the message that we as Seventh-day Adventists are to exemplify in our own lives, and to share with the world.

We are called to exert a godly influence, separate from the influence of the world, and to manifest a marked difference between God's people and the world.





The four ladies most often credited with exerting the strongest influence for pants on women are *Amelia Bloomer, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Marlene Dietrich and Katharine Hepburn.*



Ellen White's comments were specifically regarding the first two during the 1850's. The second two exerted the most powerful influence during the 1930's.

We will consider the ideals and philosophy of these women in contrast with the 3rd Angel's Message, and see their utter incompatibility.



- Amelia Bloomer, in complete defiance against God, stated: “It matters not what Moses had to say to the men and women of his time about what they should wear.” (Referring to Deuteronomy 22:5) She had a rebellious spirit. She was a spiritualist. Her influence led away from submission to God.



- Elizabeth Cady Stanton stated: “The bible and the church have been the greatest stumbling block in the way of women's emancipation.” She also was a spiritualist. She stirred up rebellion against biblical principles wherever she spoke. She defied God. She initiated the first Women’s Rights Convention.

“For leaders of the woman’s movement, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, the battle over women’s dress was a critical part of the battle for sexual equality ”

- Katharine Hepburn stated: "I'm an atheist, and that's it." She is labeled the Mother of Androgyny. She was flagrantly rebellious and insubordinate against God and biblical principles. In her youth she had an incestuous relationship with her older brother. She was an immoral, worldly, irreligious woman.



- Marlene Dietrich stated: "Since then [childhood], I have given up belief in God, in a 'light' that leads us, or anything of that sort." She also said, "If God exists, he needs to review his plan." Dietrich, who was bisexual, enjoyed the thriving gay scene of the time and drag balls of the 1920's in Berlin. She was an alcoholic. Throughout her career Dietrich had an unending string of affairs. Certainly not a role model for a Christian!



And yet, in the following statements from books, articles and blogs, these woman are admired, appreciated and adored for what they have done in making pants popular on women. (All statements in **reddish italics** are from other sources)

All women need to thank Amelia Bloomer for wearing pants. But we also need to thank Marlene Dietrich, Kate Hepburn and Coco Chanel because they made pant-wearing the cornerstone of gamine (boyish) sexiness since the 30's. <http://personalimagecompany.com/blog/?p=593>



And so we will see that, just as pride is incompatible with humility, and rebellion is incompatible with submission, so the spirit that attends the women's rights gender blurring proponents is incompatible with the self-denying, self-sacrificing meekness that marks the true Christian. The worldly woman wants it her way, and delights in the approbation of man, the godly woman submits to God's way and delights in bringing glory to God. There can be no harmony between them; the contrast is unmistakable.

Either we keep all of God's commandments, including Deut. 22: 5 and 1 Timothy 2:9 through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, or we rebelliously disregard God's commands and follow the carnal promptings of our own hearts.

That is why God declares, “The spirit which attends the one cannot be in harmony with the other.” {1T 421}

Katharine Hepburn, Marlene Dietrich and Greta Garbo to a certain extent, were seen as icons of the menswear look. That free spirited attitude of “I’ll wear what I want,” started with these actresses in the 1930’s. <http://www.katharinehepburntheater.org/blog/tag/marlene-dietrich/>



Notice the credit these worldly women are given for providing the “inspiration” for pants on women. They provided the influence for menswear on women.



*There is no question that one of the great icons of style is Katharine_Hepburn. . . **the starting point for our modern career wear.** 70 years later, its design has changed precious little in fashion. **It served as the model of inspiration . . .** <http://www.glamamor.com/2012/08/cinema-connection-katharine-hepburn.html>*

*When it comes to style icons, actress **Katharine Hepburn** is number one in my book. In an era where demure dresses were the norm, Katharine opted to wear men’s trousers, jackets and button-ups, thus breaking societal and fashion barriers.*

***Her androgynous look has inspired the fashion world for decades, and with the resurgence of the menswear-inspired trend, her iconic style is the perfect source for fashion inspiration.** <http://www.collegefashion.net/inspiration/style-icon-4-looks-inspired-by-katharine-hepburn/>*

Katharine Hepburn Style Inspires Modern Menswear for Fall

Whether you now wear trousers, khakis, jeans, leggings, or even sweatpants as loungewear, you can trace most of that back to Katharine Hepburn. Menswear is one of the biggest trends for Fall/Winter 2012, and you can see much of that influence starts right here. <http://www.glamamor.com/2012/08/cinema-connection-katharine-hepburn.html>



Fashion experts declare who paved the way and blazed the trail

Katharine Hepburn—The goddess of American Cinema paved the way for all of us women to wear a ‘traditional men’s attire’, making it ok for the rest of us.

