

Behind Enemy Lines is a humorous, but informative observation of the world of our modern American youth. Marc Howard discusses how the liberal policies of the sixties have shaped our world and what this means for our children.

Behind Enemy Lines: A Conservative Teacher's
Observations of Generation XXX

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Marc Howard

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Chapter One

Pimps and Hos (Bitches)

Ok so I really need to explain this one. If you are a kid or maybe if you are under twenty one or work in the Hip Hop industry you already know what I'm talking about when I refer to Pimps and Hos. If you do not fall into this category sit back and read up. Although you may not be really sure what a Ho is even if you are familiar with what happened to poor Don Imus, I would bet you are familiar with what a Pimp is. By the way, just for information someone needs to tell the most Reverend Al Sharpton, crucifixions were supposed to take place a week earlier not the week after Easter. Sorry to veer away from the subject for a second but the good Reverend Sharpton may want to read up on this chapter as well, maybe after actually reading Christ's message in a little known book I like to call the Bible.

A Ho is a slang term which today can be used in a variety of ways by Generation XXX. Hos usually accompany pimps but not the pimps you and I would think of. These are not actually guys who manage hookers and take a cut from women who turn tricks for money. A pimp today is more like what we might refer to as a playboy, a guy who gets a lot of girls, a lot of tail, a lot of the TNA. If you don't know what TNA is ask your kid but don't expect to

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like the answer. You see a pimp is actually something to aspire to today. It is a goal to be reached, a crescendo of manhood. Society today in this XXX MTV generation expects boys to give it to as many girls as possible and if he can do more than one at a time then he is an even bigger pimp and gets a standing ovation. You see the hip hop culture prevalent in today's society and portrayed throughout the media has convinced our kids that promiscuity is a good thing, something that everyone does and the more bitches and you get the more manly you are.

Don't believe me? Look at popular shows such as MTV's Pimp My Ride. A program about taking a normal average automobile and "tricking it out" to it is flashy. The idea is to take something that is normal and make it "pimptastic" which to those of us who remember the 70s basically means making it look like something Huggy Bear might have driven on Starsky and Hutch.

No doubt there are many adults out there who really just don't get the title of this show, other than members of Generation XXX, who would have guessed that pimping something out meant to make it flashy for the purpose of attracting the babes. Even though this has nothing to do with prostitution it has everything to do with free love and viewing women as sexual status symbols. Get the car, get it pimped out, then you get the babes and the more

babes you get and the hotter and trashier they are the more of a pimp you become. Face it, our culture has been taken over by this new pimp way of life. For our kids anyways it has replaced just about everything traditional and pure.

If you don't believe the pimp lifestyle has taken over just look at the fashion industry with clothing lines such as Beverly Hills Pimps and Hos. We'll talk more about clothes later but just for fun go Google the clothing line and check out the web page. Just don't be surprised too much by the sleazy looking guys and the women dressed in their finest slutwear with come do me looks on their faces. The examples of clothing you will find on the site are just a small part of what is acceptable for pimps and hos to wear and what they wear says everything about the lifestyle and values of such people.

You see, a pimp is flashy and has absolutely no respect for women as people. Like previous generations once said of men who could not control themselves, a pimp does any girl with a hole and a heart beat. Sorry, not my saying, just a phrase that has been used throughout the ages in Maledom. Instead of society looking at such a guy as sleazy with some definite problems and the girls hanging around him as sluts, today they are all to be admired. Face it, these people are the role models for today's youth. Where once the likes of Jackie Robinson, Joe Montana, and Lou Gehrig were role models for

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kids they have now been replaced with Snoop Dog, R. Kelly and Ludacris, men who treat women as trophies and pure objects of sexual gratification.

Oh, what a happy day. Who in the hell needs examples like a guy who silently fought racism and became one of the best ball players in the Major Leagues? Who wants their kids to emulate a guy who had a debilitating disease and fought through it? Who wants to look up to a guy like Joe Montana who was not only a great sports star but a family man? WHAT? These aren't role models for our kids. These definitely are not pimps. After all, if they were pimps where were their hos? Do we really want non-pimp, hard working guys influencing our kids' lives? No!!! Bring on the guys who encourage our kids to smoke out every chance they get. Bring on the guys like R. Kelly, who urinate on women and slap them around with their pimp cash while providing video evidence. These are the role models of today.

