

Too Hot to Handle

By Reg P. Wydeven
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A few weeks ago, I wrote about a woman who sued her former employer, claiming she was fired for being too sexy. Apparently, excessive sexiness is becoming an epidemic. As far as epidemics go, I certainly prefer this one to H1N1.

First, the most innocent street in the world has been invaded by sexiness. Pop star sensation Katy Perry appeared on 'Sesame Street' and sang a duet with Elmo based on her hit song 'Hot N Cold.' The clip aired on YouTube, and while Elmo was purportedly tickled to work with Perry, parents were outraged at her revealing outfit.

Thousands of upset parents complained to the show that Perry's top showed way too much cleavage. They claimed the show was inappropriate for its toddler audience, and should have been brought to them by the letter 'R' (or at least 'PG-13').

In response, Sesame Workshop released a statement indicating the show "has a long history of working with celebrities across all genres, including athletes, actors, musicians and artists. Sesame Street has always been written on two levels, for the child and adult."

The show uses celebrities to attract adults "because we know that a child learns best when co-viewing with a parent or care-giver." The statement went on to say that, "We also value our viewer's opinions and particularly those of parents." Accordingly, in light of this feedback, Sesame Street will not broadcast the segment, which was set to air in January.

While it's probably not a good idea to dress too sexy for a show aimed at preschoolers, it's a worse idea to dress too sexy and visit the locker room of a professional football team.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell intends to implement a training program for all 32 teams to teach players and coaches proper conduct in the workplace. This program is the result of Mexican TV Azteca reporter Ines Sainz feeling "very uncomfortable" in the New York Jets' locker room after receiving catcalls while trying to interview quarterback Mark Sanchez, who is of Mexican descent.

The NFL investigated the incident by interviewing 17 people who were present, including Sainz. Goodell wrote a letter to Jets owner, Woody Johnson, stating that while "there seems little doubt that passes were thrown in Sainz's direction at last Saturday's practice, it is also clear that she was never bumped, touched, brushed against, or otherwise subjected to any physical contact by any player or coach. Sainz herself was unequivocal in saying both that no physical contact occurred, and that no player or other Jets staff member made any comment or gesture that could be construed as threatening, demeaning or offensive."

Still, Goodell wrote the Jets' behavior "could have been better," and, therefore, introduced the training program concept, which will be underwritten by Johnson.

If recent rumors are true, this won't be the only incident concerning the Jets. The NFL is also investigating allegations that Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre sent racy messages and photographs to Jenn Sterger, an employee of the Jets, when he played for the team two seasons ago. The Jets are working closely with the league in the investigation.

While Favre's commercials claim nothing beats Wrangler comfort, Sterger was also purportedly very uncomfortable when Favre allegedly sent her pictures of what's in his jeans.

So there's too much sexiness on Sesame Street and with the New York Jets. As a Packer fan, I hope everything stays 'G-rated' in Mr. Rodgers' neighborhood.

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