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“Until now I did not know why your husband chose you”

Monday, May 18, 2015

This is a sequel to my last blog where I wondered if my personal preferences give the wrong impression.

Thinking about it more, I thought I'd share the above actual comment to me several years ago.

I wasn't offended because:

The speaker was from a culture VERY different from mine and English was not her first language. In addition, she was actually trying to be helpful.

She continued:

“You have a nice shape. You have a waist and nice legs. Why do you not show them?”

Actually, on that particular day I was “showing them.” That's why she was surprised. We were at a retirement dinner at a fancy restaurant. This was one of those occasions where I was wearing a dress. Yet her impression was that I couldn't be attractive to a man in my normal style of dress or perhaps I was hiding under my regular loose fitting clothes.

Today I'm thinking about what we choose and why and the difference between genders.

When dressing for a fancy occasion men add clothes – dress shirts, jackets and ties, sometimes even a tux. Not so for the women. That must make it hard to set a comfortable room temperature. Someone will be sweating or freezing.

I was watching “Say Yes to the Dress.” Is every wedding gown today strapless? Or is that something just popular on TV? Do brides have choices? Do women have choices? Really?

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KANSASROSE67

Interesting blog, as always.



I know what you mean about the strapless trend. There are VERY few women who are flattered by them, in my opinion. And those who wear them are either hanging out of them or tugging them up all the time...not an attractive look!

I keep hoping the style will be have changed by the time my daughter gets married.
2207 days ago



GARDENCHRIS

interesting..... i do not let other people define who I am.... I get to decide that! No one else.
2213 days ago



SWEETNEEY

I envy men because they can exercise shirtless while we have to wear those dreaded bras.
2213 days ago



LIVEDAILY

Ah, memories....When I went shopping for a wedding dress for myself, I knew I wanted something different. I was going to be married outside, at my parent's farm, I knew I wanted something comfortable and different. I bought an outfit at a lovely woman's boutique in NYC. It was a 2 piece outfit, tea length skirt, top had 3 quarter sleeves. The whole thing was pale pink silk, hand beaded with seed pearls and bangle beads for a soft shimmery effect. I loved that outfit! Very different, not your traditional dress at all. It didn't take me long to find it. All I had to do was think outside the box!
2214 days ago



GINIEMIE

I detest strapless wedding dress. I don't see many brides who look good in them and it is disconcerting to see people hiking up their strapless dresses-bridal or otherwise. I like wearing dresses to church and to social functions-long dresses and skirts have always been a favorite of mine. In Ohio, I would make my long A-line skirts and as I walked to church I would wear long johns and knee socks underneath. I looked nice, was appropriately dressed and was warm to boot. You know, I do feel for men, they do suffer for dressy functions.
BTW I think your husband chose you for another reason, but interesting that the lady felt free to



make the comment.



2214 days ago



BBEAGAN

I've always thought that too! You see men and women together at a fancy event, the men in layers or buttoned up short, tie and suit jacket, the women in sleeveless, strapless, as-little-cloth-as-possible dresses! Who decides what temperature to set the room at?



2215 days ago



MISCHAKEO

I have noticed that wedding and prom dresses are strapless as well. Times have changed. It does seem like in Europe women wear dresses more as a norm. Interesting blog. I rarely wear dresses,



2215 days ago



DOVESEYES

I agree I like wedding dresses with straps, it's not great to be 'hoiking' the dress up all the time, takes away a little of the glamour.
2215 days ago



WALLAHALLA

I like loose baggy clothing because it is comfortable and not restrictive. I only wear make-up to work, because it is expected. My hubby has never really noticed what I wear, so I never had to worry about dressing to please him. I remember hearing a man say that "a hidden curve is far more seductive" when I was a child. That always stuck with me and I never felt the need to bare my skin unless I was incredibly hot.
2215 days ago



ALICIA363

Enjoying your recent blogs. I was a rare makeup wearer until my face aged to the point where I felt I needed it to continue to look like a valuable employee.
2215 days ago



WATERMELLEN

Very interesting for sure!!



I'm betting that your husband was well aware of your nice shape!! And still is!!

And I'm betting that there are a whole lotta other fine qualities about you that were (and are) equally important!!

2215 days ago



PHEBESS

LOL - I've always been curious about our standards of "dressed up" clothing! And yes, fancy clothes for women seem to be getting more and more bare.



On the other hand, there's a difference between relatively loose comfortable clothing and comfortable clothing that fits properly. When I lost my first 45 lbs, some people saw the difference even while I wore my old clothes that were too big. When I finally bought smaller clothing that fit, then everyone could see how much I had lost.

So maybe your regular clothes are a little too loose?
2215 days ago



PHOENIX1949

Sad that physical appearance seems to be in higher esteem than intellect, kindness, reliability, empathy, etc., etc.
2215 days ago



SLIMMERJESSE

In this society, objectifying yourself (show as much flesh as possible) automatically equates to being more desirable. As usual, another good blog.
2215 days ago



MARYJEANSL

Wow, you sent me off on one of my soapboxes. Modest dresses for brides or young ladies going to the prom are almost impossible to find. Of course, I know that what I consider modest might not be what someone else would consider modest. But my daughter does share my opinion in this area. When we needed to find a formal dress for her, we had to go online. There was nothing acceptable locally. Everything was strapless. Everything. And they consider this having a choice?

There are a number of online sites that do have beautiful formal gowns that are also modest. Unfortunately, one has to go totally by measurements with no option to try things on. Equally unfortunately for my daughter, her measurements don't belong to any standard size, so we had to buy a bit large and get the gown taken in by someone local. But I'm sure we would have had to do that anyway.

There was a picture going the rounds of FB some time ago. It was a picture of a row of bridesmaids sitting in a church pew. All you could see were bare shoulders. It looked for all the world as though they were sitting there naked.
2215 days ago



CD13202979

Interesting topic... I was admiring the styles of the prom dresses and graduation attire the other day. These things definitely seem to change over time. Different preferences... different trends... It is interesting.



2215 days ago

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