

Public School Dress Code Policies: Who are they for?

Community Presentation – SD61 Board of Trustees
June 20, 2016

DRESS CODE

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Greater
VICTORIA
School District

Dress Code

Clothing should be appropriate for a school focus on learning (rather than a social occasion like a beach party).

Specifically:

- Shirts must cover straps and chest
- Shorts, skirts and dresses must cover mid-thigh or more
- No underwear should be visible
- No midriffs should be visible at front or back; tops (shirt, etc.) and bottoms (pants, shorts, skirts) must meet
- Hats can be worn outside during breaks, but must be removed when inside
- Clothing should not advertise/promote products that are inappropriate at school

Clothing that is inappropriate or offensive will not be accepted in our school. Students will be asked to change clothes and/or parents will be contacted.

“The idea that a visible bra strap or a pair of leggings will prevent a teen boy from learning is absurd to me. And I should know, **I’m a teen boy!** It suggests that a school’s **priority is to create an ideal learning environment for males**, while ignoring factors that may help females learn”

– 16 yr. old male student

The worst part is by calling a girl's clothing "distracting," you imply that she is responsible for any disruptions. That's like saying that because a store has a cash register, it's the store's fault if it gets robbed!So stop and ask yourself which is more distracting: a girl's outfit, or a rule that makes her uncomfortable at school?"

– 16 year old high school senior

What message are we sending?

Impacts of Dress Code Policies

The background of the slide is a photograph of a wooden desk. On the desk, there are several stacks of papers, some of which appear to be forms or documents. A blue pen is visible in the upper left corner. The overall scene suggests a school or office environment.

“Sometimes female teachers are the worst. It’s like they feel disgusted in you, like, you let them down”

– Mt. Douglas Student

“I was told to go to the bathroom and tape my bra strap to my shirt, because it was falling down”

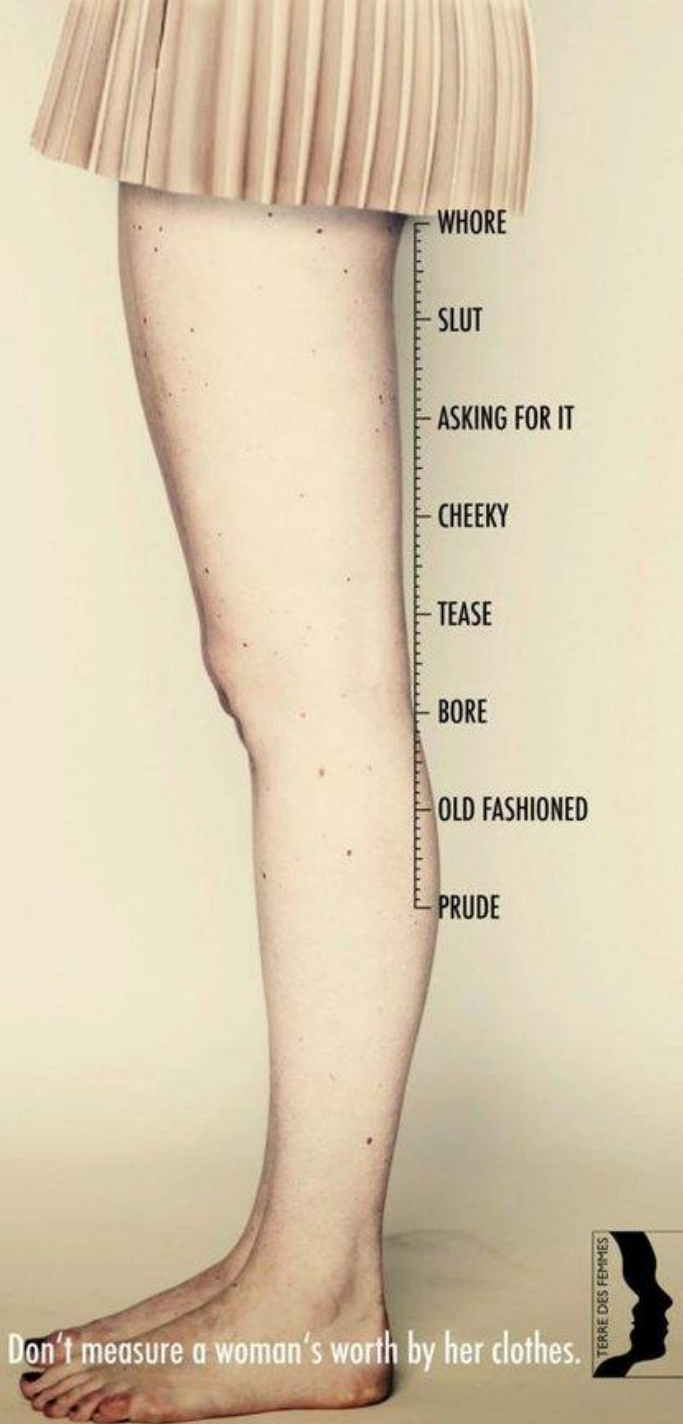
– Central Middle School

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“Hopefully, the board will see that we aren't blindly rebelling, but simply advocating for our rights.”

STUDENT AT BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA





“Distracting to the boys and male teachers”

“Unprofessional”

“Too mature”

“No one wants to see that”

“Please go pull up your bra straps”



Next Steps

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