Not until Marlene Dietrich and Katharine Hepburn appeared in public in men’s trousers did it begin to be possible for the average woman to appear in public in pants.

In most parts of the world, women only started wearing pants within the last 100 years. . . This is my tribute to the women who blazed the trail for me.

*Katharine Hepburn—She helped **pave the way** towards creating well-fitting **menswear** for women.*



The pioneers who paved the way for “mannish” fashions

*Katharine Hepburn, Greta Garbo and Marlene Dietrich—These **pioneers paved the way** for all women in years to come to be accepted while wearing slacks as everyday attire. When Kate Hepburn strolled around in **mannish slacks and jackets**, the women of the world had become devotees of the gentlemanly apparel. Hollywood calls the shots when it comes to the newest style craze, **dictating fashions and creating trends we all follow.***

*Hepburn's legacy extends to fashion, where she was a **pioneer for wearing trousers** at a time when it was radical for a woman to do so. She contributed towards making trousers acceptable for women, as fans began to **imitate her clothing.***



Notice how Katharine Hepburn and Marlene Dietrich were considered to be rebels—in rebellion against society's rules which kept a plain distinction between the clothing of men and women. Society's rules at that time were in harmony with the laws of God.

This is especially true of offering pants as an option for women--virtually unheard of in the 1930s and 1940s--because Kate rebelled and led the way with her own offscreen uniform of a tailored blazer, blouse, and slacks. Now it's simply considered a classic look.

Even though women began wearing pants in the early 1900s, women who wore pants or pantsuits such as Hollywood starlet Katherine Hepburn, were viewed as rebels.

Marlene Deitrich's role was that of the social renegade, the seductress who was cross-dressing as a rebellion against her social role.'



Society in the 1930s considered Katharine Hepburn's pants wearing to be subversive, which means *rebellious, insubordinate, treasonous*.



*Today, Hepburn's trousers have become a **beloved** cultural icon, but in the early 1930s they were considered **subversive**... By 1934, Katharine Hepburn (in pants) was not a comforting image for much of the population - not even to many women.*

*Hepburn's pants are now iconic, but at the beginning of her career in the '20s and '30s, they were considered **subversive, suggestive of a "crooked" sexuality**.*

Notice the reference to the gender bending bounding pushing efforts of these women:

Marlene Dietrich - The Original Menswear Trend – *In homage to the iconic actress who pushed the boundaries of women's wear.*

*Marlene Dietrich was **gender-bending** her style as though she was addicted to it. **The rest of the world followed suit and got fanatical too.***

*The pant suit . . . was originally a masculine design – Coco Chanel led the questioning of gender roles and fashion with her feminine trouser designs in the 1930's. **Marlene Dietrich and Katharine Hepburn wore them to the gender line during the '30s and '40s. . . .***



*History shows that this **gender-bending** style is not a new concept. Actress Katharine Hepburn was an icon of pant-legged erudite sophistication in the early – mid 20th Century. . . .Marlene Dietrich was another early supporter of the **androgynous** movement. . . The rapid expansion of androgyny in high end fashion is testament to a modern day sartorial regeneration through **blurring of gender lines** . . . collections that can be worn equally by men and women **without demarcation** . . . with the aim to “**set aside gender roles and conventions and embrace the androgyny** . . . “*



Notice society's reaction to these fashions:

*Pants for women started in the 1930-1940s. Dress pants or slacks were **popularized** by Katherine Hepburn who **shocked** people by wearing wide legged pants, and Marlene Dietrich who wore men's tuxedos tailored to fit her.*

*During the 1930s pants continued to be stylish, although they were still **shocking** to many. **Audiences were both fascinated and horrified** by glamorous actresses of the time, such as Marlene Dietrich (c. 1901–1992) and Katharine Hepburn (1909–2003), who wore trousers regularly. Though some designers created tailored slack suits for women, wearing pants was still not widely accepted.*



Thank You, Katharine Hepburn – for our pants!

