
John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

10-31-1963

To: J.C. Thompson

John Allen Chalk

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October 31, 1963

Mr. J. C. Thompson
Route 1
Baxter, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Thompson:

As a concerned citizen, I have been greatly concerned about the unusual number of purely social functions being conducted by our public schools at the waste of time, energy of teachers, and tax money. As a Minister of the Gospel, I have been troubled about the nature of many of the social activities sponsored by our schools. Especially has this concern been directed at the dances that are held so frequently.

Contrary to what many good citizens may believe, it is my firm conviction that dancing is emotionally, spiritually, and morally harmful. Young people are encouraged to hold each other in embraces for which they are prepared only in the physical sense. This personal conviction is further bolstered by the awareness, evidently unnoticed by many, that dancing is not the only possible form of social activity for our youth.

It is because of these attitudes that I am enclosing a copy of the October 24, 1963, Gospel Advocate, which carries as its lead story what the Shelby County, Tennessee, school board has done about this problem. Will you please take the time to read and consider this action by one of your "sister" school boards. Thank you for giving me this much of your heavy schedule and limited time.

Sincerely,

John Allen Chalk

sw Mr. W. Clyde McAlpin, Algood High School, Algood, Tennessee
copy Mr. Eddie Watson, Superintendent of Schools, Cookeville, Tenn.
Mr. J. C. Thompson, Route 1, Baxter, Tennessee
Mr. Hulon Ferrell, Route 1, Baxter, Tennessee
Mrs. Don Keller, Route 4, Cookeville, Tennessee
Mr. J. N. McCloud, Route 5, Cookeville, Tennessee
Mr. Hubert A. Slagle, 305 E. 14th Street, Cookeville, Tenn.
Mr. E. E. Maxwell, Algood, Tennessee
Mr. William Taylor Stout, Route 2, Cookeville, Tennessee
Mr. Milton Nixon, Monterey High School, Monterey, Tennessee.
Mr. Arnold Brown, Baxter High School, Baxter, Tennessee
Mr. Lester King, Central High School, Cookeville, Tennessee