

The Anti-Girl
By Samantha Foxx

She's the girl who doesn't wear make-up, thinking she's better than you because of it. She's the middle-aged woman you've never met who tells you that your skirt's too short, like it affects her life tremendously. He's the creepy old man who gets a cheap feel in a crowd, giving no second thought to how violated you'll feel for days after. She's the friend who listens to you tell her about the date where you almost got taken advantage of, and then tells you that it was your fault for wearing such a revealing outfit. He's the politician who prioritizes prohibiting your reproductive rights over healing the economy. They're the people in our society who think what you do is their business, when really, it's not at all.

The Anti-Girl, despite its name, does not always have to be female. Whoever they are, they have strong opinions on what you do with your life as a girl, and they make sure everyone knows. They are a subculture of misogynists, most of them not even aware of the fact that they're walking society farther and farther backwards every day. While many Anti-Girls are old, white men in Congress, passing laws regulating our bodies, and others are anti-feminist young men, clad with tee-shirts reading 'Cool Story Babe, Now Make Me a Sandwich', other members of this disturbing cult may surprise you.

Self-proclaimed feminists themselves may even be Anti-Girls without realizing. The closet anti-girl could be an extremely radical girl-power enthusiast, someone refusing to shave, burning her bra, and any other form of protest she can come up with. These are great things she believes in, but the moment she finds out that you *do* shave your legs, it all goes downhill. "You *shave*?" she whispers, disgusted. "And you call yourself a feminist? You're even wearing a dress, and make up. You are a disgrace to the feminist community." This is a classic example of the Anti-girl. The values that she holds dear to her, like refusing to shave and dress traditionally feminine, she is pushing on other girls. The

definition of an Anti-Girl is, after all, anyone who makes your business as a female their business as a spectator of your life.

Anti-girls are unfortunately often people who have power over our lives. I can't tell you how many times I, or friends, have been taken to the office for what we've worn. Yes, there are rules in school. Yes, I understand that they must be followed. But, sometimes, bystanders become brainwashed by rules and regulations, never questioning them. Should you follow a set of guidelines that forces you to cover, to a ridiculous extent, what makes you who you are? A friend of mine wore a dress once. She has long, curvy legs, so it was hard for her to finally find a dress that came close to hitting her knees. When she did, she couldn't wait to wear it to school, throwing on some leggings underneath, of course. But at lunch, the Anti-Girls attacked.

Do you believe that legs are inappropriate? Yes, girls have legs; they walk on them. Should women be ashamed that they can walk? Boys have legs, too. Yes, maybe a little too much leg can be provocative, but Anti-Girls take this much too far. You are the ones who decided that even without skin showing, legs are too seductive. You are the ones that decided shoulders, arms, and stomachs are scandalous. Anti-girls are the people in your life who make you feel ashamed of your body. Avoid being an Anti-girl, and try to get help for any Anti-girls you may know.