

# DE-CONSTRUCTING FEMININITY

The image is a collage. At the top, a pink banner contains the text 'DE-CONSTRUCTING FEMININITY' in bold black letters. Below this, there are several overlapping images. On the left, a woman's face is partially visible, wearing a black lace headscarf. In the center, a woman with long dark hair is seen from the side, wearing a white t-shirt and carrying a large black shoulder bag. To her right, another woman is wearing a white t-shirt with a colorful graphic that includes the word 'BOY'. At the bottom, a piece of light-colored fabric is shown with the words 'YOU ARE PERFECT' embroidered in pink thread, with a red line striking through the text.

~~YOU ARE  
PERFECT~~

**“Yes, rape is wrong. But what is a girl doing in a room with four boys?”** **We should be teaching boys not to rape not girls how to avoid it.**

**Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**  
**We should all be feminists.**

**ABUSE OF POWER COMES AS NO SURPRISE**

**Jenny Holzer**  
**Abuse of Power Comes as No Surprised**

**These themes resonated with me since like any woman I have been victim of stereotyping and sexism. After being raped in my second year of uni, I realised really how common the issue was and I felt more passionate about spreading awareness of the injustices women face day to day.**

**FEMINISM**

**STEREOTYPING**

**SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**WOMEN**

**SEXISM**

CULTURE

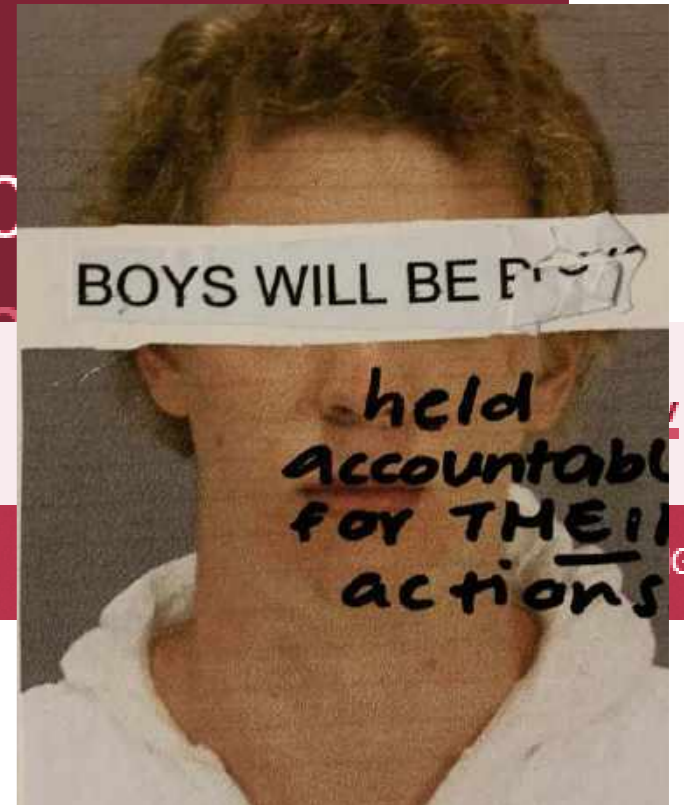
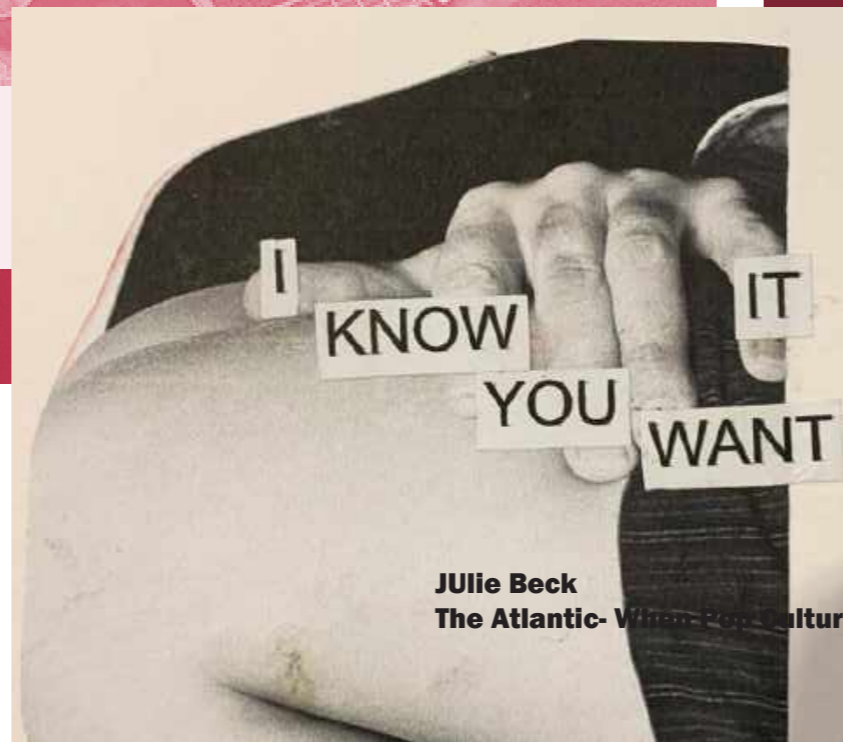
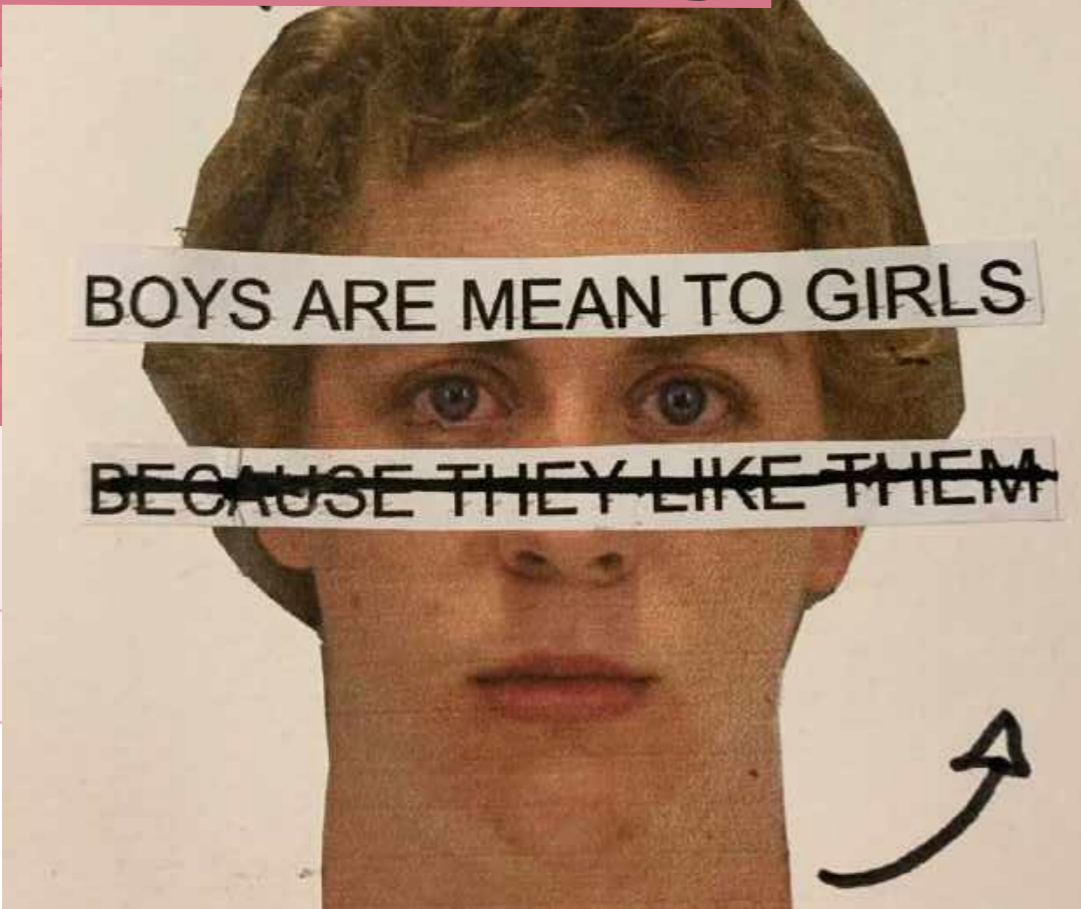
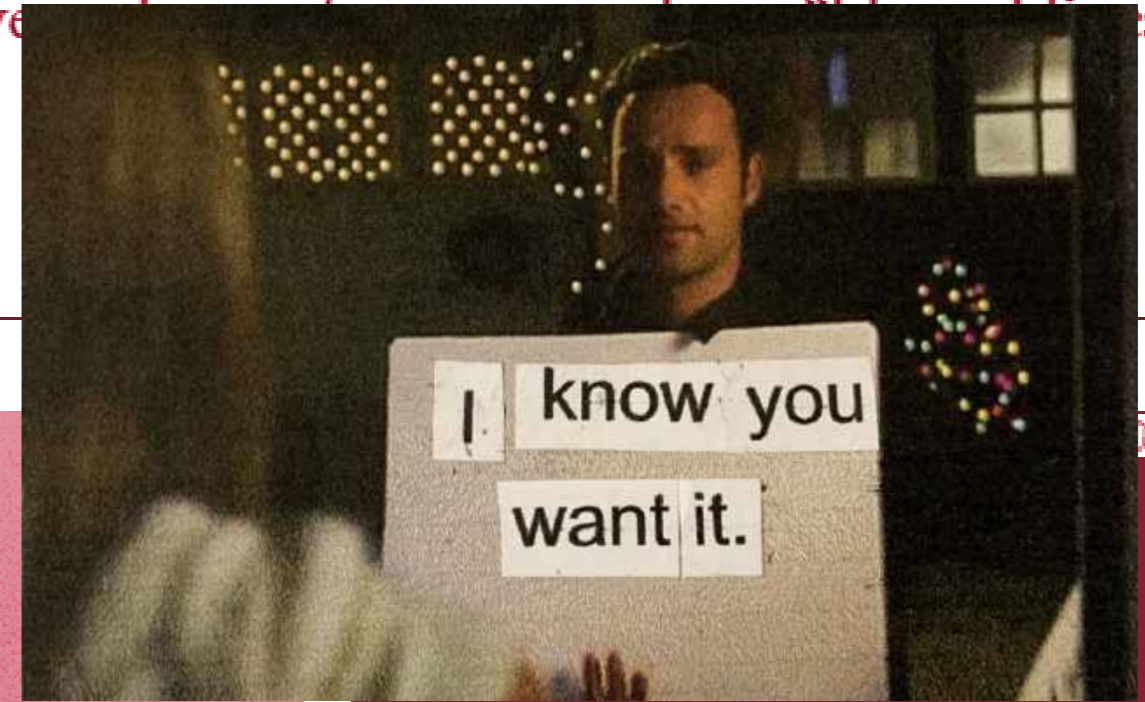
# When Pop Culture Sells Dangerous Myths About Romance

entertainment glorifying or excusing predatory male behavior is even more common than “the 1%”

TV often written off as

something less sinister

leading young women to believe behaviour like this is okay.



