



**The reason people attack
the messenger is
because they cannot
successfully disprove
the message. (DH)**

We are still trying to understand why all the drama when a textile person is confronted with naturism. There are many doctrines within Christianity on which we may not agree 100% on, but those who do not believe the Bible teaches what the other side believes typically ignore most of the teachings they disagree with, with little or no reaction. Not so with naturism. We plan to share a few reasons that we believe seem to explain the over the top reactions. If you are dealing with this now or meet with it in the future, you can treat this as a multiple-choice test and pick the reason you think fits best. You can also choose “all of the above” or “none of the above.” If we missed one that you are aware of, please let us know about it.

Tradition is easy to understand. That is the way we have always done it. That is the way our parents and grandparents did it, so why change now? I don't want to be the one who messes up a family tradition. Things could work out like they did for Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof. This is probably a vial for a less acceptable reason. It depends a little on age. Younger people like assaulting traditions, but older people want their traditions passed on so they feel a need to keep the ones from the past.

Legalism is almost the same as traditions, but the justification is different. This is how we need to do it to please God. If Bible examples and explanations soften their position, then they may just be unfamiliar with naturism and need teaching. If no amount of Bible helps, or it makes matters worse, they are true legalists and need to wear clothing to please their god. You will probably get drama with legalists whenever you make the smallest suggestion that the textile position is wrong. They will also have a tendency to believe that you cannot be right with God and believe something like naturism.

Pride is hard to keep under control, but drama puts a mask on it so it is more difficult for everyone to identify. Opinions are often formed with very little investigation, but once chosen, it is an attack on my person to disagree with them. People will go to far more effort to defend their opinion than they did to form or select it. Pride will prevent admitting that they are in error. If it looks like their side is a little weak, they resort to drama. Like the preacher's notes, "Weak arguments shout." To "save face" they will not see your position no matter how good your reasons are. They will likely see your naturism as a much greater sin than any of the "little sins" that slip into their lives on extremely rare occasions. They are about as likely to change as the legalist.

Some textile people see naturism as a dangerous idea. They are only naked with someone else to engage in intercourse. If someone is naked in mixed company he must be preparing for or having sex. The only thing they can imagine with a mixed group of naked people is an orgy which they think will destroy our civilization. Certainly, something this bad deserves all the drama you can give it. Many times, the naked only for sex programming is so deeply ingrained that they cannot change or will not even consider that the programming may be flawed. Another reason it may be seen as dangerous is; it could cause a weaker brother to stumble. This requires a long explanation to know when it is a problem and when it is not. See our article for 3.11.19 if you need to deal with this one.

One of the traps in Christianity is worship of a belief or creed instead of the God of the belief. As an illustration: you can be healed of any disease if you have enough faith. If God does not heal you, you just did not have enough faith. How then, could the thorn in the flesh of the Apostle Paul be explained? He had faith enough to heal others and it says that he prayed three times to have the thorn removed. God is not restricted to your belief about faith. Job and his friends believed that if you were righteous, God would bless you with possessions and children. Job did not know why he lost everything, but he knew it was not some sin he committed and he was not going to lie to make God look good or to keep the belief alive. His friends could not accept that the belief was wrong so Job must have done some terrible thing to deserve his troubles. Textile believers worship their belief that God wants us to be clothed whenever possible so much so that they do not see the multitude of verses that conflict with their position. Their god is their belief, so you will be viewed as asking them to give up their god if you point out the flaws, therefore lots of drama ensues in order to appease their god.

Textile believers may see us like Korah in **Numbers 16:32-34** **And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation. And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also.,** they need to make haste and get away from us before the earth swallow them up with us. This is an obvious misapplication of the verses since there are commands against what Korah and his group were trying to do and none against naturism, but it illustrates the textile believer's reaction so well we feel it fits.

Fear is another reason for drama. I feel more secure with clothing than I can imagine feeling naked. Naturism is not very widely accepted and I do not want to be that different. What would people think if they knew that I was at a nudist resort? I am too fat to be seen naked... I'm too

skinny... my chest is too small... my chest is too big... I have too many scars... my gut hangs out too far... my breasts sag too much... my breasts stand out too much... I have a small penis... I have a large penis... I'm too short... I'm too tall... I'm too old... I'm too young... I'm not handsome enough... I'm not pretty enough... I'm not tan enough... I'm too dark... I have a disability... We are sure that you would not need to visit many naturists resorts to find people just like you, but having a good time in spite of it. Like clothing hides physical flaws, drama hides fear.

When I was in school there was a theory going around in debate class that if your argument was weak, you needed to resort to name calling or personal attacks. For the sake of this article we are calling this "drama." We are recommending that you not let someone else's drama discourage you from living life as God intended that you live it. Don't you have enough drama in your life already? We have had to separate ourselves from some of the people that were in our lives and the effect has been far less drama and a lot more peace.

We have the very Word of God verifying that naked and unashamed is God's preferred way of life. We recommend not letting tradition, legalism, fear, pride or the god of someone else's opinion create drama in your life. We recommend that you live the way you were born...the way you were created...and the way that you were meant to be, we recommend that you live naked and not ashamed!