Let me reiterate, a pimp is a guy who does as little legitimate work as possible, smokes a lot of pot and has a lot of bitches at his disposal. Likewise, a ho is a woman who gets around, who actively looks for guys to "hook up with" and is open about being easy. Where once such a woman would have been seen as a slut, a skank, or even, a hoochie, they are now on the verge of taking over womanhood, if not now at least in the coming generations. It is now becoming socially acceptable and even expected for women to sleep with

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as many men as possible. The only time it is now negative to be a ho is if the term is used by one female regarding another. Usually one girls calls another a ho because one was messing around with the other's man which usually means a fight is coming. If a man or a more likely a boy calls a girl a ho or says she is easy she may blush a little and shyly say, "No I'm not," with a big smile that really says yes I am and I like it. It is even scarier when girls openly cop to being easy and freely admit they love sex as long as the guy turns them on. But I digress.

What father does not want his little girl growing up to be a bitch or a ho? Picture it, spring break two thousand something, your daughter comes home from college, puts her arm around Mom and Dad, or nowadays maybe Mom and Mom or Dad and Dad, and one parent asks hopefully, "So sweetie, tell me 'bout all the pimps you be banging lately." Ah what a Hallmark moment. Maybe like me you only have sons and no doubt when you look at them sleeping in their cribs you think like many mothers and fathers. Someday my son will bang a whole lot of hos, smoke pot till he can't stand up, drive a real pussy magnet, and live in a gangsta crib. Wouldn't that just be the shit?! By the way "the shit" is a term used by today's kids like other generations used to say golly, groovy, or cool, but that will be discussed in a later chapter.

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Now if you can't figure out that I am laying on the sarcasm pretty thick, maybe you watch too much MTV or reality television. What ever happened to real idols for children? What happened to parents who actually steered their kids in the direction of people who live their lives by some kind of standards? Although the media generally ignores this kind of person they still are with us in today's society. They may not be perfect people but they have qualities which inspire others to work hard and achieve the very best, if not the best out of all the competition at least the best of themselves.

Although many conservative commentators may not pay much attention or even value the world of sport, it is very true the world of sport is full of potential role models. Again, they may be lacking in some area of their lives and they may make the occasional mistake; but there are athletes who even adults can learn from. In the world of professional sports, which all too often takes after or is shaped by generation XXX, there are diamonds to be found in the rough. Take for instance a humble but inspiring man known quite often only as LT. Ladanian Tomlinson is a man I would not mind my sons looking up to. I know there may come a day when some of LT's personal indiscretions are brought to light by our glorious paparazzi, but if and when this happens it maybe a chance to teach a lesson about mistakes and personal choices. Nevertheless, LT is the epitome of what a professional athlete

should be. As of this writing LT is the current NFL rushing champion and holds the NFL record for most touchdowns in a season. To see him on the field is awesome. Some in the media, and definitely Marty Schottenheimer, suggest he may be the best running back the NFL has ever seen. After all the records, all the media attention, and all the accolades from peers and fans alike, who does LT prefer to give the credit to? His teammates; he chooses to praise the often overlooked but very necessary linemen who break their bodies to open holes for him to run through. Here's a man who in a world of me, me, me not only gives credit to others but deflects praise from himself.

Obviously LT has worked very hard to be where he is today, in and of itself a quality to be admired. Not only is he athletically gifted and a hard worker but he is a man who has an education. Holding a degree from Texas Christian, Ladanian is also an educational role model for kids. But as successful and as wealthy as he must be, he is not widely held to be a pimp. As a matter of fact, I would venture to say outside of fans and kids who play football, he is not a role model for today's generation. Of course I don't know what he does in his free time but I do know that LT does not openly condone smoking out or putting pot leaves on his uniform for all the little kids to see. I know he doesn't take pictures in public with his entourage of hos and he is not featured in common newsstand magazines with his latest bitch every other

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month. He is just a guy who is damn good at his job, who does it with pride and passion.

