

Tiffany Holloway, Freshman  
Michael Staton, Junior

Voice photo by Chamell Harris

by Daniel Prater  
Voice Staff Writer

# Attire VS. Attraction

The term "beauty is only skin deep" comes to mind when considering rules of attraction between the sexes. When you meet someone for the first time, what's the first attractive feature you look for when checking them out?

After listening to a random selection of FSU students who voiced their opinions on the subject, it's apparent that no clear answer exists. Almost instantaneously, followed by a vindicated response, many asked to change their answers, as if an alarm had just gone off raising doubts. Often students would look off in the distance and ponder, searching meticulously for the elusive "right answer."

Truthfully, who has or takes the time to consider something like this? First of all, there are too many variables that take place in the 10-15 seconds before we approach or are approached by someone. We don't consider where to look. We've already looked, instinctively. We greet others with our eyes before we're even introduced.

Dr. Richard Taflinger, communications professor at Washington State University, states in his Psychology of Consumer Behavior work "...a [person of attraction] may cause the body to react physically: an increase in blood flow, dilation of the pupils, sexual arousal. Such reactions are unavoidable, just as flipping a switch will turn on a light. Instincts are followed because they are not susceptible to intellectual control." This suggests we don't actually control that defining first glance; we simply make an initial assessment of the findings.

Some students spoke of looking for athletic figures suggesting the person of interest work out, so they may "have something to work with." Others described it by saying "the face tells it all." I found it interesting that most responses didn't include superficial opinions based on name brands and accessories among the limited interviews conducted. Cleanliness garnered more importance than ties and slacks or designer dresses. It's reassuring to know, among those interviewed, FSU students don't pass judgment on their peers by way of fancy attire or expensive jewelry.

Students should hold their heads high, knowing others won't be checking their handbag for a Gucci label or their shoes for a Nike swoosh. The focus lies not in what you choose to wear, but rather how you wear it. Cleanliness is a must for health, but apparently for attraction, too!

## Mens Responses

■ From behind, that butt, from the front, body features. She's got to meet my specific needs  
Addie Junior

■ Face: Usually if she has a pretty face, she has a pretty body.  
Kendrell Green, sophomore

■ The Walk: To see how she carries herself and her facial expression, to see if she's in a good mood.  
Nicholas Vereene, junior

■ How she interacts w/others: If she's conversating with a lot of people, it's a good sign!  
Omar Gilchrist, senior

■ The Eyes: Looking for that something special. If I like what I see, I keep going down.  
Ladarus Rouse, freshman

■ The Walk: To see what she's about, some girls be walking all wild, you know.  
Josh Gainey, freshman

## Ladies Responses

■ Face: I've got to know if he's cute or not!  
Briana Jefferson, sophomore

■ Shoes: If he doesn't take care of his shoes, he can't take care of me!  
Amber Pittman, sophomore

■ Physique: If he ain't got a body, he can't do anything with it!  
Jaslynn Campbell, sophomore

■ Face: To see how he initiates conversation, then I check his appearance.  
Ebony, freshman

■ Attitude: To see if I clique with him.  
Shaquilla Corley, freshman

■ Clothes: To see if it looks clean and decent. Also to see if it's well fitted, not too baggy and loose, hanging off!  
Zametrica Moses, sophomore

■ How they're dressed: Looking for neat and clean clothes. Whether it's a t-shirt or polo or brand of shoes, doesn't matter to me.  
Tanea Murphy, junior