

CONCEPT OF CLOTHING AND DRESSING SENSE AMONG ADOLESCENTS UNDER CHANGING SCENARIO

ABHA SINGH¹

¹DEPTT OF EDUCATION CMP DEGREE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD,U.P.,INDIA

ABSTRACT

Clothing is worn satisfy the contradictory need for modesty the desire for attention and, protection. Clothing and dressing sense is very important to shape one's personality perfect clothing and dressing develops self respect self esteem and self acceptance in a person. Adolescent is the transitional stage between childhood and adulthood. Adolescents develops self identify and their focus shifts for self improvement.

KEYWORDS: *Clothing, Dressings, Adult, Globalization*

“The finest clothing made is a person's skin, but of course, society demands, something more than this” Mark Twain. Clothing is worn to satisfy the contradictory need for modesty the desire for attention and protection. We wear clothing for protection, utility and status. A person is normally judged by the clothing he or she wears. Clothing enhance the appearance of a for person. A good appearance is importance for everyone but adolescents are more conscious for their clothing and dressing. Clothing has its own non verbal communication language. Clothing reflects and expresses one's personality. Clothing and dressing sense is very important to shape one's personality. Perfect clothing and dressing develops self respect, self esteem and self acceptance in a person.

CONCEPT OF CLOTHING AND DRESSING SENSE IN PRESENT SCENARIO

Appearance matters a lot for everyone not only for adolescents. In present society clothing, dressing and appearance matters a lot., It reflects one's personality as well as occasion and one's profession too clothing and dressing reflects tradition and one's culture also. A good

dressing sense can do magic. That's why Honore de Blazac said carelessness in dressing is moral suicide. At first sight a person is judged by his clothing and dressing.

ADOLSESCENTS AND DRESSING SENSE

Adolescents is the transitional stage between childhood and adulthood. Adolescence is very delicate and crucial period in one's life because in this time adolescents undergo or suffers from various mental and physical changes. It arouses many internal conflicts. Adolescence period is not only challenging for adolescent themselves but very challenging period for parents too. Parents have to maintain a equilibrium between adolescents mood, demands, behavioral changes and rightness.

Adolescents period is divided into three stage early state (12-14 yrs) middle state (14-17 yrs) and late stage (17-19 yrs). As they grow from early stage to late stage they become more conscious about their appearance. They develops self identity and their focus shifts for self improvement. The sudden and rapid physical and mental change make them very self conscious

and sensitive about their dressing and clothing they resembles themselves with hero/heroines.

FACTOR AFFECTING CLOTHING AND DRESSING SENSE

In the age of globalization many factors affects clothing and dressing sense of adolescents.

MOST INFLUENCING ARE

Different Cultures

1. Rural
2. Urban
3. Metro Cities
 - Social media and Internet
 - Magazine and books
 - Identify themselves with film and T.V actor/actress as a role models
 - Social status and prestige.
 - Family values and social acceptance.

A GOOD DRESSING SENSE IS

A good dressing sense is cloth and dresses according to

1. Occasion
2. Weather
3. Profession
4. Time
5. Place (School, Office, Market etc)
6. Area (Rural/Urban/Metro)

INCIDENTS FROM INDIAN SOCIETY

Current Situation in India

- There has been a rampant increase in the number of rape case throughout India. Eve teasing and molestation have become common occurrence. Rape cases increase by 873% from 1971 when the oldest case of rape was first recorded by NCRB. (Flugel J.e., 1930)

- We have such an ugly statistic in spite of fact that the most of the cases of rape go unnoticed due to the social stigma attached to it. (Pandey, Oct 2010)
- The increasing rape statistics has also raised a topic for debate. Are women to be blamed for wearing provocative clothes?
- 2007 incident when a girl was openly raped on New Year's Eve near the Gateway of India. (Pratibha, 2007)
- Recent incident in Guwahati where a girl was publicly molested in busy place in the city by a mb of around 30 people at around 9:30 pm. The mob of people continued this act for about 30 minutes. (Mahila Kalyan evam Sashaktikaran, 2013)
- In both the above instances and many more which go unreported we may witness that the girl who are publicly harassed are usually dressed up in short clothes and what is termed as provocative. In the light of recent events and the increasing number of such cases, it is pertinent to discuss whether the dressing sense of a woman makes her more vulnerable towards these crimes.

