

Malik Lee

Sept.18,2019

Intro. to Fashion

Professor. Sutton

Mon-wed

8:30-9:45

Interview

Sabrina Lettley (1990)-Family Friend

Christopher Wells (1990)-Neighbor

**1)What was in style during your 20s? What was your style like and what was your favorite outfit or piece of clothing?**

*S.L: In my 20s let me think... Guess was very popular in my neighborhood Lee jeans was the “it” jeans. Your mother and I were the fly girls back then especially your mom because Lee was her last name. My still was pretty much athletic you can say... I wore sneakers for the most part I saw a picture of princess Diana in a magazine one day and she had on a college sweater with spandex short with her sneakers which is a classic look to me still to this day, But from that day I started buying men’s sweaters so it would have that baggy look with black spandex that was my basically my outfit for the entire summer. Sometimes my style changed based on how I felt .My favorite outfit was this Lacoste set that I would wear with my pro keds sneakers. I had them in multiple colors I absolutely loved that set going uptown to the city with my girls getting complements the whole day was the best feeling. It was a way for me to express myself*

**C.W:** *Back then brands like Ice-Berg, Guess were very popular my crew use to go around asking other dudes “yooo my man show us the tag on that jacket son” awwww man Karl Kani !. My style was rugged with the baggy jeans because I was very influenced by the music that I listen to. Bumping to artist like The Notorious B.I.G I would wear my Coogi sweaters with the baggy Lee jeans with my lugz (boots).My favorite outfit was the Karl Kani jean jacket you would pair with the jeans to match it was very hard to find two jean piece that blended together perfect thanks to Karl Kani he made it easy for us we had a say so in what items where in or out.*

**2)How did you live? What was your home like?**

**S.L:** *I grew up in a two-family home with my mother along with my sister and brother. We didn't really have a struggle my mother worked a nice job where she would be basically from 9-5 making a good amount of money to support us. I had my own job near the college I was attending at the time, so I was able to save up my money to buy my shirts, skirts, jeans and sneakers*

**C.W:** *There was a struggle at my home being cooped up in a two bedroom with my mother and two brothers was difficult, everyone needed their own space, but we made it work. My mom worked night and day to support us but sometimes it wasn't enough. Sometimes I couldn't afford the clothes I wore so most times I would buy the knock off version from dudes around the way or get the labels of the brand and sew them onto my own clothes. Once I got a job, I began to buy the clothes I liked from these guys that got them and sold them for a low price.*

**3) What were your values? What was most important to you?**

**C.W:** *The thing that was most important to me was my brothers. I was the oldest out of the 3, while my mom worked day and time, I made sure my brothers was up from school each morning with breakfast in their stomach still being able to hang out with the guys staying social. I barley*

*was going to school once I got a job so I would work 24/7 making it home to feed my brothers for dinner I basically was the man of the house giving my brothers someone to look up to. My value was to be loyal to those around and stay respectful.*

**S.L:** *My education was the most important to me which is funny because it still is to this day. Even though it was difficult for me to balance my social life, school, work I made it look so easy to everyone else. Once you find the best way to balance things without having any negativity interfere between, you'll be able to make it work promise.*

**4)Did that reflect on the way you dressed? What is the appropriate way to dress?**

**S.L:** *No, the way I dress had no effect on what was important to me. Not matter what I had on I still was able to carry myself in a respecting manner and be able to hold a great conversation. Appropriate! The way you young ones dress today I would dare wear short that showed everything and I would bother to hang out with a guy that wore his pants to the ground that is absolutely disgusting but I the way you dress is very appropriate and stylish.*

**C.W:** No, at work there was a strict uniform we had to follow you know tucked in shirts with a belt but I would always carry around a bag with me that had my regular clothes in them which made it easier for me to change into after work and hang out.

**5)What were some things you did when you hung out with friends?**

**C.W:** Me and the crew use to hang out on the block or ride downtown to hear the local up-coming rappers have their little battles. Those battles was where we would out on our best outfits to impress the ladies and just have a good throwing on our best outfits rushing to the venue me and guys use to skip the line because we because real tight and acquainted with the doorman from previous battles he started letting us in for free.

**S.L:** You know me and the girls you to take the train to Coney Island walk the boardwalk. One time a group of us maybe about 5 all wore the same Lacoste skirt set I talked about earlier in the different colors I remember I wore the white on white with the pure white pro keds and other had on red, green, blue, yellow and we just had a ball getting on rides just having a great time with no drama.

**6) Is there any similarities in the way you dressed back then to the way we dress today?**

**S.L:** *Yes, there is a big difference back then everything was well put together now it's a bunch of colors and rips all around the jeans with tight shirts. For the guys pants all on the ground showing their underwear come on that's just gross.*

**C.W:** *Not to me it's still the same you know the baggy jeans a little and it's more of the very tight jeans where we can see everything inside your pocket. I still see my guy Karl Kani still doing his thing I saw a kid in the subway rocking one of his shirts. Most styles back then are returning with a little change to it.*

In conclusion, Style can be used to help one express themselves showing their personal taste of what appropriate and attractive to them. Based off the responses from both people interviewed shows that everyone has parts in the principles of fashion with the consumers establishing fashion with their say so of accepting or declining the trend or design. Everyone has their own taste and interpretation of what a classic style or piece that wouldn't go away to them. Fashion is a way of communication showing what's going on around them or how they feel.