Objectification of Girls Through Public School Dress Codes

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Research Question: Does the unequal enforcement of dress codes reinforce the objectification of girls?

Purpose: Highlight flaws in public school dress codes that target female students and suggest ways to improve them

"Girls clothes are sexually suggestive"

"Boys have sex on the brain 24/7"

Benefits of Dress Codes:
- Behavioral control
- Safety
- Creates a proper learning environment
- Sets standards
- Prepares students for the workplace

What is a dress code?
A dress code is a rule created by the school to regulate the appearance and behavior of the students

How This Affects Girls:
- Dress codes often target and objectify girls though language
- Objectified by their teachers/administrators
- Bodies viewed as a problem and distraction
- Unequal and harsh enforcement without proper rationale

How This Affects Boys:
- Boys are pinned as having no self-control and their urges are too strong and prevent them from learning
- Thought of as lustful and degrading towards their female peers
- Not held accountable for actions

Conclusion: Dress codes are often formed with the idea of creating a healthy and safe learning environment, but often end up targeting the female student body as a result. Dress codes need to be updated to create rules that are inclusive to everyone.

Suggested Improvements:
- Consider student voice
- Make rules age appropriate
- Make rules practical for weather and culture
- Create an inclusive learning environment

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