Maybe I'm just absolutely insane but personally I want an educated humble guy who works hard to find success to be a role model for my kids. I must be insane because I am still surprised when a car pulls up next to me at a red light driven by an adult whom I assume is the parent of the five or six year old in one seat, and the infant in the car seat. Meanwhile the car stereo bumps a raunchy beat and the following lyrics emanate from within;

So all my bitches and my niggaz and my niggaz and my bitches

Wave your motherfuckin hands in the air

And if you don't give a shit

Like we don't give a shit

Wave your motherfuckin fingers in the air

-From Snoop Dog's, For All My Niggaz & Bitches

Of course the bitches and hos are not offended by this song or any lyrics like it, after all, a ho is valued according to whatever pimp she is currently doing. She is valued by how hard she is, how much she tells those in authority to F*&^ off. Strangely enough she is also valued by how much pleasure she gives to all the boys. After all a girl who tries to remain virtuous or is shy around boys is a prude. Many school officials such as teachers and

psychologists might even say she is withdrawn and has issues associating with her peers. No doubt a short visit with her guidance counselor may result in talking her into showing more cleavage and uncrossing her legs before being sent out the door with a map to the nearest abortion clinic. Now if a girl is a little more into boys and has the audacity to date a boy and even kiss him goodnight, without letting it get all the way to intercourse, then she is simply known as a cock tease. Such a girl is the most reprehensible type of female of our time. After all, aren't the biotches merely here to serve the pimps? Just check out some of the programming on MTV or on hip hop fashion web sites. Females are willfully dressing as porn stars and openly talking about how easy they are. Proud to be what we used to call a slut, she embraces her inner whore and becomes a playground for the benefit of aspiring Larry Flints.

Speaking of ho wear, I challenge you to check out some of the current fashions in the world today and see for yourself the glory of bitches and hos, pimps and gangstas. I love when a kid walks down the hall at school with a shirt that says "Pimp". Sure it violates dress code, maybe, but you just have to wonder, WHO THE HELL BOUGHT THAT FOR THE KID?!?! I also like shirts such as the ones promoting kids as future porn stars or ones that girls wear saying, "I may be cute but I'm a real Bitch." Or the one that says, "I'm a Virgin....Not!" Yes, the future sure is bright; there are many future

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beeotches and pimps growing up today who no doubt will sit next to your child in school. But the good news is there is no need to worry. They will be guided ethically, morally, and pharmaceutically by Snoop Dog and many of the other great pimps of our time.

There is at least one place in the world today where fashion, drugs, and the influences of the Hip Hop lifestyle come together, the party. Now I have to admit that the party has long been a staple of the college scene and even the high school scene for a while. Most parties in the past were thrown when parents weren't at home. Kids waited for the ideal night or weekend when Mom and Dad would be out of the house before throwing a rager. True many parents made mistakes. They let kids stay home without somehow monitoring what was going, on but that was then and this is now.

The parties of today often feature parents who are present and condone the party lifestyle. A large majority of guests, that is to say kids, at these parties also have parents who know where they are and exactly what goes on at such events! Now imagine that at these adult sponsored parties there are kegs of beer, hard alcohol, drugs of various types, and sex wherever couples, or slightly larger groups, can find an adequate space. That's right Mr. and Mrs. America, parent sponsored alcohol and drug induced orgies in your own backyard. Better lock your kids up or implant that GPS chip in your kid if

you want to be sure where they are and what they are doing. Ok so maybe that's going a bit far especially if you have taught your kid to make good decisions or you do sensible things like checking up on them when they leave the house. Of course if you do this the likelihood of your child becoming either a pimp or a ho is very rare and odds are you will greatly hurt your child's social standing. But you may also help avoid getting that phone call at three in the morning saying there has been a terrible accident.

In the past year and a half, the school where I work has lost two students and has had another paralyzed in auto accidents associated with parties. We all know that car accidents can and will happen. Any rationale person should know they take their lives in their hands anytime they step into a motor vehicle to go anywhere, even if they are only going just around the corner. But these kinds of accidents are no accidents when parents either take part in giving kids alcohol or drugs, provide a place to party, or even if they simply know what is going on at the party and still let their kids go. Somehow in today's world some adults are even stupid enough to let their children go to such parties with full knowledge of what goes on there. Often times they are proud that their child is living up to the pimp or ho lifestyle, and are still surprised and point fingers at others when a terrible and tragic accident happens.

