[Twerking For a Ring](https://www.facebook.com/notes/lanre-%E3%83%9E%E3%83%AA-%E3%82%AF/twerking-for-a-ring/10151982105466871)

Although the world is up in arms about…well EVERYTHING, I’m more fascinated with this new epidemic cruising the strip club for a potential life mate. Please keep in mind, I’m not judging, I’m just not understanding.

A little background for those who don’t know, a stripper is an erotic dancer who performs in gentleman clubs who make their revenue by removing their clothes for $1 bills and occasional a private dance that goes roughly $20 a song. In some markets across the nation, they can make up to 35-100k a year doing this.

The classic story is, a woman would use this money to pay for college tuition. I’m a firm believer in do what you have to do to get where you want to get, but this begs the questions, is information about resources not being distributed evenly? There are a number of grants, scholarships, loan programs and work study opportunity for all, but especially women (as they are covered by the EEOC as a “minority”). Why are they not taking advantage of these opportunities? But, I digress.

Pole dancing is considered a sport in certain countries as it utilized acrobatic behaviors of a gymnast on a balance beam, or double bars, which could be appreciated by almost anyone based on athleticism alone. The eroticism of the profession comes from intimate private dances, as well as their proactive gyrations aka twerking. Within the profession, it makes sense to practice and master these techniques as it equates to your earnings, but as a casual day to day person is where I become confused.

Within the confines of the hip hop culture, this form of dancing has been highly publicized over the past number of years (thank you Miley). The idea behind this is similar to a mating dance I guess you would say i.e “this is what you do to attract men.”  But let’s go a step further, if you are presenting yourself in the fashion of an erotic dancer “to feel sexy”, you are going to attract men who frequent these establishments.  More importantly, these men, seeing these moves, will more than likely respond to you as they do women who work in these establishments. Are these the men you want to attract? Men, is this who you want your children to idolize as a parent? Even if you have no aspirations of children, actions speak louder than words, and our actions are saying “this erotic dancer is the ideal woman for men.” If this is true, what is this saying of our standards but more importantly how does it affect the other 75-80% of women who may not feel comfortable portraying this role? Do they deserve a life of solitude for saying “I don’t want to do this?” Do they deserve to feel less attractive?

Now I know one could say “It’s all in a fun and nobody gets hurt.” True, physically, in most cases, but your reputation sure takes a beating and a reputation is key in life. This determines what people expect of you, and although you should judge yourself on your own merit, luck and opportunity favor the prepared.  In case you missed the memo, we now live in a world of transparency, and video taping EVERYTHING (WORLDSTAR). If you think it’s not on video/internet, trust me…it is (WORLDSTAR). Someone has it somewhere, and yes it’s of YOU! (WORLDSTAR) The danger in this is, you don’t know who this person who has this footage is…but more importantly, who this person will become, could be someone important, or knows someone important (WORLDSTAR).

Everything is all good in fun, but with every action there are consequences, and I feel as a society, we sometimes forget that. Every generation pushes the envelope further than its predecessor, but when and where do we draw the line? Is this the direction we want to go? Is this what we want for our youth? More importantly, is this all our youth feel they can become?

#needanswers #helpmeunderstand