

[Editor's Note: We asked Gillian to write an article detailing how sex affects her and her peers today. Her thoughts and advice are to be admired in a time in which many young people "go along with the crowd."

I can wait

Gillian Pulley

Media is everywhere today, and in it, most businesses use sex appeal as a means of selling their newest products. In tire commercials, on billboards, in magazines—it's all over the place, and people are being less subtle about the way they use sexual images. Along with the principles of truth, the principles of modesty have been thrown out by the world. Sex has been changed from a rarely spoken private subject, to the topic of many things such as rap songs and even tossed into the plot of many books. It is no longer a sacred ritual from God, but rather it has become a pleasure for the perversion of the world. Sex isn't a bad thing, but the way it is being portrayed degrades its original purpose.

As a teenage female I have been confronted with sex but I have not given in to any temptation. Boys have said things like "it'll make us closer friends" or "it'll be fun." But as a Christian I recognize that I need to stay away from guys like that. I have seen the effects that premarital sex has had on the people around me. Like girls my age that have abortions because of sex, or older teenagers whose lives are ruined because they made the decision to have sex, and now have a family that they aren't ready to support

because of it. It's a decision that can ruin your life, even though people make it sound like it won't hurt you, or that it will make you closer to that person—and it might, but probably not in a way you want. If anyone is willing to pressure you into sex saying it'll make you closer and “if you love me, you'll do it”, you need to reevaluate your relationship with that person. If he or she really loves you then he or she will wait and marry you.

Even some relationships are based on sex, or eventually turn that way. Some boys will use things like love to get a girl to have sex with them. They might say something like “if you love me you will” causing the person to believe the relationship is in jeopardy if they do not give in. But in reality if the boy loves you he would ask you to marry him and he wouldn't force you or try to make you feel obligated. Otherwise by falling into that trap you end up with a big regret, and maybe even a baby.

If you get married after, you still lose some respect and people won't look at you the same. You are no longer innocent in most people's eyes. The decision to have premarital sex can instantly ruin your life and your relationship with God. Because even though God loves you, he will leave you if you sin continuously without being remorseful for your sin and the anguish you have caused to those around you.

Sex isn't what it used to be. Today it's a tool for selling products and a submissive temptation. It's used in television to add interest in forms like affairs or premarital sex that results in pregnancy. Situations and events that were once unrespectable are popular in our entertainment. Sadly, it's a relatable source among society to some degree. While sex may be a part of life, unmarried teenagers should wait until they are married.