*Katharine Hepburn was one of only a few early stars that wore pants a lot. Marlene Dietrich also wore pants when very few women wore pants. **Bravo** to them!! Now look at us. Everybody wears pants and it is totally accepted, **thanks to these early fashionistas!!** :)*

*Fashion pioneer Katherine Hepburn took a chance with pants, and **thanks to her** we have an array of **boundary-pushing pants** that give us limitless style options.*



A Debt of Gratitude?
Really??



*Every woman in America owes Hepburn a **debt of gratitude** for making pants so stylish.*

We owe a debt of gratitude to Katharine Hepburn for the wide-leg trouser.

I am grateful to Amelia Bloomer who popularized the wearing of 'bloomers' which led to women wearing pants.

Katherine Hepburn – All women should thank her for helping make pants acceptable for women.

Thanks to Kate for helping usher in the pants age for all of us. I know I'm grateful!

Who Wore the Pants?

Katharine Hepburn—She wore the pants. Literally! . . . Her borrowed-from-the-boys attitude exuded power and confidence and, most importantly, a less obvious brand of sex appeal.

***She Wore the Pants:** Menswear is a popular trend this fall. I think the best way to wear this trend is channel Katherine Hepburn.*

*The woman who **wore the pants:** She wore the pants-literally and figuratively, not content to be the leading lady but the lead.*

*A rebel and chic-but mostly it is the rebel that continues to make Hepburn so appealing to me. . . KATE let them know where she stood-and that was in Pants-and that **she wore the PANTS-** extremely well.*



Androgynous Fashion Trends

Katherine Hepburn: The Mother of Androgyny

*An early pioneer of androgynous fashion, Katherine Hepburn appeared in Hollywood movies in the early 1900's wearing male inspired buttoned down shirts and trousers. The classic Katharine Hepburn look made masculine fashion chic. Throughout her life, **she wore the pants.***

*The question of “**who wears the pants?**” can only be answered, “Katherine Hepburn.” Hepburn wore pants like no one else in an era where women seldom wore pants.*

<http://fashiondip.com/style/androgynous-fashion-trends>



Yves Saint Laurent Challenges Gender Roles with Fashion *“The masculine/feminine issue is the eye of the fashion cyclone....Le smoking tuxedo illustrates the idea that to be dressed as a man is the better way for a modern women to be feminine. The more you dress as a man, the more you are a woman.”*

“In 1975, Yves Saint Laurent gave birth to an entire wardrobe born of “hijackings”: men’s shirts, men’s fabrics (flannels, tweeds and hounds-tooth) which reconciled the androgynous ideal and a nostalgia for the 1930s. In 1974 one woman in five wore pants. With pants, unisex fashion gained ground.” *Pants: A History Afoot* by Laurence Benaim, page 137



— THE KATIES WAY —



Women who wear pants today embrace the gender blending, androgynous philosophy.

Today, pant suits are back on the runways in a big way, and they continue to say, 'I'm a woman and I WEAR PANTS.'

Androgynous look famed by actor Marlene Dietrich striding back into vogue. WOMEN who wear the pants are embracing the man-style revival this spring. The bold, androgynous look is strongly associated with German actress and singer Marlene Dietrich, who wore a tuxedo in the 1930 film Morocco.



It should be very obvious by now that the fashion of pants on women was made possible through the influence of ungodly women who “wore the pants.”

Now, androgyny in fashion is reaching new heights. Either it should be opposed as wrong or it is acceptable for godly women to follow.

By following trailblazers’ path in the past, we will stay on it unless we deliberately denounce this fashion.

BATTLE OF THE SEXES

Who Wears the Pants?

Trailblazers in Trousers

*Nowadays, the freedom to wear pants simply adds a layer of options to a woman's dressing routine. Nobody blinked an eye when actress [Angelina Jolie](#) eschewed a fancy gown for a white Dolce & Gabbana pantsuit at the 2001 Academy Awards. At this stage in the clothing game, a woman wearing pants can be seen as someone who has made a fashion statement rather than a political one—but **only because trailblazers before her recognized the social connection between power and pants, and bravely determined to wear their power.***



Here's where we are today: Gender Fusing and Genderless Fashion



Gender Fusing: Van Noten's Triumph—2013 Paris Fashion Show
Yet this powerful collection was revolutionary in its way, for after all the battling years — from the androgynous 1980s through the girly 2000s — Dries Van Noten took fashion to a crucial point beyond the angry feminist gender bending to what he called “fused genders.” It was a bit hard to tell the difference between men’s and women’s runway presentations at recent fall 2013 fashion shows.



