True Womanhood: Patriocentricity

Visionary Daughters

Edited by: Joy Messimer (mrsjoy)
BACKGROUND:
The original discussion regarding what we now define as “Patriocentricity” began on June 11, 2007, by thatmom, Karen Campbell. It started with a simple question: what is this book that claims the definition of “biblical” womanhood? It was perfectly in keeping with many of the discussions that were already happening around the TW blog. No one would have imagined the firestorm to follow. The original thread eventually stretched to 1,000 posts before being moved to a new thread due to downloading issues. At present, there have been thirteen threads specifically regarding patriocentric issues (each totaling some where around 600 comments each) and just as many spin off threads regarding specific issues mentioned in the main threads, including modesty, the education of women, discernment, and other practical aspects of being a woman, wife, and sometimes, mother.

It is True Womanhood’s express position that all view points are welcome. As the purpose of the blog is to discuss what a thinking Christian woman looks like in the 21st Century, we realize that the discussion will only profit if many women from many walks of life can discuss the topics at hand in a place that will not be censored. We have however, blocked posts when they are not related to the topic at hand; when they have devolved into personal attacks; or when malice is clearly sought by the commenter. We have not deleted posts by commenters who have disagreed with the main view point held by the majority. You can read through the many threads where there has been honest, respectful discussion on differing viewpoints. We at True Womanhood endeavor to operate in an atmosphere of grace, understanding, and mercy. Sometimes we get angry, sometimes we are misunderstood, but we never, ever intentionally wish malice or harm to any man or woman that may come our way in the blogosphere. We politely agree to disagree sometimes- and that is possible. As “iron sharpens iron” we seek to be Bereans, and search out the teachings of earthly fallible teachers against the plumb line of the whole and infallible Word of God.

There are many of the faith present here on True Womanhood, from diverse backgrounds such as Roman Catholic, Reformed, Protestant, Orthodox, Anglican - the list goes on and on, and changes by the day. It is to this end that we request commenters to be mindful and respectful of the diversity at hand, and seek not to tear down our brothers and sisters in Christ.

As it has been a common complaint against TW that the threads are large and hard to follow, we have provided an index with links to the pertinent threads; lists of extant articles discussed in each of the threads; a brief outline of each thread’s discussion with related pull quotes that summarize some of the comments and view points; and a list of many of the scripture references that have been considered at various points in the discussion.

The index (and related articles list) is arranged in order of appearance in the discussion, NOT alphabetically.
I. “Visionary” Daughters
Karen’s original question included the statement: “Please watch it and think about the heresy that is being passed off as “biblical womanhood.” This documentary on visionary daughters is frightening on a variety of levels.”

Defining Pull Quote:

“These discussions are critically important because teachings such as this are destroying families in this country. They are robbing families of their joy in Christ, they are robbing individuals of their freedom in Christ, and they literally destroying families. When people start throwing around definitive terms such as “THE biblical model for young women”, you better believe EVERY Christian better sit up, grab their Bible and start evaluating what is being said.”

- Sallie: June 14, 2007

A. Definition of Heresy and False Teaching
- The difference between the two aspects (#3)
- Twisting the definition of sin (#8)
- The Webster’s 1828 Definition (#12)
- The hermeneutical question of culture (normative command v. cultural issue, relative to that time period): this debate/question has continued on through out all of the threads. (#20)
- Fathers/Parents responsible for children’s sin? 603, 604, 615, 620, 621, 625

B. A New Description: Patriocentricity
- Karen introduces the idea/definition of “Patriocentricity” (37, 698, 699, 705, 715, 733, 734)
- Contrasted with the idea of “patriarchy” (588, 600, 605, 673)
- “The idolatrous role of, as some call it ‘prophet, priest, and king’ of the household.” Also, Eternal Subordination of the Son: (187, 188, 193, 194, 197, 261, 262, 609, 677, 717, 884, 890, 891, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 906, 907, 909, 910, 911, 915, 917, 919)