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Perhaps Michael Savage is right, liberalism is a mental disorder and that is why people can do things like letting their kids party hardy and still blame someone else when their kids wind up dead. Maybe it is just that the parents themselves fried their own brain cells in high school or college during those fabulous sixties or seventies and simply want to spread the love. Or maybe, just maybe it's a combination of both of these things and maybe more.

Of course there are many people who are liberal in their politics but are conservative in their parenting and vice versa. This is not to say that all liberals are bad parents and all conservatives are good parents. Take for instance the Bush family. As conservative as George Bush is, or pretends to be, George W got pretty crazy as a kid and even as a young man. Most people would describe many of W's political beliefs as fairly conservative but you just have to look at the behavior of his daughters to see that conservative political beliefs do not always lead to well behaved and morally conscious children. However, when it comes to parenting styles the parents who have the most trouble with their children are permissive which is to say they are liberal parents.

By the same token I have known many teachers who do not apply their personal political beliefs in their classrooms. Many teachers who identify themselves as liberal, who want the world to solve all problems with hugs and

bouts of group kumbya, run their classes as dictators. Although they may support the ACLU in defending the free speech of all good liberal dissenters on government policy, they quickly squash any semblance of conservative thought in the classroom. Then again there are conservative teachers who believe in law and order, yet walking into their classes is something akin to jumping into the gorilla enclosure at the zoo. What this all comes down to is how conservative or liberal these people are when making decisions regarding their children? How much do you want to be your child's friend rather than their authority figure and parent?

Whatever your feelings on this issue, you have to admire people who have the guts to party like Prince in 1999 and still point the finger at others, at society, at the cops, or maybe at a car manufacturer because they didn't adequately design the car to do 130 MPH and handle an impact with a telephone pole. Oh yeah, why did they not also take into account that maybe two or three more kids might find riding in the truck a good choice. Those bastards, why didn't GMC, Ford, and those brilliant Japanese car makers take these things into account? Surely, there oughta be a law. And please, don't jump to a logical conclusion such as there are already laws against providing kids drugs and alcohol or limiting driving speed on our roads and highways. Heck there are even intrusive laws which state you can't ride in the trunk of a

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car. Where's the ACLU when a pimp really needs 'em? The real conclusion you need to reach is that somehow these party goers are just having fun and are somehow the victims. Hey, that's what I hear from students and even their parents on a regular basis. "Well its just kids being kids. After all they're just having fun." Sure they are having fun, having fun at our expense and the expense of others.

A year and a half before this was written one of my former students and his friend died in a car accident over the Thanksgiving Holiday. They were both seniors graduating later that year and were on their way home from a party. The word on the street from many of the pimps 'n' hos who were eyewitnesses at the party along with a couple at the scene, was that everyone in the car was high and drunk. Even if the passengers were completely sober the driver had just about everything a human could have in their system and still start a motor vehicle. Why did these kids get in this car? Why was there no other option for getting home? Or maybe a smarter question, why were they there in the first place? What happened to the parents who owned the house where the party took place and who supplied the alcohol and drugs? While these questions are at best rhetorical they do leave some thoughts to ponder even for the drug fried veggies from the summer of love.

While our school mourned the loss, and it was tragic, what was more tragic was that a husband and wife were hit by their car. The wife died and the husband was in critical condition when last we heard. Where was the outrage? Where was the cry for the innocent lives of the couple who were just on their way home from a Thanksgiving trip? Hopefully it was somewhere but I can tell you it wasn't at our school. Instead of saying yes this is a great loss but it is to be expected because of the actions of those involved. Instead it was made out to simply be a freak accident.

Again, thank you Mr. Savage, I think you're right, liberalism is a mental disorder, or at least a drug induced stupor. It is always comforting to hear from students that there are those responsible parents out there who want to be sure their sons and daughters are well supervised in their debauchery. What a relief it is knowing that there are those selfless parents out there who introduce their offspring to the fresh world of narcotics and alcoholism and even participate with their kids. Hopefully this responsible form of parenting will insure the children will know how to do it right and remain safe at the same time. However, nothing tops the parents who allow opposite sex sleepovers in their house to be sure safe sex is a priority. Aw come on and loosen up. Take a quick trip to the corner store, buy a forty for your favorite pimp/ho stop by the local pusher and get a nice dime bag, invite over some fly

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honeys, smoke and drink with your kids and later listen to the rhythmic sounds of young love in the next room. Sounds like a great Saturday night don't you think? Or maybe instead you can stay home with your kids and celebrate national pot smoking day better known as 4-20 which takes place on April 20th every year. 4-20 of course is a reference to a police code about marijuana and instead of pot and other drugs being reprehensible or at least frowned upon by society as it once was it is now celebrated by Gen XXXers.