Julie Beck The Atlantic- When Pop Culture Sells Dangerous Myths About Romance.

Stanford swimmer to be charged with felony rape over alleged campus attack

Case brought by Santa Clara County prosecutor is uncommon example



The 20-year-old swimmer, who is a member of the Stanford University swim team, was charged with five counts of rape. The alleged victim, a 21-year-old woman, reportedly saw him on top of an unconscious woman on the university campus, the county prosecutor's office said. The swimmer, who is a resident of Dayton, Ohio, was arrested and charged with rape on Monday. He was arrested at midnight on 18 January, according to the spokesman for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office. The swimmer was taken to a local police station. The alleged victim saw the alleged attack and called police.

Jessica Glenza Guardian- ) Stanford swimmer to be charged with felony rape over alleged campus attack. Guardian.

secret

failings, it

was one of

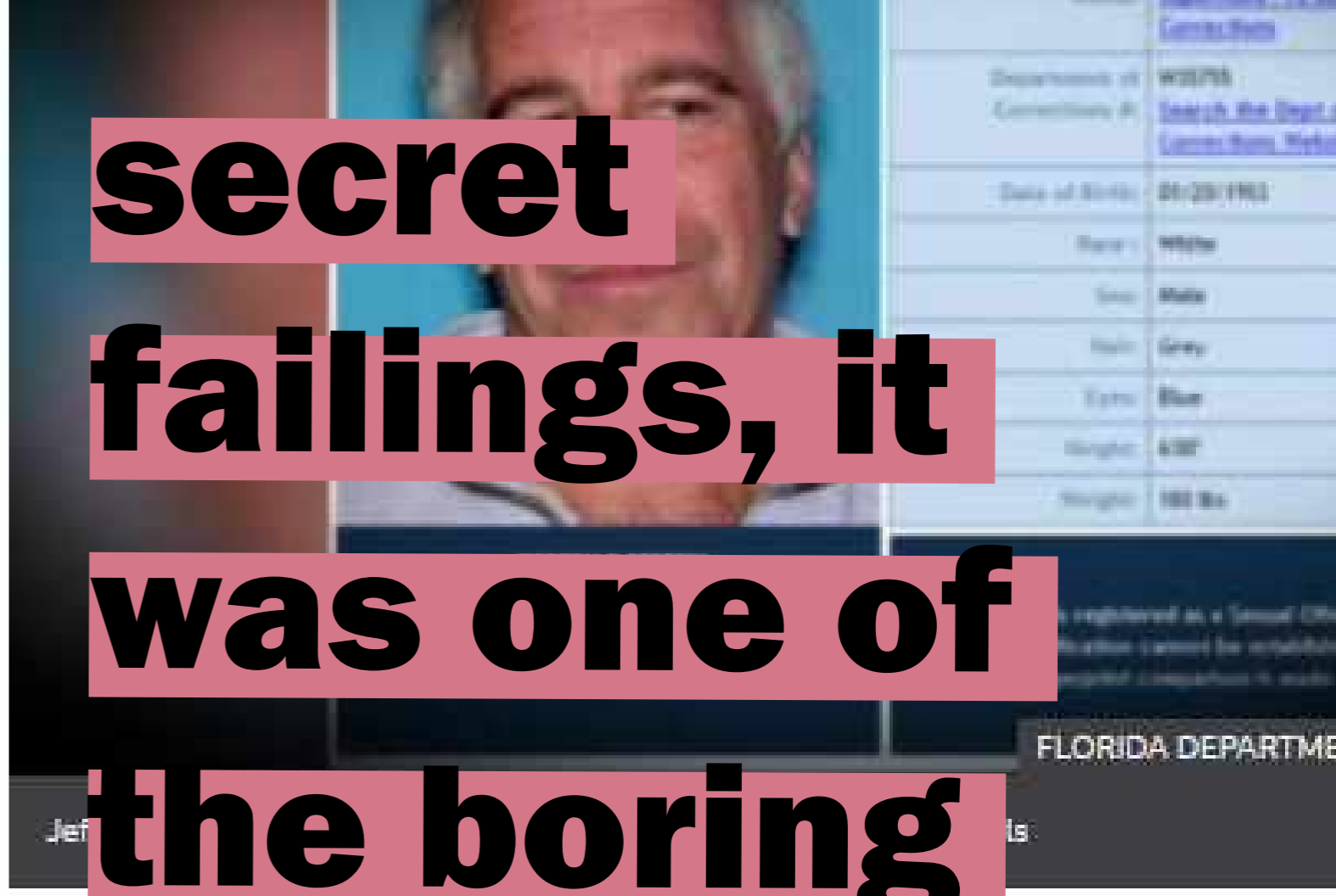
the boring

old gender

wars, and it

happened to

most of us.



Wealthy US financier and friend of the powerful Jeffrey Epstein has appeared in court to face charges of "sex work" of minors. Appearing in dark-blue jail clothing on Monday, Epstein pleaded not guilty. The charges are part of a federal indictment in Florida. According to the charges, the girls, some as young as 14, were given hundreds of dollars for sex acts. He faces charges of sex trafficking of minors. • [Washington Post](#) The 66-year-old hedge fund manager was arrested on Saturday at Teterboro Airport. Epstein

Rebecca Solnit Men Explain Things to Me.

BBC Jeffrey Epstein: Financier charged with sex trafficking minors.

# **My story.**

**You shone a flash light in my eyes**

**I took my skirt off but it wasn't a sign  
I wanted to have sex**

**I lay there in pain, half falling asleep**



**I TOOK MY  
SKIRT OFF BUT  
IT WASN'T A  
SIGN I WANTED  
TO HAVE SEX**

# What is trauma?

Going through very stressful, frightening or distressing events is sometimes called trauma. When we talk about emotional or psychological trauma, we might mean:

- situations or events we find traumatic
- how we're affected by our experiences.

