

Why Our Family Withdrew from Girl Scouts

Donna Coody Guest Column

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My family was one of the first in the Waco area to object to the Bluebonnet Girl Scout Council co-sponsoring the Planned Parenthood's Nobody's Fool youth conference. My husband Chris and I have read letters to the editor opposing our stance and want to respond.

We understand your position because it was the same of ours-at first. We didn't understand the concern about Girl Scouts and believed Pro-Life Waco was making an unwarranted attack against a fine organization which we strongly supported.

We started our girls in the Girl Scouts and I even became a troop leader. We believed it was a character building organization with a moral foundation that honors God and country. Just read the first sentence of the Girl Scout pledge. If the Girl Scouts supported something enough to co-sponsor it, there couldn't be a problem with it. Right?

To alleviate our concerns we contacted the executive director of the Bluebonnet Girl Scout Council, Beth Vivio. We were told that the **Nobody's Fool** program was supported because it taught the girls to respect themselves and their bodies and that Girl Scouts had thoroughly looked into the program. Her words were good enough for us, or so we thought until we actually saw the book, **It's Perfectly Normal**, that was distributed to the children at **Nobody's Fool**.

I believe many Girl Scout parent would share my concern if they viewed the dozens of nude pictures and read the text of this astounding book. One chapter is devoted to masturbation, ending with the statement "most people start at puberty, but some start sooner." We also read that even babies masturbate.

Another chapter treats straight and homosexual lifestyles. The segment on the straight lifestyle can literally be covered with a postage stamp. The rest of the chapter presents contributions to our society by gay individuals.

I don't want to encourage my daughters to explore homosexual lifestyles. I also don't want to encourage them to, as I believe this book does, become sexually experimental. Certainly not as seventh graders.

By placing the Girl Scout logo on **Nobody's Fool** flyers and ads in the Waco Trib, Girl Scouts puts their seal of approval on this material. That is our objection.

My family has been inundated with positive responses to our position and have learned that troops as near as Hewitt, and as far away as Houston and New York, are joining the effort to restore the Girl Scouts to their place of honor and rid them of the moral decay that seems to have crept into their midst.

Hosea 4:6 says "my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge." Don't let this happen to you or your daughters. Before anybody continues to support Girl Scouts they should look at **It's Perfectly Normal** first hand.