But hey, such behavior will continue to provide the world with more pimps and hos, especially if they are too drunk or high to find the map the school counselor gave them pointing the way to the abortion clinic. But why do I complain? I'm a teacher and this is giving me job security right? Well maybe so. There is no doubt there will always be many warm bodies to fill the desks but I just hate wiping the drool off of them every day as a result of the vegetative state.

Chapter Four

Cosmetic Sex Changes

One of my favorite movies I remember watching as a teen is Revenge of the Nerds. One of the best scenes in the movie takes place about five minutes before the end, after all the fraternities and sororities had performed their skits. The Omega Mus and the Tri Lambs had just won the Greek games and the jock fraternity, the Alpha Betas, having performed a powder puff football skit, were dressed in cheer leader outfits in their locker room ready for a lecture from their coach. John Goodman, playing the coach, paced up and down the locker room fuming that his jocks lost the games to a bunch of nerds.

“You know, when you were a baby in your crib you fathers looked down on you and had one hope.....someday, my son will grow to be a man,”

Goodman seethed as a smile suppressed his rage.

“Well look at you now.” He said as the camera focused on Ogre, the biggest most masculine player on the team, as he removed his wig with shame, his face still coated with make-up.

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This very short portion of Revenge of the Nerds was somewhat funny then but I find the scene to be absolutely hilarious today. You might ask why I find this to be so much funnier today than it was then, so let me explain.

Fact is, times have changed and the idea of what it is to be a man has greatly changed also. The gap that now exists between many fathers and sons today is astounding as many modern teen males have a completely different view than their fathers regarding what it means to be a man. To really start looking at the issue of how boys have changed over the ages let us first look at what men, or more specifically, what manhood, used to consist of.

Many moons ago, before the current age of estrogen oppression, when a boy was young there was a figure in his life he would look up to who was strong, who was tough, who was a provider and who was the family's protector. That figure was his father. Now in those days many boys grew up having special attachments to their mothers but at the same time there was a strange mystical force compelling them to admire their fathers. Their relationships may not have been as loving, as physically comforting, or as casual as their relationships with their mothers but typically boys looked up to Dad and most importantly wanted to be him.

Little boys as young as five or six would model their future along the lines of what they saw in their father. I remember when I was a little boy I wanted

to be a fire fighter like my Dad. I didn't want to do this particularly because I liked what a fire fighter did. Yeah fire fighting was pretty cool, but I told people I want to be a fire fighter because I wanted to be like my Dad and I was not alone. Many of the boys I grew up with and many of the men I call my peers today believed the same things as little boys. We admired our fathers because although Dad was the ultimate authority figure in our lives, although he held judgment over our freedom and actions we looked up to him because he provided for us, because he was strong. Things that would make us cry like cuts, scrapes and bruises were nothing to our fathers. In fact, when such things made us cry, we were told, "Don't be a baby, stop crying." Some of us even had more macho fathers who might tell us, "Take it like a man." Whatever words they might have chosen the message was always the same. Sometimes things in life are bad, but don't react emotionally, just be strong and deal with it.

Now this image of how tough Dad was and how he reacted to situations was just the surface of the issue. As we grew up our dads became a role model for us in every walk of life. Dad taught us what it was to be honorable, Dad taught us how to treat women through his interactions with Mom. Dad taught us how to dress, how to show respect for others, in short, Dad taught us

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what it was to be a man and he encouraged us to transform from little boys into men.

The scene from *Revenge of the Nerds* was true when taken in the context of how many men view their baby sons. We fathers, and I mean fathers not sperm donors, look at our sons and dream of what they could be. We care what our sons do with their lives and who they will be as men and hope that one day we will be old enough to see our sons become men. As we grow up there is nothing that hurts a real father more than to watch his son make bad decisions and do things which are lacking in masculinity.

