

*Lesson 12.*

**Sagging Pants – It's about your mind, stupid!**

*"There are only two races on this planet-the intelligent and the stupid." ~ John Fowles*

*"If we demonstrate an inability to commit the simplest of tasks, like pulling up our pants, then what does that communicate to anyone we run across? What real woman would honestly want a man who can't even pull up his damn pants? ~ David Dixon*

## **THE ERA OF STUPIDITY**

I debated long and hard about putting my thoughts on sagging pants into this book, but my duty as your father and as a man overcame me. The bottom line is this; I don't give a damn if everyone else is "saggin", don't you do it! This is one of the most disturbing things I've seen young and grown men do and they don't even get how pathetically sad it is!

Sagging pants comes from prisons. Sometimes gay guys would use it to advertize their sexual availability. Other times and more common, men would go into prison wearing belts, but the belts would be confiscated to keep them from being used as weapons or as a means to hang either themselves or other inmates. For this reason, either their pants wouldn't stay up without a belt and would sag or inmates would lose weight and their pants would sag. So, they had no choice but to let them. This may be fine in prison, but since when did it become "mainstream" to adopt styles from those who couldn't stay in it?

This is the sign of a fool.

If a man can't pull up his pants, what can he do? Why would any real man want to emasculate himself to this degree? That is what we do as men and young men when we demonstrate to the world an inability to pull up our own pants. It's insulting to others and you'd think it would be insulting to us, as men, to give the impression we can't figure out how to pull up our pants.

## **MALE REGRESSION**

Without stating it, on a deeper level, when we sag our pants; we look like we need help pulling them up. The only thing missing is for us to start walking around with pacifiers in our mouths! Our parents didn't raise us to grow up to be babies or dress like fools!

As a society, what does this say about its expectations of its men? It shows and demonstrates laziness. A society that creates an environment allowing grown men to walk down the street with their damn underwear showing doesn't speak much for hope, strength, or character. But rather, it speaks to a society of indifference, tolerance of foolishness, and disrespect towards its women.

Are these the type of men we want to put faith in to fight for our country? Raise our children? Represent our country at the Olympics? Represent us in court? "Hi your Honor, I'm here to represent David Dixon in his capital murder trial, but I haven't figured out how to pull up my pants." Is this the type of attorney we want to hire to help keep us out of jail or keep us from the death penalty?

Doubtful.

One of the first things we learned as a child was how to get dressed. The only thing we, as teenagers and grown men, exhibit when we sag our pants, is that we are in a state of regression. We represent a new portion of society with a sagging mind; a part of society who "society is okay with" because it has low or no expectations for us. While some of us are focusing on exactly how low our pants can go, the elite of society are focusing their children's attention on how high their grades can be. They are

encouraging their children to focus on how high they can climb the corporate ladder, how big they can grow their own businesses, and how high of a political office they can obtain. Do you see the stark contrast?

### **DRESSING FOR DIS-RESPECT**

Sagging pants goes even deeper. The apparent lack of self-esteem that would allow one to walk around with his pants pulled down, drifts into other areas of our life and our mind. First, it's just the pants, but then, if we don't have our pants pulled up, why bother combing our hair or brushing our teeth? Why look for a job today when we can look for one tomorrow instead? Why not get into a fight, it's not like we're dressed sharp anyway? And what difference does it make? People don't expect anything of us and don't treat us with respect anyway.

Sagging pants is the beginning of a slippery slope that has significant potential to slide entire lives downward. Even if we are at the rock bottom of society; have lost a job, just got out of prison, how does sagging our pants contribute to lifting up our spirit or bettering our current situation? It doesn't. Instead, it negatively impacts our self-perception and worse, others perceptions of us.

Does anyone you know who is trying to climb the ladder of success, sag his pants?

### **CREATING A "VICTIM" MENTALITY**

It shows a sense of immature rebelliousness against social norms for all of the wrong reasons. It's blatantly disrespectful to women and conveys a message of inability in spite of our actual ability.

Have you ever seen a guy or woman who's dressed to the "nines" and then you get up close to them and they don't smell fresh? You were surprised and wonder how that could be, right? How can this person dress so sharp and yet stink? This is what happens with sagging pants but only in the reverse. People see us and wonder what is wrong before they even get to know us for who we truly are.

When a woman looks at us and turns away in disgust, we can label her as "thinking she's too good." In our minds, we can twist things around to tell us that she is the one with the problem. Later on, "she" can become "they", as in all of those women. This can easily translate into "all of those white people" or "all of those black people" or all of those "rich people." Sagging our pants puts us in a position to be on the outside of society, looking at those on the inside with disdain, disrespect, callousness, or even hatred in our eyes. It establishes an opportunity for us to mistakenly take the position that "we're okay and everyone else isn't."