

# ELLEN G. WHITE *Publications*



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GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012

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Dear Sister

Some people look askance upon women wearing pants on any occasion. They feel there simply is no way to reconcile the biblical statement in Deut. about women dressing like men with this practice of pant suits.

Personally I dislike pant suits on any woman. Women to me are the most beautiful creation of God and I think that women should act like women, look like women on all occasions. There are those who conscientiously disagree with me.

The dress style worn in the dress reform suit recommended by Sister White in the 1860s had pants also, but the skirt covered the pants almost completely, not so with the American costume, the skirt of which covered the pants only down as far as the mid thigh.

In Sister White's view modesty coincided with women looking like men in any sense of the word. I personally am inclined to believe that this is what she had in mind, even though there might also be other aspects to her meaning of the word modesty in the setting of the immodest American style dress in the 1860s.

Here at the general Conference the women workers do not wear pant suits to the office though it is true in some of our medical institutions they do. I don't believe that real modesty has been achieved by pant suits at all for as I see the nurses wearing thin pant suits the sexy features of a woman's figure come out just as loud and clear as they would with a short skirt, though it may be true there is not as much exposure. We must each decide the matter as we understand it, but I am conservative about it. A copy of a letter from A. L. White dealing with the dating problem is enclosed.

Sincerely your brother in Christ,

D. A. Delafield, Associate Secretary

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DAD/cy  
Encl.