Traumatic events can happen at any age and can cause long-lasting harm. Everyone has a different reaction to trauma, so you might notice any effects quickly, or a long time afterwards.

**“I wish there was more awareness of trauma and the way it affects a person's thought process and behaviour. [...] Self-preservation behaviours can be greatly misinterpreted or misunderstood.”**

## RULES FOR INTERVIEWS

**I wanted to speak to other survivors to get a greater understanding of sexual violence from not only my point of view, I did this by carrying out interviews with people around me, it was surprising to see how many people I knew had been through similar experiences.**

- be sensitive to people don't ask anything that may trigger them.
- be empathetic, understanding of people's trauma.
- make sure they know of your intentions beforehand and are happy to open up.
- stop if at any point they don't feel comfortable to carry on answering.
- consult when using their stories to create.
- keep anonymity.

**'Wearing a beige cardigan'**

**'Pine needles scratching the back of my neck'**

**'I don't want my body anymore I was terrified of it'**

**'I wanted to take off my body like a jacket and leave it at the hospital'**

**'According to him, I liked it'**

**'If you're confused about whether a girl can consent, see if she can speak an entire sentence'.**



**Pine needle (2020)**



# Why tell stories?

**38% To help other survivors**

**34% To help themselves**

**25% To support research**

**14% For financial compensation.**

**Lucy: What is the importance of victims telling stories?**

**Sarah Lafford Head of Business development at Birmingham RSVP: What's important is people feel able to tell their stories if and when they want to. There is a lot of public and media focus on sexual abuse, a lot more understanding of how common it is. What comes with that is a real oweness of victims to tell almost like a social responsibility, that you must report, you must describe what has happened to you .. as a society the culture should shift so that the oweness is on us to really hear people, to listen to people when they're ready to tell their stories, to believe people, to not victim blame. I think what's important is that we as a society create the right conditions for people to tell their story, almost like a shift in emphasis.**



**SUZANNE**

**LACY**

**THREE**

**WEEKS IN**

**MAY 1977**

**Lacy tells the story of the magnitude of sexual violence cases in LA, stamping RAPE on to a large scale map when each occur.**

**This type of storytelling is important as it shows other survivors they are not alone, this is something which inspires me to tell these stories.**

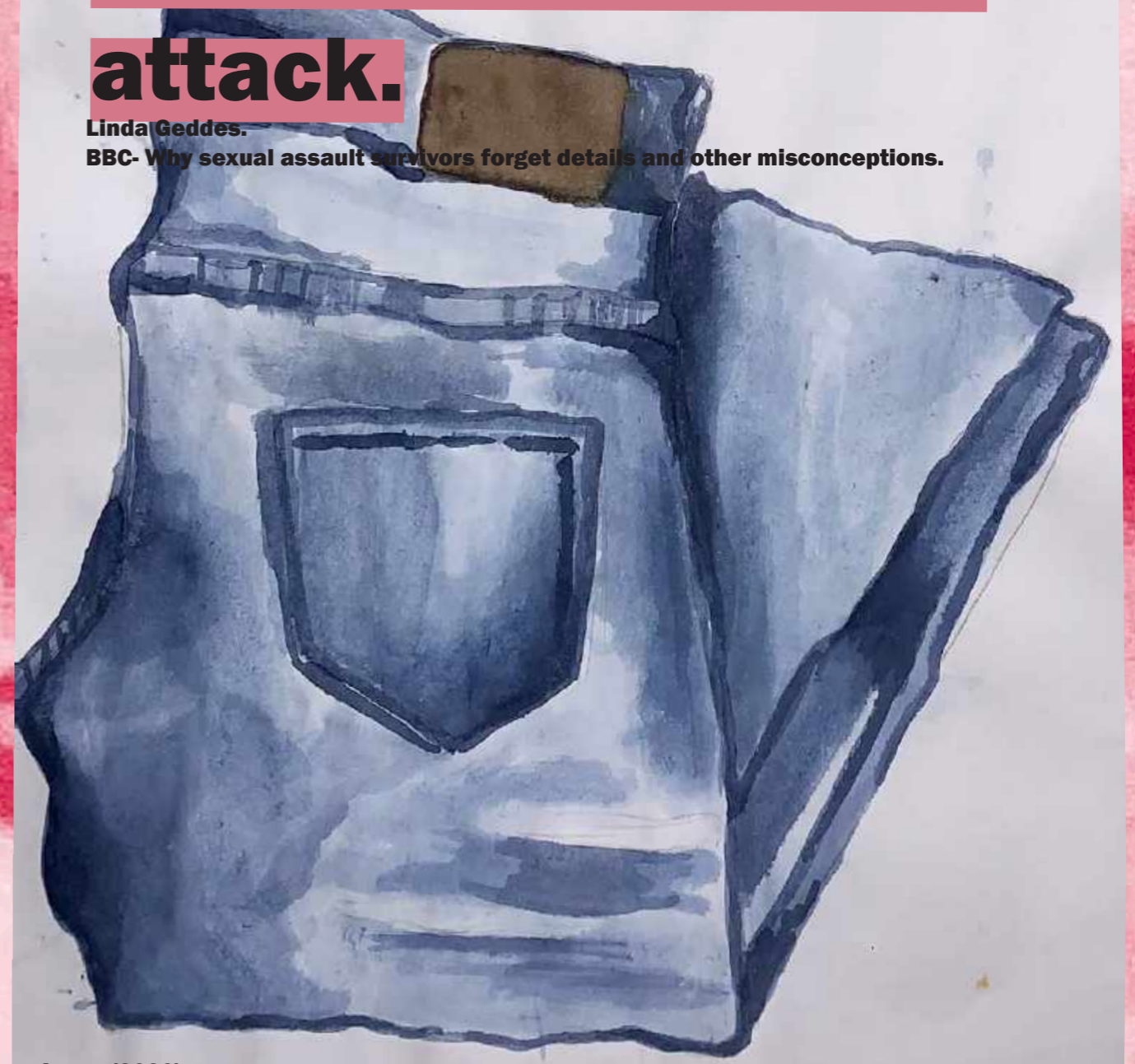
**'I  
straightened  
my hair,  
put my best  
jeans and  
top on'**