WHAT ARE PROVOCATIVE CLOTHES

- Moreover, there are no definite parameters as to what is 'provocative' and what is 'appropriate' they still continue to generic terms. However, different groups and communities have given different definition of what is 'appropriate' and what is not.
- In Mizoram Schools in 2010 short skirts (ones that don't start at navel and end below the knee) were banned to promote decency and discipline by the government
- Kashmir by Jamiat-e-Islami (2012) liberty and freedom Aimed mainly at tourist, the party intended that "some

tourists, mostly foreigners, are seen in mini skirts and other objectionable dresses that are against our ethos and culture, and unacceptable to civil society. Kashmiris cannot, for the sake of their economy, give up their divine sic values at any cost.” Fortunately, the tourism department ingored the groups please.

- The issue is not only restricted to skirts and revealing clothing but even jeans and t-shirts have been considered provocative.
- In 2011, a khap panchayat in UP’s Shoram village blamed ‘jeans’ for provoking eve teasing and encouraging young couples to elope.
- In 2012, Women and Child Department (WCD), Haryana branded jeans and T-shirts as ‘indecent’. The circular sent out to employees asked women to wear a sari or a salwar Kaameez and stay indecent western dress.
- It may be concluded here that not only revealing clothes but all western clothing has come into dispute.

SOME STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBLE

- In the words of Karnataka’s women & child welfare minister C.C. Patil “women shold know how much skin they should cover”. He stated that incidents like rape and sexual harassment can be attributed to the decline in moral values in men indirectly caused by women dressing “provocatively.”
- Dinesh Reddy, The DGP of Andhra Pradesh made a statement which was widely televised statement were he balamed the rise in rape cases on women wearing ‘fashionable’ clothes. He said the police could be nothing to deter rapists, as long as women ‘provoked’ men by wearing ‘fashionable’ clothing

- “Eve teasing is very old concept. The reason behind its increase is short dresses worn by women. This in turn instigates men.” Was what the Trinamool Congress MP, Chiranjit Chakrobaorty had to say.
- ‘Ladkiyan Der Ratt akele Ghar Se Bhar Na Nikle ‘Delhi’ etc.
- Chief Minister Sheela Dixit
- Surprisingly all these and more comments came from the people who are responsible to protect and serve our nation. Instead of condemning those who commit such heinous offences people are raising fingers at the women who become the victim of such crimes.

SOME PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

Effective communication with adolescents.

- Building healthy social skills in adolescents.
- Healthy parent adolescent relationship development.
- Denying women the right to dressing is a sexist approach and should be strictly dealt with by more stringent legislation.
- Dressing with care is very important. We can’t change mentality of whole Society over night.
- Copying or follow the trend of fashion is not correct. So wear which makes you comfortable, powerful, and proud and reflects truly yourself.
- Clothes will say a lot about you, about your lifestyle and personality so choose intelligently, wear confidently and look graceful.

CONCLUSION

It has been 65 years since we gained independence and it is a shame that we still having this discussion. No doubt women should feel free to choose what they wear. The constitution of India guarantees every citizen the freedom of expression under Article 19 and the Right to Personal libery under Article 21. Both these articles in its most stringent interpretation

would encapsulate a right to person to choose his/her clothing. Denying women the right to dressing is a sexist approach and should be strictly dealt with by more stringent legislation.

REFERENCE

(2012, August 15). *India Today* , p. 58.

Flugel J.e. (1930). '*The Psychology of clothes*'. , London, .

Mahila Kalyan evam Sashaktikaran. (2013, Sep). *Chanakya* .

Pandey, G. C. (Oct 2010). 'Mahila Aarakshan' . *Pratiyogita Darpan* .

Pratibha, P. (2007). Bhartiya Stri Dasha evam Disha. *Yojna* .