Rad Hourani has built his collection on an idea of genderless dressing. . . Ever since the famous fashion designer Coco Chanel started to add masculine elements to female clothing and set a fashion trend with the "little boy look" in the early 1900s, the idea of women wearing pants had surprised the public. It was the defining moment that lead to the revolution of clothing. The separation of clothing by gender was on its way out at least for the women. . . And lately, we have been noticing a spike in the evolution of the concept of gender and identity in fashion. This is the creation of an industry of genderless style.



If we approve of the gender blurring of the past, how can we say that androgyny of today is wrong? It's just the natural progression of a rebellious desire to blur the distinction between the sexes.

Gender blending and androgyny are either all wrong, past, present and future, or Ellen White was wrong in condemning the American Costume in the 1850's.

We can't have it both ways, and approve of what Katharine and Marlene did, and then disapprove of today's genderless fashion.



So now you know how it came about that “She wears the pants.” And since “she” wore them, “we” can now wear them!



Either we will tend to appreciate the struggle of these trailblazers to appropriate menswear for women, and thank them for their efforts. Or we will come to realize that they have truly rebelled against the One we are to reverence, obey, and worship as our Creator. We cannot do both.

Come and get 'em—



THE ORIGINAL WESTERN BLUE JEANS

LADY
LEVI'S

LEVI STRAUSS & CO.

Society started accepting menswear on women in the 1930s, and it has been speedily increasing in popularity.

What is society? It is the majority, thus it reflects the worldly mindset. The element of godless society that encouraged this style was prompted by the ruler of this world.

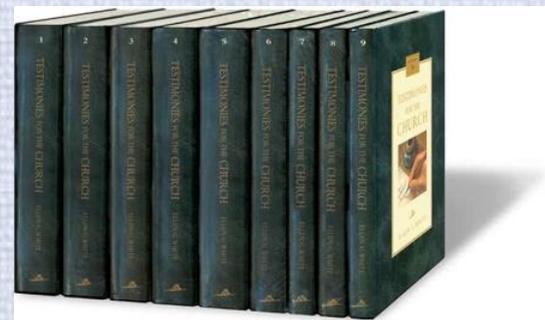
Dare we follow a fashion because society approves?

Each step in removing the distinction between men's and women's clothing paves the way for the next one. If it was wrong in 1850, it was wrong in 1930, 1970, and today. It's a progression of androgyny.

Either we agree with this progression, and participate with the current fashions or we oppose all progress in this direction.

Why is this so important?

Our position on this matter has everything to do with our Christianity. Do we believe the God of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, or do we agree with society?