Anonymous- Interview conducted by me,

**Many people who have  
been raped or sexually  
assaulted claim to  
have vivid memories of  
certain sounds/smells  
associated with the  
attack.**

Linda Geddes.

BBC- Why sexual assault survivors forget details and other misconceptions.



Jeans (2020)

**‘Wearing  
a polka  
dot dress,  
was just on  
the dance  
floor trying  
to enjoy  
myself’**

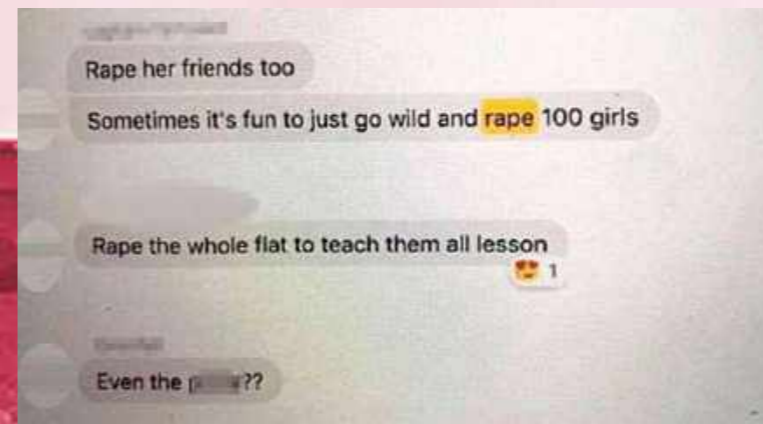
Anonymous- Interview conducted by me



Alyssa Milano  
Twitter

**'I showered  
in bleach..  
the shower  
was on the  
hottest set-  
ting'**

Anonymous- Interview conducted by me



Warwick University students group chat comments

Bleach (2020)



Anonymous comment online

# Microscopic scale



Details such as the denim of jeans may mean nothing to you but are a big part of their survivor story.

Details in the fibre (2020)

# Planetary scale



The day you touched me.



The day I told my parents.



The day I started therapy.



The day I finished therapy

The day (2020)