C. The Use of Scripture and the Theology of Patriocentrics
- a common thread woven through out the continuing threads is the difference between exegesis (drawing out the meaning from the text) and eisegesis (the process of interpreting a text so as to introduce one’s own ideas): 37, 95, 157, 202, 204, 239, 515, 516, 518, 519, 520, 522, 557, 558, 590, 601, 607, 611, 614, 615, 616, 629, 718, 719, 720, 738
- the distinct lack of scriptural support for their [the Botkin’s] position is one aspect that has been discussed continually. Numbers 30:16 is used as the primary foundation point of the Botkin teachings. Nikki explains some more of the Scripture references in 593, and attempts to address TW commenter’s major concerns with the Botkin girls. Also, 614.
- Spunky (#41) talks about erroneous use of Scripture in the Botkin’s book, **So Much More.** Also 594, 718.
- Holding the Botkin girls (and by extension, their father, Geoff, Doug Phillips, Scott Brown, and the NCFIC ‘presbytery’) to their own defined standards of “Biblical” governance. See also 210, 338.
- (#55) The definition of ‘kingdom architecture’ according to Scott Brown (NCFIC) and how the Botkin’s are in error of this self stated definition (also, #60 and 61)
- The issue of the Botkin girls teaching parents, with proof from their own website (#62)
- Phil Lancaster, “Multigenerational Vision” (267, 268, 276, 279)
- John MacArthur (See also Gen 3:14 Discussion): 384, 401
- John Piper (See also Gen 3:14 Discussion): 393, 401, 404
- Reconstructionist or Dominionist theology based on the “dominion mandate” (76, 151, 187, 645, 670, 712, 733, 758, 761, 766, 768, 771, 772, 773, 774, 780, 781, 810, 812, 831, 874, 875)
- Postmillenialists who believe in a ‘golden age’ that will precede the second coming of Christ. (76)
- The feminization of the church by female missionaries according to Doug Phillips, and why the Botkin’s view missionaries such as Mary Slessor and Amy Charmicheal with a guarded disdain (77, 643, 777, 827)
- the aspect of Dominionist theology that requires of the believer to apply the Old Testament law to all spheres of life (to the seeming abandonment of the New Testament dictates) (77)
- Botkin girls’ directive that girls not following the ‘biblically mandated visionary daughterhood’ were sinning and in need of repenting of their ‘sin’ (86)

**D. Dissenting opinions:**
- As long as the Botkin’s are operating under their father’s covering/headship, they are perfectly in line with the NCFIC definition.; accusations of feminist elitism and ‘sowing discord among the brethren’ against TW; TW commenters spend too
E. Daughters Staying at Home? What does that look like?

- The Botkin viewpoint (#27) that states that a daughter ought to be helping the father in whatever he may be doing in the home or business. Also: 716.

- **Return of the Daughters**: 466, 467, 468, 657

- The question of the “biblical” label regarding education for women (college v. stay at home study) begins: This is a common discussion throughout all of the threads. (28-38, 168, 205, 207, 209, 215, 262, 510, 511, 744, 748, 752, 854, 871, 881, 886, 887, 892)

  A. **The Monstrous Regiment** (see also Definition of Feminism): 842, 843, 844, 853, 854, 855, 856, 861, 862, 873, 913


- Botkin definition of SAHD leaves little room for daughters whose fathers do not feel as they do; creating anger, confusion, and sometimes arrogance on behalf of the daughter because they feel more ‘spiritual’ than the father who does not believe the NCFIC ‘way’; also, arrogance against a brother (67, 152, 196, 200, 214, 218, 219, 227, 232, 245, 256, 257, 264, 482, 483, 652, 650, 741, 749, 751)

- The impressionability of the Botkin’s targeted age group (13-21) (#66): This is also cited throughout threads as one of the reasons that little credence should be given to such young women’s teaching; as one commenter puts it, it certainly does not fit the Titus 2 model, and the girls were ‘still wet behind the ears’ at the time of the book’s writing. (see also 74, 76, 550, 551, 552, 554, 560)

- A warped misunderstanding of God, fatherhood, marriage, and themselves (68, 84, 89, 91, 94, 163, 244, 455, 457, 458, 459)

F. Testing the Fruits

The question of fruits (as listed in Gal 5:14) is hotly debated through out the threads, and most every comment addresses this indirectly, but some are specific: 114, 179, 180, 184, 363, 477, 478, 481, 490, 494, 525, 526, 527, 535, 541, 542, 543, 553, 564, 574, 580, 581, 582, 647, 687, 721, 770, 776, 778, 828, 829, 830, 840, 850, 859, 866, 870, 876, 877, 882, 997.