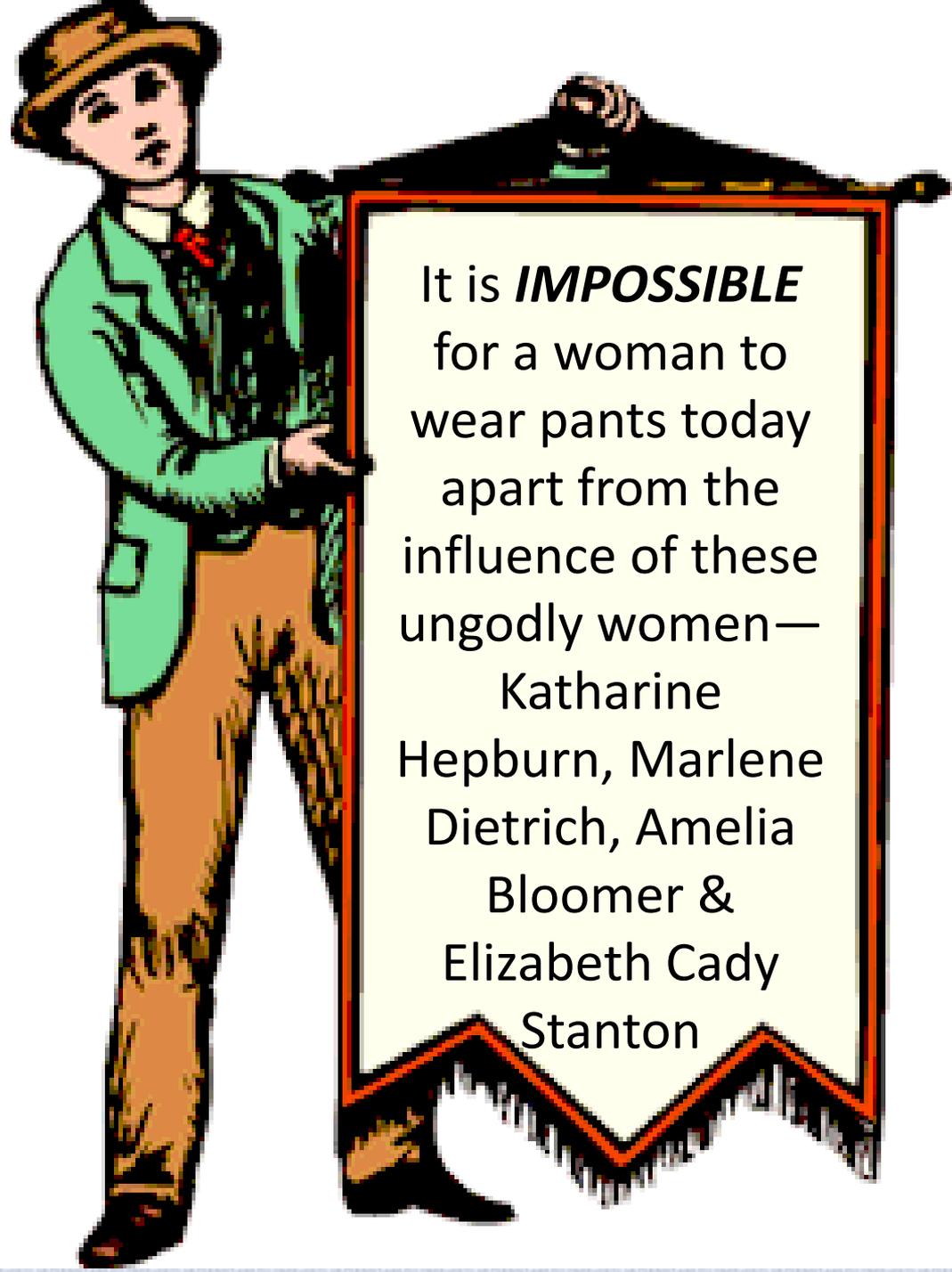


Regarding this style, Ellen White declared that it revealed “an increasing tendency to have women in their dress and appearance as near like the other sex as possible, and to fashion their dress very much like that of men.” She declared that God considered it to be an abomination.