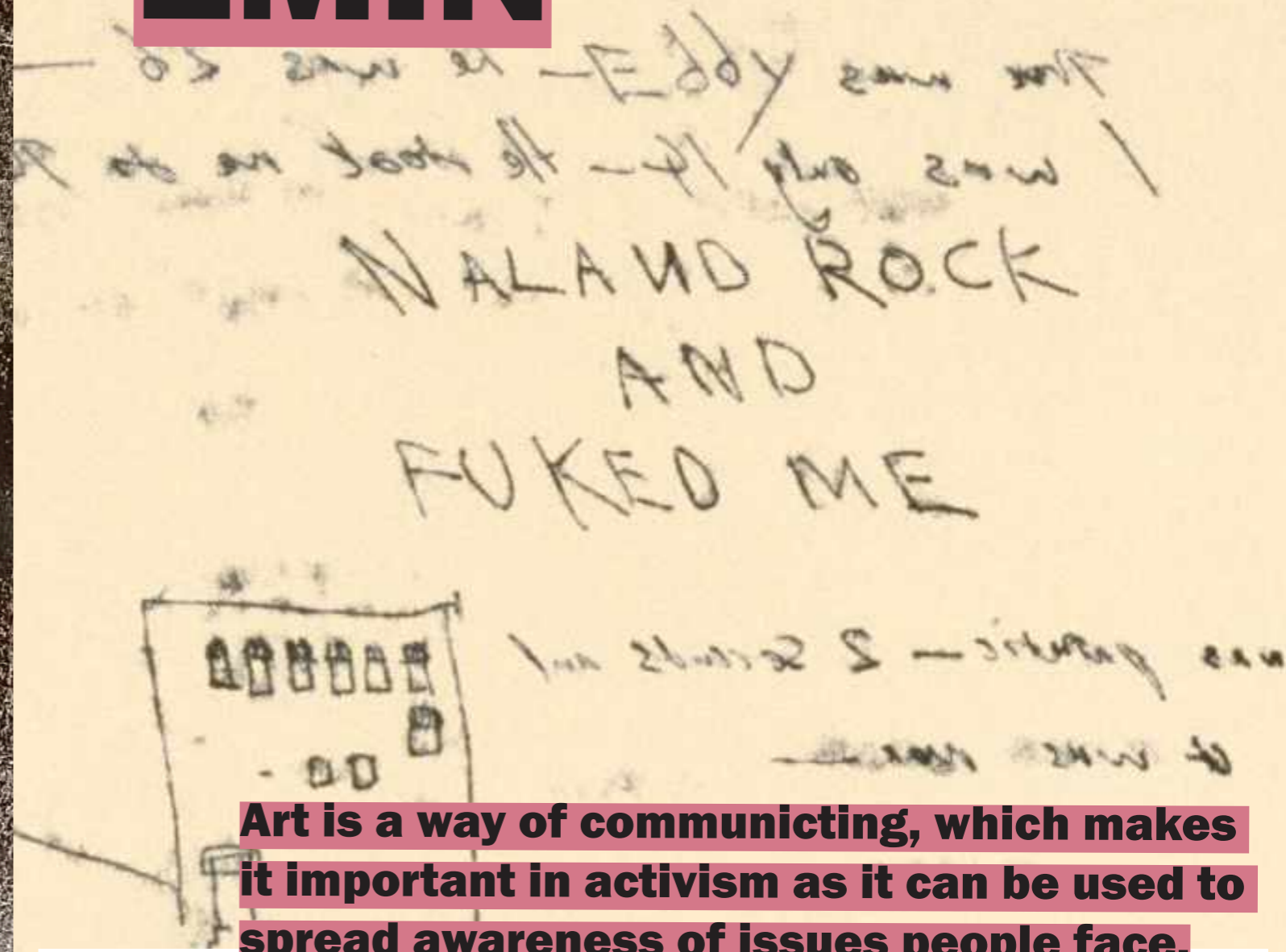
**National scale**

TOUCHED  
DOCK  
HE  
IN

Protest banner print (2020)

**TRACEY**

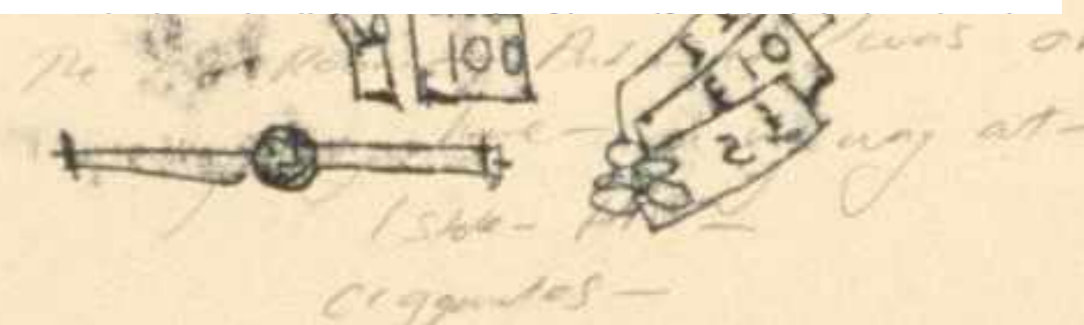
**EMIN**



**Art is a way of communicating, which makes it important in activism as it can be used to spread awareness of issues people face.**

For me, aggression, sex and beauty go together. Much of my work has been about memory, for example, but memories of violence and pain. Nowadays if I make a drawing I'm trying to draw love, but love isn't always gentle. Being an artist isn't just about making nice things, or people patting you on the back; it's some kind of communication, a message. (Quoted in Morgan, pp.59-60.)

"Fuck you eddy" (1995)  
Tracey Emin



**'55% of men believed the more revealing the clothes a woman wears, the more likely it is that she will be harassed or assaulted'.**

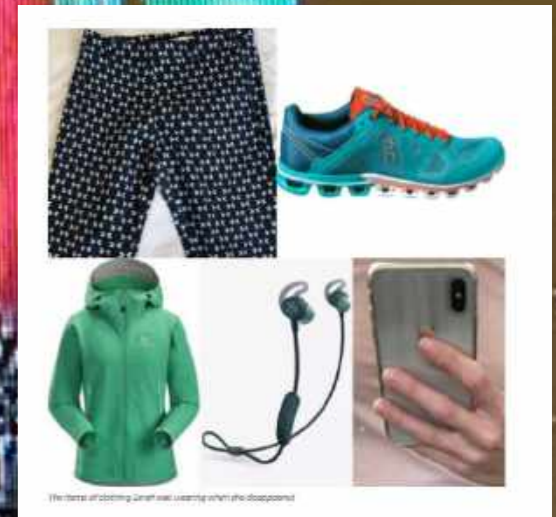


**'Overly-Sexualised' Pretty Little Thing Ad Banned For Objectifying Women**

*In the ad, a woman poses in chaps-style knickers with neon lights between her legs.*

**Natasha Hinde**  
Huffington post- 'Overly-Sexualised' Pretty Little Thing Ad Banned For Objectifying Women

**BUT 'women are raped wearing a variety of clothing. They could be wearing jeans, school uniform or pyjamas'.**



**Sarah Everard**  
ITV - Sarah Everard: Police officer arrested on suspicion of murder

**Independent**  
Majority of men believe women more likely to be sexually assaulted if wearing revealing clothes, study suggests



