

“Oh Be Careful, Little Ears”

by Wayne Goff

Much of the popular music you can hear today is full of messages advocating illicit sex, drugs, sexual violence, false religions, satanical worship and even suicide. Lyrics from some rap songs encourage gang rape of underage girls, for example. Rock and rap music, especially, is something parents need to be careful about with their children.

The *late* Jimi Hendrix, famous and influential electric guitarist of the '60's once stated:

“Atmospheres are going to come through music, because music is a spiritual thing of its own. You can hypnotize people with music, and when you get people at the weakest point, you can preach to them into the subconscious what we want to say” [*Life Magazine*, 10/3/69].

Jim Hendrix has been hailed as “arguably the greatest instrumentalist in the history of rock music” [*Rock & Roll Hall of Fame*], even though his career only spanned four years and he died from an accidental drug overdose at the age of 27. His music is easily accessible today and is heard by millions. But what he said about music is true of *all kinds* of music, and God knew it all along when He made the singing of *psalms, hymns and spiritual songs* part of our worship in the church. It **is** a spiritual thing, you **can** influence people with it, and it **preaches** a message subconsciously to us. That did not begin nor end with Jimi Hendrix. How wonderfully spiritual music can influence our minds and hearts! But how powerful an influence for evil it can be.

So parents, remember the little ditty that we sang as children – “Oh, be careful little ears, what you hear!”? It still rings true today. Be careful what **you** hear, especially in music, and be careful what you allow **your children** to hear as well. Monitoring music is nearly an impossible task today with the widespread proliferation of music stations, iPods, etc., but godly parents must try their best in a musical world that cares nothing for your children except to get to their dollars!

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