Now of course I realize that throughout history there have been many people who have grown up without their fathers but there was a time when this was a rare thing which was considered unfortunate. There are still many in our society today who consider this to be unfortunate but they are far too few. The lack of real male role models for our young boys today has led to an annihilation of masculinity in America. The whole concept of what it is to be a real man has been hijacked by both the Hip Hop society and bastardized into the concept of the pimp as previously discussed. It is the void left by the lack of real men in our society that has made this possible. But even those who escape the Hip Hop stereo type of the pimp are still emasculated by

today's society and Generation XXX's distorted view of masculinity. This is readily apparent in the appearance and actions of boys today.

If you had the great fortune to live through the 80s you would no doubt remember such figures from the music world as Boy George and George Michael. Two "male" pop stars who took the traditional view of what it was to be a man and with a limp wrist tossed it to the wind. For all of you who may be reading this that did not live through the 80's or for some reason do not recall them let me explain.

Boy George and George Michael did not come from the world of Hip Hop, rather they thrived in the 80s music world of New Wave. Although they were never part of the Hip Hop phenomenon they both contributed greatly to the fall of man. They helped to set the sub-par standards currently used to measure a man's value. They effectively destroyed the traditional view of man and paved the way for the feminization of young men everywhere.

Boy George was the vocalist for an 80s pop band known as Culture Club. He was a real smack in the face for all the straight laced men in society because if you just saw a picture of him you would have thought he was a woman. He dressed in drag, wore amazing amounts of make up and in videos of him he even had female movements and gestures. There was even some talk amongst some men at the time when Culture Club first came on the scene

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that he was really a woman with a man's name. When it was confirmed that there really was a man under all that Revlon and all those dresses a lot of men reacted the same. "What a FAG!" The reaction was typical of traditional men who could not conceive of how a man could ever bring himself to dress and act like a woman. More importantly it was a threat to the future of his sons if they thought of this Boy George as a role model. They did not want their sons becoming cross dressers acting like women. How disgraceful this would be to all men throughout the family's generations.

Less shocking, but in no way less threatening, was George Michael, from the new wave group Wham. George Michael dressed similarly to most men at the time and in this way was very different from Boy George. But George Michael wore an earring and was bit effeminate in his mannerisms, and did not appear at all to be a tough guy. Not the kind of guy most men wanted their sons to become. You see George Michael wore his earring in his left ear and in the eighties this meant that it was only a fashion choice and not a comment on one's sexual orientation. Now if you wore it in your right ear then it meant you were gay.

To the fathers and grandfathers of our generation it did not matter what ear you had a ring in, they were for girls and fags. It also did not matter to them if a guy said he was straight or not, having an earring diminished a man's

masculinity. Similarly, most of the rock groups out at the time had long hair, another traditional sign of being feminine and, according to our patriarchs, not something to aspire to for any man. Of course at the time I listened to my Dad, although I thought he was unreasonable, out of respect for him I never seriously considered having either an earring or long hair. The idea that he might grab me by the long hair, and rip the ring out of my ear before scalping me may have also played a small role in my decision but mostly it was out of respect.

Boy, have times changed. In the eighties more and more boys turned to the new wave and rock fads, and grew their hair long and wore earrings. Some even wore make up, especially if they followed the glam rock scene and bands like Motley Crue and Poison. These things bothered many fathers but these fathers lived in a society which was increasingly judgmental of men who resisted change. Such men, like my father, were seen by society as macho cavemen who were resistant to “progress”, as if progress meant turning away from masculinity and more towards femininity. In the nineties these feminine fads progressed and now in the 2000s boys are doing things that may have gotten them thrown out of their houses or beaten by their fathers in the past.

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I know there are people out there reading this who are thinking to themselves, “What’s wrong with boys changing? Why shouldn’t they be more like women?” Well I’ll wager I can not change your minds but you may just want to read on anyway. And for those of you like me who are shocked and repelled by boys acting like girls, sit down and take a deep breath. As if the ear rings, long hair, tight pants (sometimes spandex), and glam rock make-up of the eighties weren’t bad enough we now have boys doing things such as plucking their eye brows, shaving their legs and other, well let’s say.....areas, and even shopping for clothes which they hope will not make them look fat and are girl friendly.