Many of the discussions center on what is clearly observable from blog posts or Vision Forum’s website, other watchdog sites, or the authors’ own blogs. These are listed in the extant articles list. Of the many at hand:

A. Dark Underpinnings:
   a. The pre Civil War antebellum connection (169, 269, 780, 787, 791, 807, 812, 830)
   b. Agrarianism (171, 172, 175)
   c. Women’s suffrage (192, 585)
   d. Marxism as an epithet against those who disagree with the NCFIC viewpoint: 224, 225, 642, 649, 688, 707, 708, 709, 750, 824, 835

B. The father-daughter ‘shaving ritual’ at the annual Father/Daughter retreat sponsored by Vision Forum: 117, 119, 121, 145, 158, 678

C. The Elsie Dinsmore books: 140, 144, 146, 149, 164, 201

D. The “Missing” Mothers: 173, 175, 198, 199, 200, 247, 250, 570, 650, 738

E. Division among the church body (See also “anger, confusion, and arrogance under Theology): 186, 228, 234, 236, 239, 242, 275, 297, 298, 300, 302, 306, 309, 310, 311, 599, 618, 882


H. Women and writing: 581, 582, 583, 584, 653

I. Childbirth ?!?!: 914, 916, 918, 920, 921, 922, 924, 925, 926, 927, 929, 930, 932, 934, 935, 936, 938, 939, 940, 941, 945, 991

J. NCFIC connections: So Much More is endorsed by R.C. Sproul Jr., Jennie Chancey, and Stacy McDonald: 90, 845, 851, 853, 861, 862, 873, 950

K. A Maiden of Virtue by Stacy McDonald is also discussed Repeatedly in light of the Botkin writings or extant to them: 239, 245, 248, 252, 253 255, 264, 777, 779, 784, 786, 792
L. **Edifying Discussion:** A common question/debate on TW is whether or not studying and examining theology and doctrine is edifying to the Body of Christ. A fascinating dialogue on this occurs in comments 96-101 with a young 15 year old girl. See also: 107, 123, 291, 293, 295, 393, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 514, 528, 529, 535, 542, 547, 553, 574, 575, 577, 578, 602, 610, 611, 640, 644, 647, 668, 681, 687, 709, 715, 935, 951, 971, 973, 974, 980, 981, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991

M. **The definition of “helpmeet” as used by the Botkins** (102, 469, 470, 471, 472, 511, 593, 596, 623, 624, 627, 628, 630, 631, 632, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 666, 677, 678, 679, 691, 693, 710, 712, 742, 746, 747, 753,

   a. The missing posts/words controversy regarding the Botkins’ definition of helpmeet: 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 668, 672, 676, 678, 679, 683, 685, 689, 695, 696, 700, 701, 703, 709, 710, 724, 731, 742, 950, 974, 976, 977, 978, 980, 981, 982

N. **The question of logic in So Much More:** considerations of the logical fallacies, hasty generalizations, and weak arguments present: 102, 142, 616, 646, 676, 688, 693, 695, 702, 718

O. **The courtship model** (as subscribed to by NCFIC followers) is discussed throughout. It begins with comment 127: 129, 132, 473

P. **Titus 2**- probably one of the most discussed topics on TW, and in the case of the original Visionary Daughters thread, what Titus 2 says; how the Botkins/NCFIC view it; and what it means for younger and older women in the modern world: 136, 138, 153, 156, 160, 560, 629, 650, 668, 671, 674.


G. **Testimonies of Women /Daughters**

   * Lauren (#80) submits her testimony about coming out of the Botkin/NCFIC teachings
   * C.A. Worchester (#135) is Lauren’s mother; she shares her hindsight perspective of the damage the NCFIC teaching wrought on her family.
   * Rebecca shares her testimony about how her and her parent’s Viewpoint on “biblical daughterhood” has changed (#82)
*Amy (Rebecca’s sister) shares her viewpoint on both Rebecca’s Position and her own (being four years younger, but married with four children) (128)
*Kristi shares the need to trust in the Lord and not obsess about marriage and motherhood (93)
*Emily discusses how college (per her father’s instruction) stretched and strengthened her faith (286)
*Jenny (431) Speaks of coming out of the ‘fog’ of Patriocentricity after reading the first part of the visionary daughter’s thread.
*Kim (461) talks for a brief moment how her daughters don’t fit the paradigm set forth by the Botkins.
*Deb (464) talks about reading the Scripture with no outside influences and how that has changed her perspective.
*Natalie (511) gives a beautiful synopsis of helpmate and mother in a gracious and encouraging way.
*Ruthie (763) talks about her experience as a young college girl involved in a patriarchal group, and how it attracted her because “everything in this chaotic world would fit together if only I prayed and did the right things.”
*Denise (865) talks about her daughter’s reaction to So Much More and the problem of the “one size fits all” patriocentric approach.
*Lady Helen” (867) talks about how So Much More was “400 pages of rubbing salt in my wounds.”

