

*Hair: How does it
represent
the suppression of
culture within America*

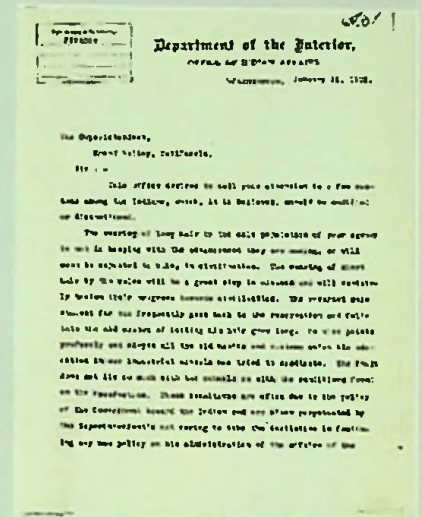


Introduction



America is supposed to represent a land of belonging, but the reality is you only “belong” in America if you fit into a certain archetype. Throughout all of American history, white-washing of various cultures has been much more prominent in the U.S than the cultures themselves. Although it may seem like a small factor to some people, the idea of how someone wears their hair has always been a hot button topic, when the reality is different hairstyles and hair textures may mean more to minority groups than white America is willing to admit or allow. The cultural products included in this zine represent the history of people of color being shamed or judged for using their hair to share their culture. Beginning in the early 20th century with W.E.B DuBois’ “Of Our Spiritual Striving” and a letter from the commissioner of Indian affairs, continuing all the way to 2020 with the #QuarantineCurls movement, this issue has been around for a very long time and has had little change regarding people’s opinions on certain hairstyles. However, as we began the 2010’s, more people have been inspired to wear their natural hair or cultural hairstyles. Without the inspiration from the past cultural products, the people running modern movements probably wouldn’t have the courage to shed light on these facts. Overall, I hope this zine will give some perspective in how much something as simple as hair can mean to people, and why we should continue to fight for all cultural groups to belong.

Long Hair: Native American Struggle



The idea of certain hairstyles not being professional is not exclusive to the African-American people. In this letter, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs rights about the unfair bias of Native-American men having long hair. Although the Native-American culture has clearly been around longer than that of white Americans, they are continuously discriminated against for hair styles that are incredibly meaningful to their culture

Of Our Spiritual Strivings



Although there is no direct mention of certain hairstyles or hair textures in DuBois' passage, there is a clear parallel between his idea of double consciousness and the current movement back towards natural hair. The fact that certain ethnic hairstyles are "less professional" than others is a perfect example of DuBois saying it is so difficult for African-Americans to be fully accepted into American society without losing their connection to their heritage

The Favorite

WILLIAM B. STEINHLER, S.D. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO

THE PRINCE'S BANG

THE PRINCE'S BANG is the latest in hair styles. It is a combination of the bang and the side part. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man.

Price, 25¢ per box. 50¢ per dozen.

WILLIAM B. STEINHLER, S.D. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO

THE UNOXY

THE UNOXY is a new hair cream. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man.

Price, 25¢ per box. 50¢ per dozen.

WILLIAM B. STEINHLER, S.D. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO

THE "FAVORITE"

THE "FAVORITE" is a new hair cream. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man.

Price, 25¢ per box. 50¢ per dozen.

WILLIAM B. STEINHLER, S.D. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO

THE WEST TRANSFORMATION

THE WEST TRANSFORMATION is a new hair cream. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man. It is a very stylish and becoming hair style for the young man.

Price, 25¢ per box. 50¢ per dozen.

The idea of only certain hairstyles being "appropriate" has been around for a very long time, as shown by these advertisements from 1917. Even for white women, hair pieces were sold so that they could achieve the most desirable look at the time, covering even their natural hair.

A Celebration of Natural Hair



Cheyenne Cochranes TEDTalk on natural hair sheds a lot of light on just how deeply ingrained into society our views on certain hairstyles are. While she shares how she hopes change will occur soon, she also recognizes just how much discrimination exists today, particularly as she mentions the law allowing discrimination against dreadlocks that was written in 2016.

The Crown Act



The **CROWN** Act

Creating a Respectful and Open World for
Natural Hair

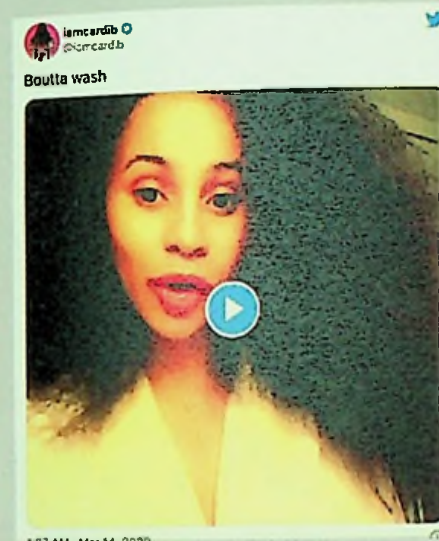
The CROWN Act is a law that forbids discrimination in the workplace based on someone's hair texture or protective stylings. This law represents the exact problem with "belonging" in this country if you do not look a certain way, as it is literally a law against the idea that a certain hairstyle is "less professional" when it is truly a matter of race.

Hair Love



This short film represents exactly how much certain hairstyles may mean to people of certain cultures. As the father watches videos his sick wife left on how to style African-American hair, he is able to both reconnect with his wife and strengthen his bond with his daughter. In the end of the video when they visit the mother at the hospital, it is clear how braids mean to her and her daughter.

#QuarantineCurls



Although quarantine has been a very challenging time, it has brought about a wave of women sharing what their hair naturally looks like on various social media platforms. This movement has brought so much light to the beauty of natural hairstyles, and has been a positive force in the overall movement for all hairstyles and textures to be accepted.

Get Involved

If you are looking to get involved in this issue, there are a few different things you could do.

1. Sign your states CROWN Act petition
(<https://campaigns.organizefor.org/petitions/help-make-hair-discrimination-illegal>)
2. Participate in the #QuarantineCurls challenge and show off your natural hair!
3. Look within your own views and continue to use your voice to fight against any sort of discrimination you may encounter



The #CROWNAct will explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of natural hair as a form of race discrimination.

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