Ok so there are sports where boys have to shave in order to improve their athletic performance. For instance, some football players will shave their ankle area so they can tape it up. Cyclists and swimmers shave for big races in order to improve times as in those sports every hundredth of a second counts and can make the difference between a champion and the first loser. Heck, I even shaved my legs, chest, back, and arms for swimming when I was in high school but it was for a purely competitive reason. I wanted to win! Oh heck, winning is even getting to be a foreign concept these days. After all isn’t winning a throwback to the days of raw naked male aggression? If so, then I say hell yes let us compete and win. But again, I digress.

I was a swimmer, and since I chose to compete at some of the highest levels I had to make a couple of sacrifices which included shaving and putting up with the looks, stares, and insults hurled at me from other guys. It was very hard dealing with other guys calling me a fag or some kind of homo, but as long as I was winning I didn't mind too much. Of course I loved the attention my shaved legs got from girls. It was great having the hot cheer leader behind me in math class asking if she could feel my legs. Still, there was something very uncomfortable in a girl swapping leg shaving stories with me. Somehow it just didn't feel right.

The immediate attention from the girls was great but I could not wait for my hair to grow back. After all body hair was a sign of masculinity, an outward sign to the world that you were not a little boy anymore, you were becoming a man. We all wanted to grow mustaches or beards. We wanted more body hair because it was sign of our body having testosterone, and what guy did not want a hairy chest?

Enter the entertainment world with its androgynous role models like George Michael and Lance Bass. Although most boys looked at these guys, laughed, and said, "What fags," the media made these guys out to be the ultimate in manliness, the ideal man and exactly what a woman was looking for. Suddenly teenage girls turned away from looking starey eyed at really

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manly guys like Tom Selleck and they turned toward the androgynous robots we now see in teen girls' and womens' magazines. Young girls grew up lusty after these girly looking boys and became women looking for girly guys they could dominate in relationships.

The lack of real male role models today combined with the media's pushing of wussy boy sex symbols on society has caused many boys to abandon many forms of their sexual identities. Anything boys can do to make themselves look like the guys in the magazines they will do as long as they think it will get them the girl. Unfortunately they do not realize the psychological implications of getting into such a relationship where girls are often looking for guys who are less masculine, thus less threatening. They don't realize this is most likely a sign that the girl is looking for a guy whom she may be able to control.

The old saying that a married guy is whipped, that is to say, controlled by his wife through the use of sex, now applies to teens. Amazingly enough young boys these days will do anything they think will get them a little action from whatever hot little number they have their eyes set on. Without a dad around to guide them and keep them somewhat on the straight and narrow they will do crazy things like shave their legs. Boys who are sexually active, and this is a highly surprising percentage these days, will also do things such

as shave their pubic areas because “The girls like it.” After all, it is all about getting laid these days just as Generation XXX advocates. No matter what you have to do the only thing that matters is looking like a pimp to the outside world. Even if by yesterday’s standards you look like an androgynous she-male or maybe even a waiter from the Hard Rock Café in San Francisco.

Ok so as it has been pointed out to me that some people out there may take my ranting as anti-gay, so, let me just say a couple things. I am not anti-gay in the manner that I want all gay people taken out and beaten. I really don’t want gay people discriminated against at all. I believe they are human beings whose life value is as equal as mine, or anyone whom I personally know and love. In fact I can not stand anyone who discriminates against people who are gay in social or professional situations simply because they happen to be gay. Of course, there are many out there who would argue with me that I do indeed discriminate against gays because I do not believe in gay marriage and I do not believe in pushing for gay couples to be able to adopt children. This is a debatable point of view, but, I have had the pleasure of knowing more than a few gay individuals who, even though they do not proclaim themselves to be Christian, actually act much more Christian than many Christians. By this I mean that they actually try to live by the spirit of Jesus’ commandment to us to love your neighbor. I personally do not think or feel that it is very loving

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or Christ like to say “Hey that person is gay, they are a sinner so they are beneath me.”

However, being that I am not gay I do not want anyone calling me gay or expecting me to act in such a manner. I am a fairly masculine guy and I want the world to be able to handle me and other guys like me accordingly. Basically what I am saying is, DON'T TRY TO CHANGE ME! I am a man so let me be a man. I want my sons to grow up to be men so let me raise them in such a way. Don't shove your effeminate, androgynous lifestyle upon me and my kids and try to tell me it is better than the way men in my family have been raised for countless generations.