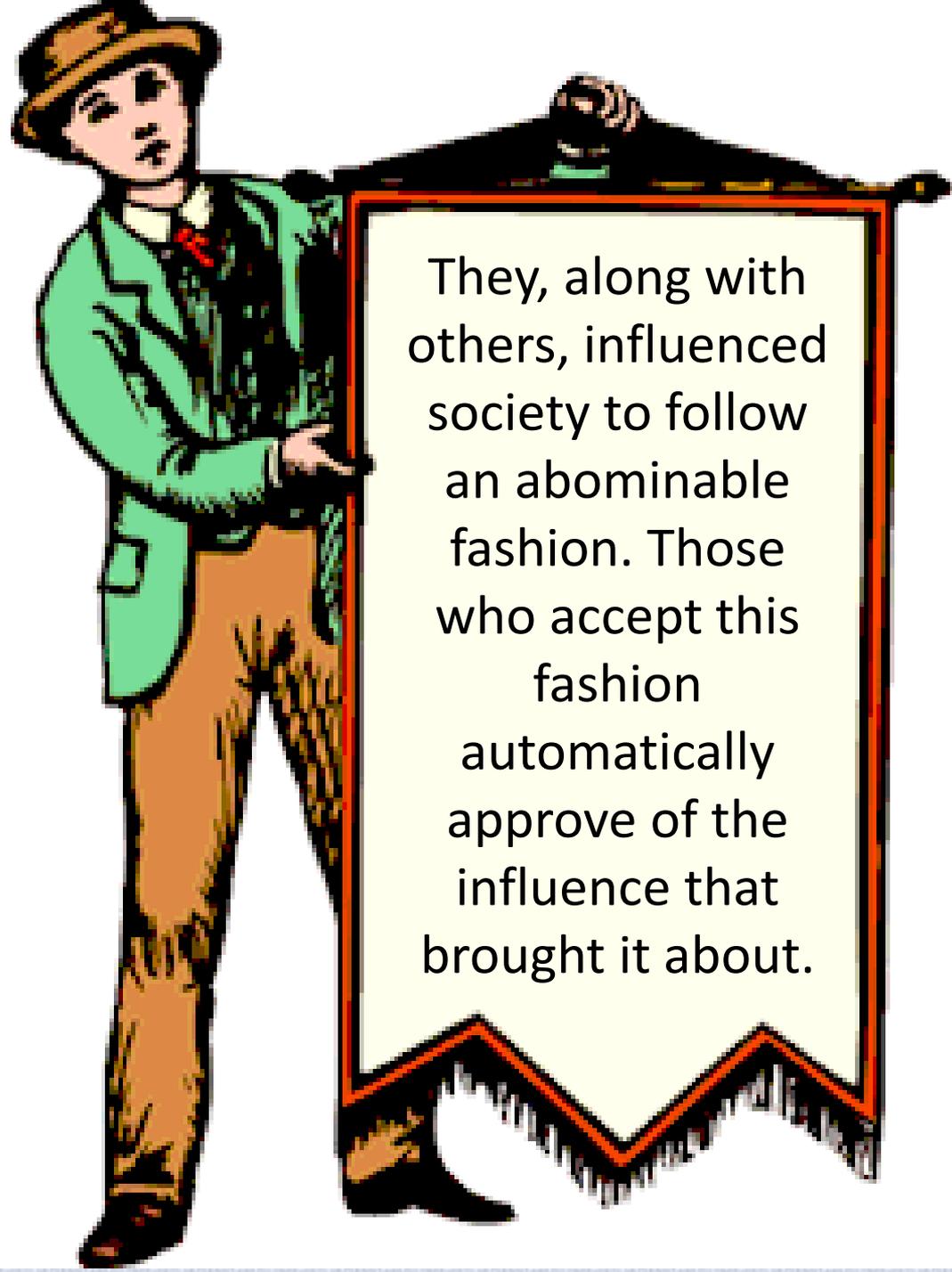
What would she have said about these styles?

Please do not
miss this
point:



It is *IMPOSSIBLE*
for a woman to
wear pants today
apart from the
influence of these
ungodly women—
Katharine
Hepburn, Marlene
Dietrich, Amelia
Bloomer &
Elizabeth Cady
Stanton

Please do not
miss this
point:



They, along with others, influenced society to follow an abominable fashion. Those who accept this fashion automatically approve of the influence that brought it about.



Are we benefitting from the hard work of those who blazed the trail to make pants wearing possible for women?



We may come up with a multitude of excuses and explanations why it is now “OK” for women to wear menswear inspired fashions, but it doesn’t change history. The fashion experts know how we’re arrived here. We must not be so naïve to think it “just happened” so now we can follow this fashion.

Would a godly man really want women to “wear the pants” either literally or figuratively?

This poster says, “Yeah, so she wears the pants. I’m thinking that’s not such a problem.”



YEAH, SO SHE WEARS THE PANTS.

I'm thinking that's not such a problem.

What does the ungodly man think about women who wear the pants?

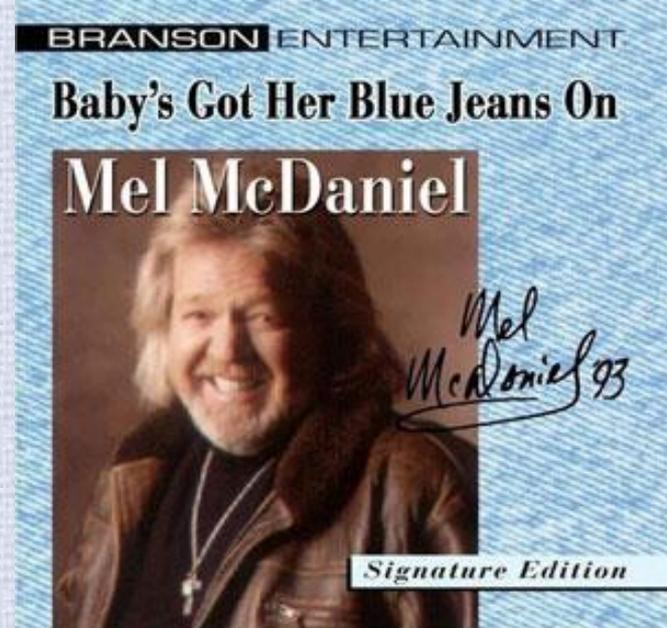
The lyrics to the song “She Wears the Pants” go like this:

She wears the pants and I let her.
She sure looks good in jeans.
She wears the pants and I let her.
Cuz I follow wherever she leads.
When I'm walkin' right behind her
The view could not be finer.
I'm reminded I'm a lucky guy.
She's got me where she wants
me...
(The remaining lyrics are too
vulgar to repeat.)