# SIMON

# EVANS

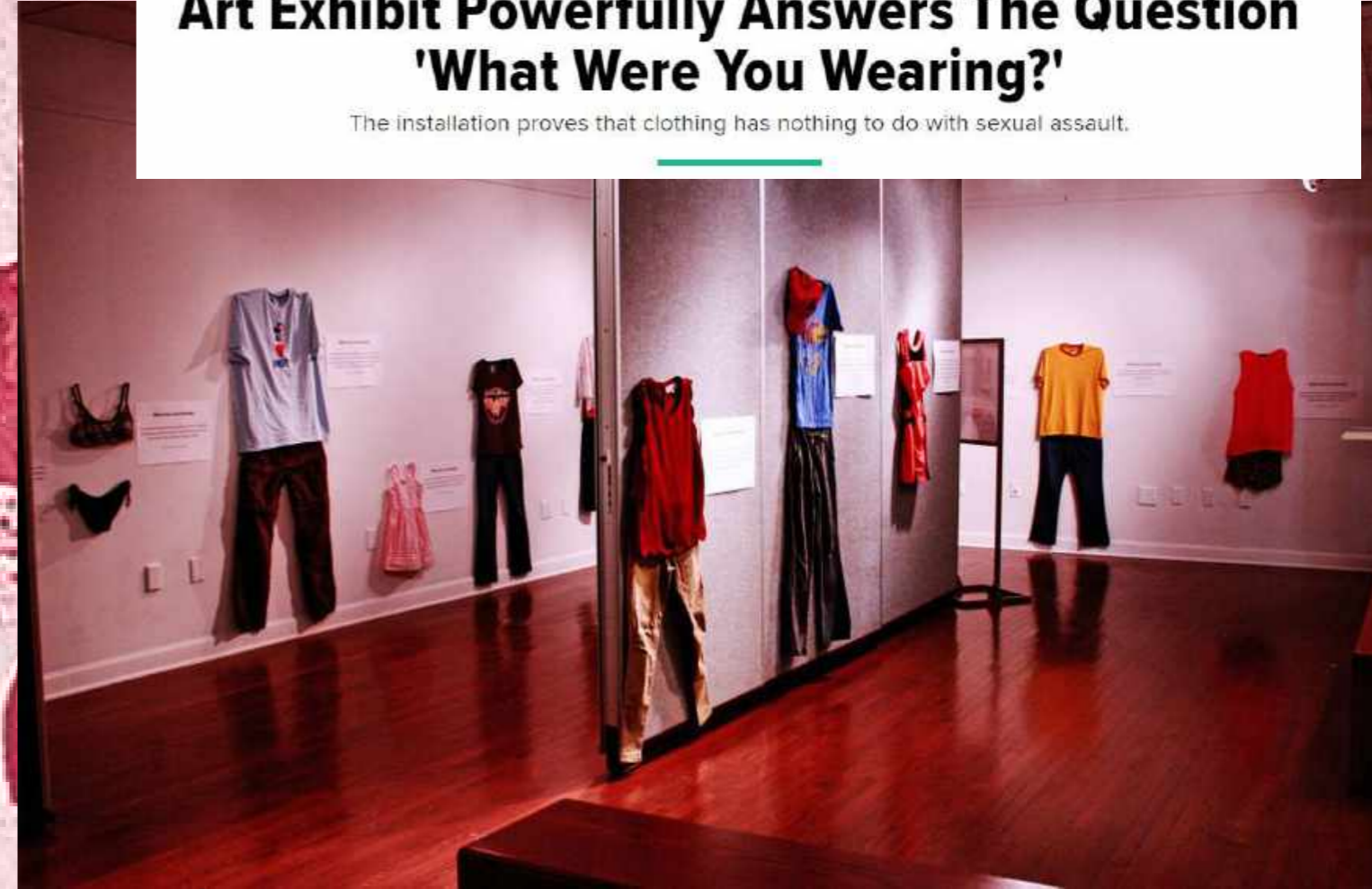
## Collection/Archive of clothing

With his piece titled "Everything I Have" (2008), Berlin-based (American born) artist Simon Evans offers up all the material contents of his life exposed and laid bare like a confession. He used inkjet photos Scotch taped directly to a 60 x 40 inch sheet of paper to visually catalog each material object he currently owns. He arranged them in rows like suspects in a lineup. There are 34 rows and 33 items in each row. That's 1,122 items. Even at that number we know there are likely several objects unaccounted for and even if those missing items raised the total number to, say, 1,500 items, most of us secretly know we could top that number with the contents of our own lives.

"Everything I have" (2008)  
Simon Evans

# WHAT I HAVE

**WOMEN**  
**Art Exhibit Powerfully Answers The Question 'What Were You Wearing?'**  
The installation proves that clothing has nothing to do with sexual assault.



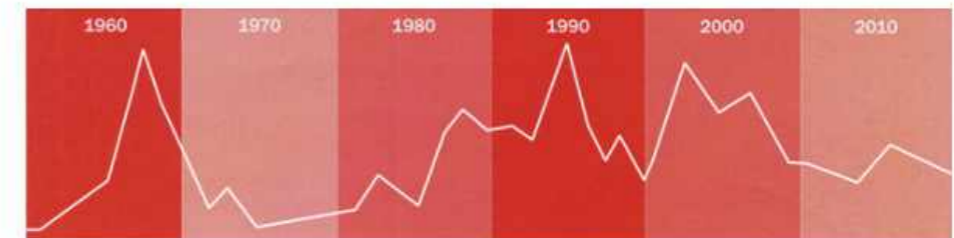
Alanna Vagianos  
Huffington post- Art Exhibit Powerfully Answers The Question 'What Were You Wearing?'



# Celebrating short skirts.



**The miniskirt empowered women to own their bodies and be proud of their gender.**



Mentions of the MINISKIRT in the Vogue Archive

**'We wanted to end victim blaming. The idea that a persons underwear being used by a defence barrister as some indication of their intentions, is absolutely despicable'**

Rita Harrold-  
INdependent.ie

**THONGS CAN'T**

CONSENT

NO

SENT

NOT  
CONSENT

**TALK**

**THINGS CAN'T**

**Women should be able to wear whatever they want without it meaning anything sexually.**

**The way you look/what  
you wear/how you act,  
does not mean consent.**



**6# SWABS INSERTED  
INTO MY VAGINA**

**The relevance of lipsticks; lipsticks are a common  
'women's' everyday object**

**The activity of getting ready is often remembered  
in assault stories.**

**However - the makeup you wear does NOT mean you  
were 'asking for it'**



**4# INTERNAL DAMAGE**



4# INTERNAL DAMAGE



5# PIECE OF MEAT



1# CAT CALL



7# LOVE MYSELF AGAIN



6# SWABS INSERTED INTO MY VAGINA

**#4 #6 #8 Chanel Miller impact statement.  
#5 #7 Rape victim reads impact statement in court. #1 #2 #3 A survivor on American university's campus by Hannah camp. #9 Donald Trump**



