

The Exploitation of Underaged Models in the Fashion Industry



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Why Does this Matter?

- Young models are an extremely vulnerable group, this means they need the law to be on their side to protect them from being put into unfit working environments.
- Teenagers should be modeling juniors clothing, not womenswear which is meant for adults where the clothing can be sexually explicit.



Background

- Underaged models are used to model women's apparel in photoshoots and on the runway to push the fashion industry's unrealistic beauty standards for women.
- The law defines a minor: anyone under the age of maturity, eighteen years old.



Background

- Current laws in place to protect underage models include
 - The Child Model Act of 2015
 - The Child Performers Protection Act of 2013



Related Literature

- Seventeen year old model Hailey Clauson modeled for a fashion magazine where she posed with nude former porn stars and an image of her being choked.



Related Literature

- Fourteen year old model Sofia Mechetner models a see thru outfit on the runway for Christian Dior's 2015 Fall Couture show.
- Dior received backlash from the public after this show.
- There is no law preventing a brand such as Dior from doing this.



Results

- With pressure through social media many major fashion brands have promised to stop using underaged models.
- With many organizations fighting for change their can hopefully be more legislation passed to bring an end to the exploitation of underaged models.

YVES SAINT LAURENT



BALENCIAGA

ALEXANDER
MCQUEEN

TF

TOM FORD

Conclusion/Historical Argument

- I believe passing stricter regulations of the type of modeling work an underaged model can do will help to protect young models.
 - Outline what is considered to be an age appropriate work environment.
 - Regulations when a photoshoot includes an adult and a minor.
 - Prevent underaged models from being able to walk runways or do photoshoots where they are exposed.

References

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