You have to remember, there was a time in our history when if one guy called another guy gay he could expect to be hit very quickly afterwards. If today one guy calls another gay they simply make a little joke about it and ask, “Why, were you looking at my ass? You want it don't you?” They might even accompany the comment with a little slap on the ass or even try to grab the other guy's crotch.

Yes, you heard me right, we have kids at our school who try to grab each other's crotches in some kind of sick and twisted game. I have talked to teachers and coaches at other schools in our area and shockingly I have found our boys are not alone. There are boys at schools all over the area who

exhibit this behavior. I'm not talking about questionable kids either who are dressing like Boy George, I'm talking about tough guys like some of the football players, soccer, and baseball players. These guys make little jokes about being gay then actually hit on each other and slap each other in the butt. What is even more bizarre is many of the girls find it cute. They think it is great that guys can be comfortable with each other and open with their sexuality. One girl I talked to about this phenomenon was quoted as saying, "It's funny! 'Hard' guys without a sense of humor is wack! We wanna laugh." In other words they do not want tough guys, they rather have crotch slapping, butt spanking wussy boys who they find amusing.

Hey I guess MTV and the network sitcoms are doing their jobs. The producers of Will and Grace would be proud to step onto a high school campus these days and see how they have taken us into a whole new age of perversion. Kids today, lead by the depraved media, have taken ass grabbing to a whole new level. Where these actions in the past would have at least gotten you a bloody nose, today they get you the attention of a cute girl.

Secondly, there are still a few men out there who are proud to be men, who do feel threatened by the advancements of the gender free. We hate to live in a world that is slowly eroding the very masculine values we have cherished in our families for hundreds of generations. We resent being called chauvinist or

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pigs simply because we want to encourage our sons to act in a masculine manner or because we dare to live so ourselves. Like Frank Costanza, the somewhat loveable father of George from Seinfeld, we love our airing of grievances and our feats of strength. In short, we love being men and the idea that we can watch our sons grow in to men pleases us.

It makes us sad to watch a young man around the age of sixteen or seventeen sitting in class with a girl's compact tweezing his eyebrows so he can get just the right shape. Believe me it scares the hell out of us, especially out of young fathers like me. If this is happening today what can we expect twelve or thirteen years down the road?

It makes us cringe to hear boys who should be concerned about growing to be a masculine and valuable piece of society talk about their latest shopping trip, discussing how the color of one boy's outfit is just not right for his look. It is a travesty to us that boys might even ask the question, "Does this make me look fat?"

We actually had a huge debate in class one day when one of our male students walked in wearing a jacket with a huge fur trim on the hood. The jacket sparked controversy and more than a few jokes about the boy looking like either a cross dressing Eskimo or Zsa Zsa Gabour. Most of the boys in the room refused to comment on the sexual nature of the jacket and only a

couple thought it was girly. Another teacher and I honestly thought at first that he was just cold and borrowed a girl's jacket. This thing looked like something a forty or fifty year old preppy woman might wear not a seventeen year old boy. In the end, I think we lost the debate because it was determined that this is simply what stylish boys and pimps wear these days.

Since when did male athletes start to color coordinate their cleats with their uniforms or buy certain cleats because their girlfriends say they are cute? Think I'm lying? We have football and soccer players who buy their cleats for these very reasons. They will sit around with each other before practice, when they are not grabbing each others' crotches, and talk about who has the nicest looking shoes. Practice now takes on the look of a fashion show rather than an exercise to improve one's abilities. I know professional teams match their cleats with their uniforms, such as the Cincinnati Reds wearing red cleats to match their socks, but I'm talking about individual guys buying certain designs and colors because of how it makes them feel.

Individually, the afore mentioned problems may not seem like a whole lot to worry about but when you see boys wearing pink shirts, matching pink shoes, with manicured eyebrows and shaved legs, running after each other in the halls smacking each other in the butt and screaming, you just have to shake your head and say to yourself, "If my son ever does that....."

Behind Enemy Lines is a humorous, but informative observation of the world of our modern American youth. Marc Howard discusses how the liberal policies of the sixties have shaped our world and what this means for our children.

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