There are many other songs about blue jeans on women that reveal what men have on their minds. It's absolute filth.

Brothers, when you defend pants on women, what are you really saying about yourself?



#2
Mac Demarco - "Baby's Wearing Blue Jeans"

TRACKING:
Best Of 2012

Truly, these statements were never more true than they are today:

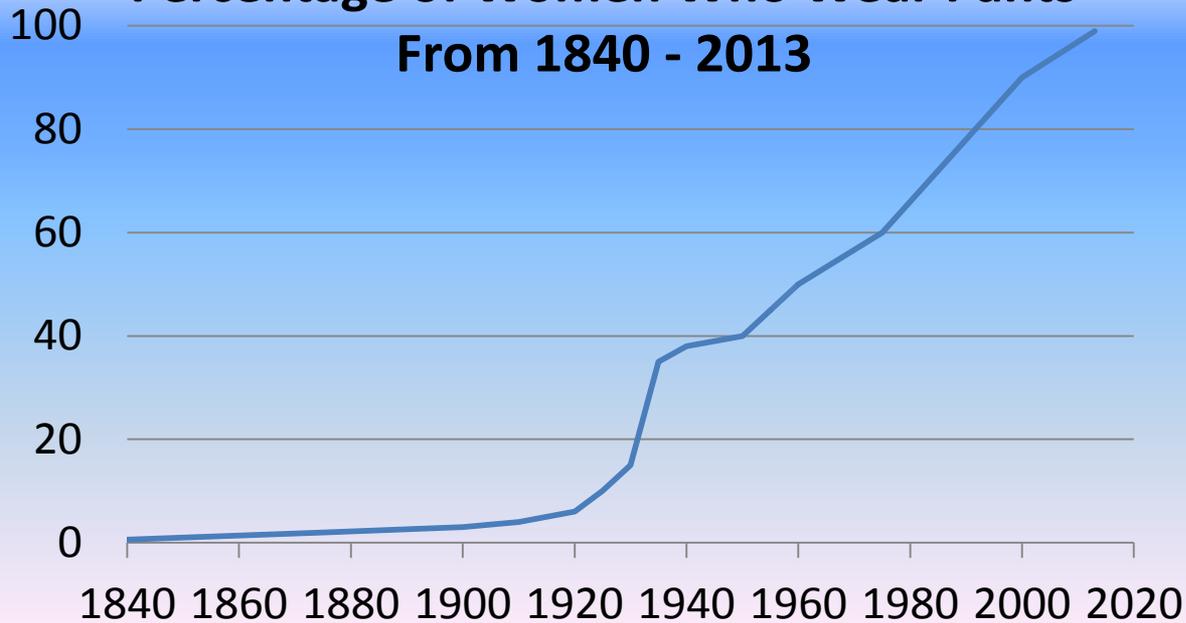
“Obedience to fashion is pervading our Seventh-day Adventist churches and is doing ***more than any other power*** to separate our people from God.” {4T 647.2}

As we bear testimony against pride and following the fashions of the world, ***we are met with excuses and self-justification***. Some urge the example of others. {4bSG 66.1}

The distance is widening between Christ and His people, and lessening between them and the world. The marks of distinction between Christ's professed people and the world have almost disappeared. Like ancient Israel, ***they follow after the abominations of the nations around them.***--Testimonies, vol. 1, p. 277. {ChS 38.2}

