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DR JANET HALL

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST & HYPNOTHERAPIST
POWER AND PASSION



DR JAN'S
ONLINE SHOP



drjanethall.com.au



bedwetting.com.au



sex-therapy.com.au

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This edition of Dr Jan's News is being sent to subscribers of both the General News and Passion News because we all need to be passionate about protecting children.

Dr Janet Hall's newsletter

Don't forget Dr Jan's other newsletter - Passion News - subscribe at the bottom of this email.

Dr Jan's Hot Tip

Dr Jan's book, *SexWise: What Every Teenager and Parent Need to Know About Sex*, offers case studies which help young folk appreciate the responsibility of being sexual too soon in life.

Buy *Spark-up Your Sex-life CD* at a special price of \$19.95 and get a FREE copy of the book *Sex-wise for Parents and Teenagers* (SAVE \$26.95!) The CD is a how-to guide for couples, and the book enrolls teenagers in a commitment to responsible sex - choosing the right person, age, place, time, safety and all for the right reasons. *Sex-Wise* is a wonderful book for parents because it does all their hard work and saves embarrassment! [Visit the online shop.](#)

The Exploitation of Children is Not So New

Here's something that could be abhorrent to modern parents. Would you let your child act in this movie?

It's a short film starring Shirley Temple from 1932 called *War Babies*.

The children look about three years old and are acting as soldiers at a French Bar scene, where Shirley is the star dancing girl. All the boys are wearing nothing except nappy-like rompers and hats. Each character mocks-up an adult - the barman, the bully, the lover-boy and so on.

There's a very distressing part where a very young boy acts like a dog and opens his mouth to catch drips from a bottle which is on the bench. When the bottle spills all over his face, he starts to cry. Shirley then hooks up a rubber glove to a milk tap and he sucks from one of the fingers.

Just another pornographic movie theme?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=orq4LqX7WEE>

I'd appreciate your comments!?

Here's my thoughts on the posing of naked teens for photos.

*Is it ever OK for 12-13-year-olds to pose nude "in the name of art"? Why/why not?

Parents and society have a duty of care to protect a child from public exposure and attack. Nude pictures do the opposite - they provoke judgement and possible humiliation, as well as the dangers of being used by paedophiles on the internet.

*Can a child of that age be mature enough to make a decision like that?

No way - A child/adolescent mind is just not developed to understand the ramifications of being "exposed naked for eternity". How would they cope with peer pressure and judgement?

*What would you tell parents who are thinking of allowing your children to participate in this sort of thing?

Stop and think! Would you have wanted your parent to permit you to be naked for art's sake?

*Some people have defended the photos in the name of artistic expression and banning them is censorship. Do you agree? Why/why not?

I appreciate their perspective but there has to be a line drawn for social standards.

*Could posing like this have potential psychological ramifications for the children? Why/why not?

Some children may develop severe body dysmorphic disorder (rejecting their body because it is not perfect). Some could become narcissistic - "look at me!" An example of how media attention damaged a young person is Drew Barrymore.

*Do you see a link between this example and the general sexualisation of children in advertising and the media?

Is society becoming desensitised to this sort of thing? Yes - it is all about depersonalising children - they just become a body to be displayed and ogled at.

Dr Jan's Gem

My friend, Karen, had a very difficult childhood and top credit to her, is a positive person. She says "Greet each day with shiny, shiny eyes, for there is magic all around - and I do try to do that and to make people feel special".

[Email Dr Jan with any comments about this article](#)

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drjan@drjanethall.com.au

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