H. Testimonies of Men

*David regarding what he looked for, prayed for in a wife in contrast to the NCFIC dictated model of ‘biblical’ womanhood and/or daughterhood (120)

**Visionary Daughters Extant Articles:**
This is as close to a comprehensive listing as possible of all articles, blog postings, and books discussed during the Visionary Daughters Thread 1 discussion. True Womanhood, and its associates cannot be held responsible for the content of the articles listed herein. The articles are listed in order of appearance.


"Heresy." Webster's 1828 Dictionary. 1828.


Western Conservatory for the Arts. 13 June 2007 http://www.westernconservatory.org/


http://www.visionforumministries.org/issues/family/biblical_patriarchy_and_the_do.aspx

http://visionarydaughters.com/2006/10/what-about-mom

http://visionarydaughters.com/2006/10/whats-a-single-woman-to-do

http://www.visionforumministries.org/issues/education/the_dorm_key_ritual.aspx

http://www.monstrousregiment.com/

http://www.visionforumministries.org/issues/family/my_fathers_daughter.aspx

http://www.visionforumministries.org/issues/family/called_to_the_home_called_to_r.aspx

http://www.visionforumministries.org/issues/family/thoughts_regarding_the_fatherd.aspx

http://www.visionforumministries.org/issues/family/a_special_word_for_proverbs_31.aspx


Lancaster, Phillip. “Multi-Generational Vision” (On defunct Patriarchs Path website)
http://adventuresinmercy.wordpress.com/2006/12/08/jesuswomen-equal-worth-unequal-role/  
http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Sermons/ByScripture/12/680_Manhood_and_Womanhood_Conflict_and_Confusion_After_the_Fall/  
Molleth mentions a host of quotes impossible to cite, as they are included in other works: See Comments 402-406.  
James, Carolyn Justice. When Life and Beliefs Collide. Zondervan, November 2002.  
Boerne Christian Assembly. 11 September 2007.  
http://www.boernechristianassembly.org/


http://restoringtheyears.blogspot.com/2007/06/and-so-we-must-take-road-more-traveled.html


http://www.biblebelievers.net/Cults/Mormonism/WomenofMormonism/kjcwoma.htm


http://familyreformation.wordpress.com/2007/10/02/the-blessing-of-daughters/


http://visionarydaughters.com/2007/03/answering-the-question


Sandlin, Andrew. “Hegemonic Patriarchy”. 05 October 2007. Defunct link: 
http://www.undermuchgrace.com/view/?pageID=340958


Biblical Discernment Ministries. 08 October 2007. 
http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/Psychology/cor/notes_on.htm

“Dominion Theology/Kingdom Now/Reconstructionism: Blessing or Curse?” January 
http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/Psychology/cor/dominion.htm

http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/Psychology/cor/general.htm


Nightingale, Florence. Letter to Mr. Burton. August 30, 1897. Available online: 
http://clendening.kumc.edu/dc/fn/6burton1.html


“Better Bratz than Boyz (or Why This Feminist Mother Decided to Allow America’s Sluttiest Dolls into Her Home).” 06 February 2006. Homesick Home. 13 October 2007. http://thehomesickhome.blogspot.com/2006/02/better-bratz-than-boyz-or-why-this.html


Blogs that Linked to Visionary Daughters, Thread 1:

A Gracious Home
http://agracioushome.com/?p=1048
http://agracioushome.com/?p=1051

thatmom

Our Faith and Hope

Adventures In Mercy

Unpacking the Bible
http://unpackingthebible.wordpress.com/2008/03/02/women-in-the-scriptures/