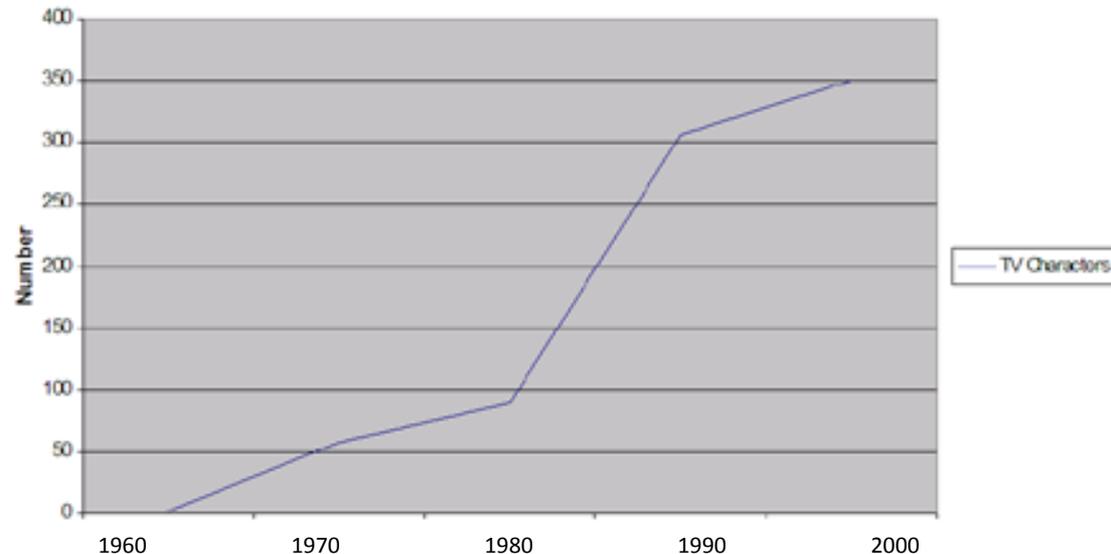
The Israel of God in these last days are in constant danger of mingling with the world, and losing all signs of being the chosen people of God. . . . Shall we provoke him as did ancient Israel? Shall we bring his wrath upon us by departing from him, and ***mingling with the world and following the abominations*** of the nations around us? {HL 282.1}

Percentage of Women Who Wear Pants From 1840 - 2013



The correlation between the increasing number of homosexuals and the increasing acceptance of unisex fashion is striking

Number of Homosexual Characters



<http://iml.jou.ufl.edu/projects/Spring04/Douglas/homosexuality%20on%20prime%20time%20television/root/acceptance%20graphs/hs/graphs.htm>

It is easy to see how the gay movement would approve and promote unisex/androgyny/genderless clothing. If the binary gender distinction is erased, it removes the social stigma of same sex relationships. Gender blending and cross dressing is part of the alternative lifestyle. To remove all gender distinction would serve their purposes well.

“Ultimately, the homosexual lobby's primary objective is to radically redefine our foundational institutions of legitimate marriage and the nuclear family by unraveling God's natural design for human sexuality. In so doing, they hope to elevate their own spiritual and biological counterfeit and establish a sexually androgynous society wherein natural distinctions between male and female are dissolved.”



Do we realize the depths of degradation the acceptance of this genderless fashion will bring to society? The Babylonish confusion, the depravity, the anarchy is beyond comprehension. We need to wake up, and turn from the world with courage and determination.

“What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are **uniting with the world**, are receiving the worldly mold, and preparing for the **mark of the beast**. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth,--these are receiving the heavenly mold, and preparing for the **seal of God** in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth, and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.” {CET 191.1}

God is calling us to stand for
the right, though we may
have to stand alone.

**“But if, when following out
their convictions of duty in
respect to dressing modestly
and healthfully, they find
themselves out of fashion,
they should not change their
dress in order to be like the
world; but they should
manifest a noble
independence and moral
courage to be right, if all the
world differ from them.”**

{CG 414.2}



Perhaps you have been astounded and overwhelmed by the information in this presentation, as you consider the implications regarding your own decisions.

The desire to justify our desires and cling to our opinions is very strong. We want to dig in our heels and block out any message that threatens our comfort zone.



Here is our earnest appeal: Please take this matter before the Lord in prayer. Don't let your personal preferences push away the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Be willing to humbly search this matter out before you harden your heart. Listen to God, and He will surely guide you.

May God give you the courage to take a stand against godless gender-blurring fashions, and seek to maintain a plain distinction between the clothing of the sexes.

We encourage your to read the presentation ***A Plain Distinction*** for a deeper understanding of this topic.





*Thank you for reading
this presentation
“She Wears the Pants.”*

*We invite you to stay
tuned for the next
presentation
“She Wears a Skirt.”*

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