

## Point of Contrast #18

# INFLUENCE

Your impact on others & their impact on you

Girl-Gone-Wild

Positive Influence

“She persuades him. . . she compels him. All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter. . . he does not know that it will cost him his life.”  
Proverbs 7:21–23

Girl-Gone-Wise

Negative Influence

“Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.”  
Proverbs 13:20

*In the “Girls Gone Wise” book, read the eighteenth point of contrast between the Wild Thing and the Wise Thing (pages 227-235), and then answer the following questions:*

1. In your own words, define “influence.”
2. Do you agree that “bad company ruins good morals” ? Why or why not?
3. Describe a time when you watched a friend get messed up due to associating with bad company.

4. What are some common reasons or rationalizations for getting involved with a person who could potentially be a bad influence? Have you ever used any of these reasons/rationalizations?
  
5. God commanded the Israelites to put to death people who were bad influences (see page 229). Why do you think He wanted them to deal with this sin so severely?
  
6. Who has the potential to exert the most powerful negative influence over a believer? Why is this the case?
  
7. How can you tell if a guy and girl are exerting a negative influence on one another?
  
8. How can you tell if a guy and girl are exerting a positive influence on one another?
  
9. How can you exert a good influence without nagging, manipulating, or controlling?
  
10. There's a saying: "Tell me your friends, and I'll tell you who you are." What does the behavior and character of your friends say about you?
  
11. Do you need to make some adjustments in the company you keep? Why or why not?