

I still have a few of my dolls. In addition to their physical features, their dress also describes the mindset

of the day.



Yes, they were all dressed as brides.

I had baby dolls too (Tiny Tears and Betsy Wetsy), but they didn't survive the years.

There was one other career path open to girls in Brooklyn in the 1950s At least the Catholic ones.



Edit:

I should point out that my doll experiences predated Barbie which was introduced in 1959. Although she was blonde and blue eyed too, at least I never had to deal with a doll with a physically impossible figure. None of my dolls had boobs.

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3008 days ago

Comment edited on: 3/20/2013 10:24:34 AM



DR1939

My blond, blue-eyed daughter asked for and received a black doll (she's 48 now). It's the only doll she still has.

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The US is not the only country where this is prevalent. When we were in Hyderabad, India, about 8 years ago the blowup manikins that hung outside the shops were all blue-eyed blondes. Hyderabad is in the south of India where most people are very dark (as well as very attractive). I am blond and blue-eyed. One weekend our group of college professors and Indian hosts were out in the countryside at India's largest dam. One other woman was blond as well as much younger than me. The two of us drew the most attention of our group. Our group were the only non-Indians in the huge holiday crowds. My guide kept telling me they were talking about me.

When we were in Delhi where whites, or as one of my black students used to say "pinks," were more common, we did not draw so much attention. 3008 days ago



CD12494098

Great heart felt blog with wonderful heart and hits the heart strings. You are so right... I understand completely what it feels like ... the world is a bit more accepting of diversity today, but still not totally embracing the beauty of it. 3009 days ago



SOPHIEDO13

I was given one Barbie it had brunette hair around 1969 I wanted the blond since that is all you'd see my Mother wouldn't have any part of that, but it didn't make it LOL now I collect dolls and they are brown haired brown eyed except for 1 that I found that looks like my costa rican DIL olive skin and curly black hair DIL doesn't like dolls but I thought it was an ingenius find from

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Precious Moments	, so it's a keeper !!	$\mathbf{\nabla}$	$\mathbf{\nabla}$

P.S. after reading the comments I guess I had a knock off Barbie since they were all blonde back then, and I had a Brunette doll ... Who knew ??? My Mother Did !! 3009 days ago

Comment edited on: 3/19/2013 4:06:46 AM



CELIAMINER

My Barbie was a brunette (1960-ish), but she did have the blue eyes. Loved Watermellen's comment about how so many of the "stars" look alike. I honestly can't keep them straight. 3009 days ago



MERRYMARY42

good blog, enjoyed it, me, brown eyed and darker hair, was never envious of anything except curly hair 3009 days ago

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WATERMELLEN

What worries me is the swing back to the norm of the blue eyed blonde -- how many Hollywood actresses post Botox and surgery in their size 0s look pretty much identical??

3009	days	ago
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CD13227574

I had a "Tammy" doll and my mother made clothes for it for me. I don't know if I still have that doll any longer, I wonder what she might be worth if I did? 3010 days ago



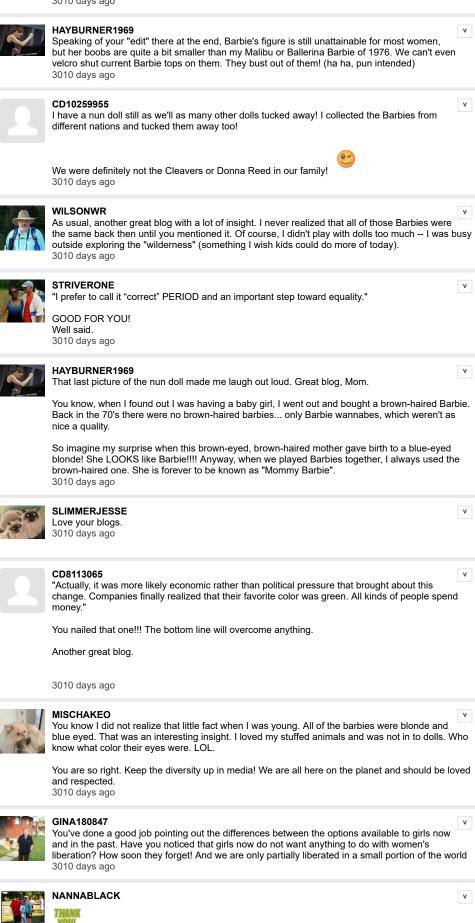
CD8467616

A nun doll -- who knew? Not this Jewish girl. I still have my Alice in Wonderland doll - blonde & blue-eyed. When I was small I loved my storybook dolls - remember them?

This reminds me, though, of the movie stars and singers I watched when I was young, who made me very uncomfortable and I didn't know why. Doris Day, Peggy Lee (not a good example), Rosemary Clooney (who I came to love later) -- all blonde, blue-eyed, wearing tight clothes. In retrospect, I think it was about the virginal yet sexual way they were presented and how blonde and blue-eyed was considered the most desirable.

When my own kid was little I wouldn't allow Barbies in the house (now modified for my littlest grand-daughter) and she had an African-American doll whom she named "Joan" after Joan Baez. :)

Have you seen the American Girl dolls of today? Expensive but quite wonderful in their multiculturalism. 3010 days ago



3010 days ago	
CD12747803 Thanks for your blog. I had all of those dolls, toobrought back some fond memories. 3010 days ago	
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