

Q. & A. File No. 10-B-4

ON THE WEARING OF SLACKS

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*single sheet*

Question: "Is it right for a Christian girl to wear slacks in the country?"

Rather than "is it right or wrong" to wear slacks why not ask yourself the questions: "Are they appropriate?" "Are they neat?" "Are they becoming?" "Do they disclose real character on the part of the one who chooses them?" "Do they serve a purpose no other mode of dress will?"

Slacks, while resembling men's apparel, are made specifically for women's wear. But the fact that they are made for women does not necessarily make them an appropriate article of wearing apparel. Of course a garment should fit the occasion for which worn. Merely being in the "country" should not effect a decided change in garments. Dresses are suitable there. If it be an active picnic in the country, then there is the sports dress, the skirt and blouse, the skirt and sweater combination, or the divided skirt which one could choose. There are a few girls who find it necessary to do farm work in the country--helping with the hay, the wheat harvest, the berry picking. I believe that no one would condemn a girl who is doing this type of work for wearing slacks or overalls for protection. However, I rather imagine the majority of girls who wear slacks do so because they are a novelty rather than because of any convenience or protection they may give. Their desire centers in the fact that they wish to display themselves or attract attention.

Slacks are not becoming to the larger majority of girls. They are usually of such light weight material that they wrinkle easily and soon become shapeless. Woman's figure is not of the type to wear such a designed garment. Contours of the body are revealed in a conspicuous manner.

The fact holds true that when girls or women wear mannish apparel they are cheapened in the sight of the opposite sex. They lose their femininity to some extent. There is a tendency for the standards of conversation and conduct to lower. The manners are coarse and rough in comparison with what they are

when a dainty feminine apparel is worn. The type of clothes, styles, colors-- all have a decided psychological effect upon us whether we consciously recognize the fact or not.

Surely it is time for the Christian to make a distinct line of demarcation between herself and worldly practices. Standards of dress must be held high. The Lord expects it of His remnant people.

Mrs. D. A. Ochs.