

about **INDIVIDUALITY**



Bianca Jagger in a white Tuxedo with a white blouse and tie.
Satenstein, Liana. "Listen Up, Ladies: The Power Suit Is Back!" *Vogue*. May 26, 2017. Accessed March 10, 2018. <https://www.vogue.com/article/how-to-wear-80s-power-suit>.



A model in a pointed shoulders black coat in 1980's;
Eva. "Why Balmain's pointy shoulders are a super clever trend."
Dressful. September 28, 2011. Accessed March 10, 2018. <http://www.dressful.com/4672/why-balmain-pointy-shoulders-are-super-clever-trend>.



A woman wears a suit with a striped blouse and a graphic tie; Schaffner, Liana. "What Power Dressing in 2016 Really Means." Allure. May 25, 2017. Accessed March 11, 2018. <https://www.allure.com/story/power-dressing>.



Handled 2016, Oil on panel, 44 x 44 inches, Kelly Reemsten;
Reemsten, Kelly. "Handled, 2015; Paint." Kelly Reemtsen. 2015. Accessed March 10, 2018. <http://www.kellyreemtsen.com/2016/4/27/handled-2015>.



Model Rosie Huntington in a pink satin gown with some sheer details; Lidbury, Olivia. "Rosie Huntington-Whiteley takes the slinky slip dress out of the shadows." The Telegraph. January 15, 2016. Accessed March 9, 2018. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/fashion/people/rosie-huntington-whiteley-takes-the-slinky-slip-dress-out-of-the/>.



Fashion Designer Aaron Myers in a denim dress in Project Runway Season 16, 2017;
Cohn, Paulette. "Meet the International Cast of Designers for Project Runway's Season 16." Parade. August 16, 2017. Accessed March 9, 2018. <https://parade.com/594794/paulettcohn/meet-the-international-cast-of-designers-for-project-runways-season-16/>.



David Bowie at his home in Haddon Hall in 1971;
Arbuckle, Alex. "David Bowie's dress: A powerful step forward for androgyny." Mashable. November 05, 2015. Accessed March 10, 2018. <https://mashable.com/2015/11/05/david-bowie-dress/#2G0ai0NzUgqg>.

Women wearing suits and pants to represent their power has always been an interesting to study when thinking about power and sexuality. Wearing a blue pant suit as a woman and crossing your arms in pictures has been always associated with that woman having some power and strong vision. Something about Hillary Clinton wearing pant suits to show professionalism brings an argument of sexuality being associated with power. Throughout history, men have always worn suits more often than women, and women have always diverted towards dresses. Pant suits are more structured than dresses and they do give a more professional look to the person wearing it. Now, it is not about who is wearing it, until it comes to a person's sexuality. More so, most of the dresses that show up anywhere when associated with women and power dressing are mostly formal wear. But what if there were dresses that would just celebrate and compliment a woman's body. That could be power dressing within itself.

A woman wearing a pantsuit is always questioned to whether she is trying to portray power through the suit or not. Since suits were originally worn by men, there is a little argument of how now women are trying to be more like men by wearing pant suits, as to show the same power men have had because of their masculinity. A woman wearing a flowy silk dress, who has a strong personality, does not necessarily resonate with her being powerful because throughout history, dresses or skirt have been worn by women, which have majorly been associated with femininity, where femininity does not associate with a characteristic of power and strength but includes more of a characteristic of sensitivity and gentleness. Women wearing baseball hats, flannels with t-shirts, and sneakers have always been associated as "tom-boys." The way an individual dresses is a way they portray individuality and personality not sexuality, although it may overlap sometimes. A person wearing sneakers, long drop crotch pants, and a satin blue top creates a very interesting personality. But it becomes even more interesting if you try to switch between a woman wearing this outfit or a man. There can be so many more characteristics this person could have besides femininity and masculinity.

There are obvious differences between a man and a woman. To name a few, there are breasts and arms, and hips and shoulders that both have and can show in clothing differently that make them look aesthetically different. And these different aesthetics can be but shouldn't always be associated with the difference in their sexualities. There is a whole other world of clothing styles that comes with other sexualities and genders. Androgyny is when a person has both feminine and masculine looks but when your clothing too can speak androgyny, power suits can become more about a person's characteristics rather than just their sexuality. Maybe it's about time, we should be intrigued towards somebody's personality than just their sexuality through clothing.