8# DRIED BLOOD AND BANDAGES



2# PEPPER SPRAY



3# KEYS BETWEEN MY KNUCKLES



9# GRAB HER BY THE PUSSY

**A words of encouragement wall for survivors was set up by Birmingham RSVP at the Rep theatre during the 'asking for it play'. I set up one at the school of art.**

*We stand up to  
sexual assault, we*

*enough!*

*There's always  
someone you can  
talk to even if you  
don't realise it  
initially. Take as much  
time as you need  
but know there's  
people who love you  
and will help you speak  
out*

*Don't let your past dictate  
your future - Stay strong*

# WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO SURVIVORS

*You are  
never alone  
even when  
you feel  
lonely.*

*Don't be afraid  
to tell others  
about your  
experience, all  
we want to  
do is protect  
you // love you*

*Pain fades over  
time but friends  
will never leave  
you*

*It will  
get easier.  
Stay strong,  
keep going.*

*If it feels like hell  
don't stop.  
Why stop in hell?  
It will get better  
☺*

*stay  
strong*

## encouragement

[ɪnˈkʌrɪdʒm(ə)n(t)] 🔊

NOUN

the action of giving someone support, confidence, or hope.

"thank you for all your support and encouragement"

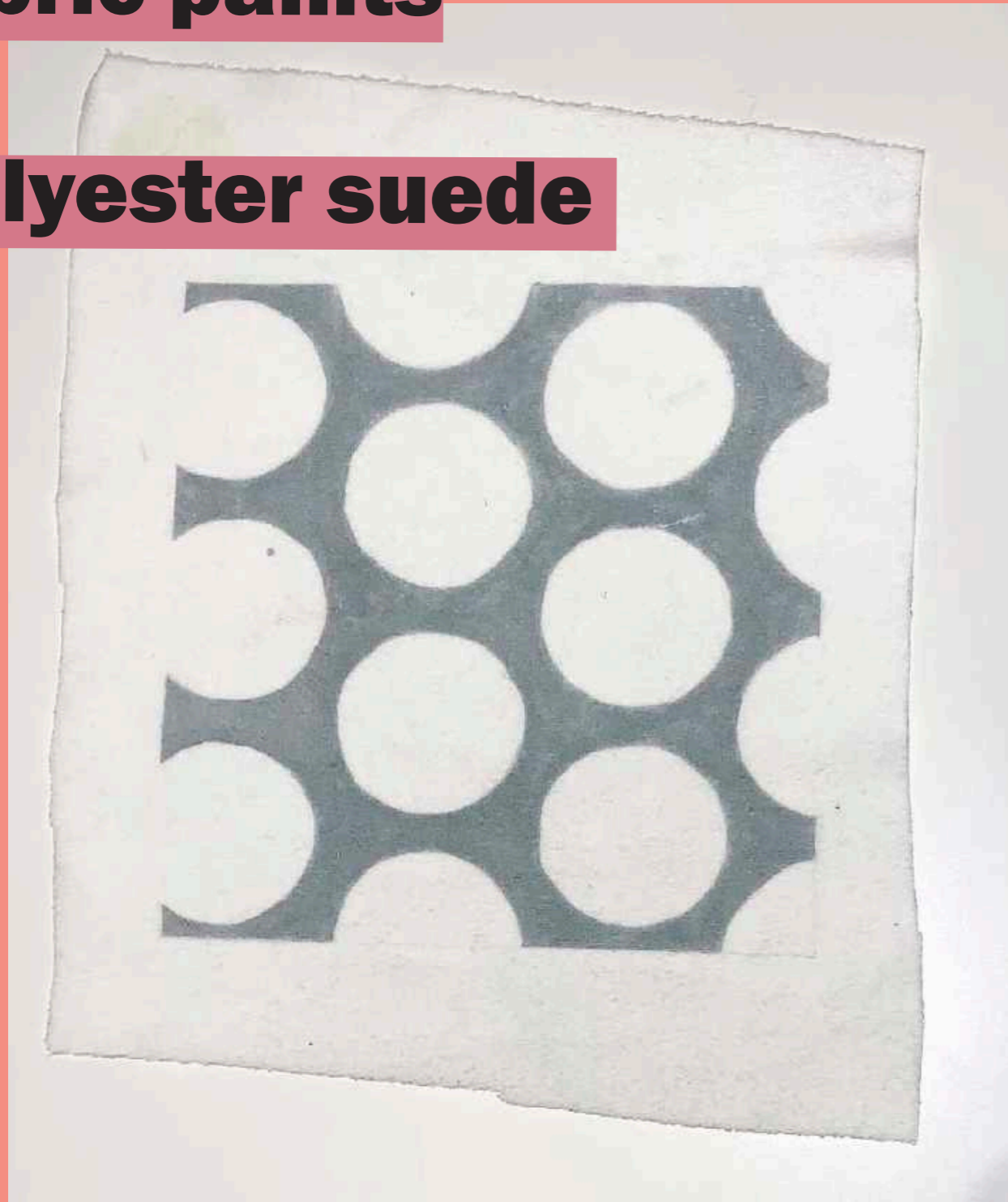
synonyms: heartening · cheering · cheering up · buoying up · pepping up · uplifting · inspiration · rallying · motivation · incitement · stimulation · animation · invigoration · invigorating · [more]

*Your family  
and friends*



**Using the heat press to  
print on to fabric from  
fabric paints**

**Polyester suede**



**Polyester canvas**



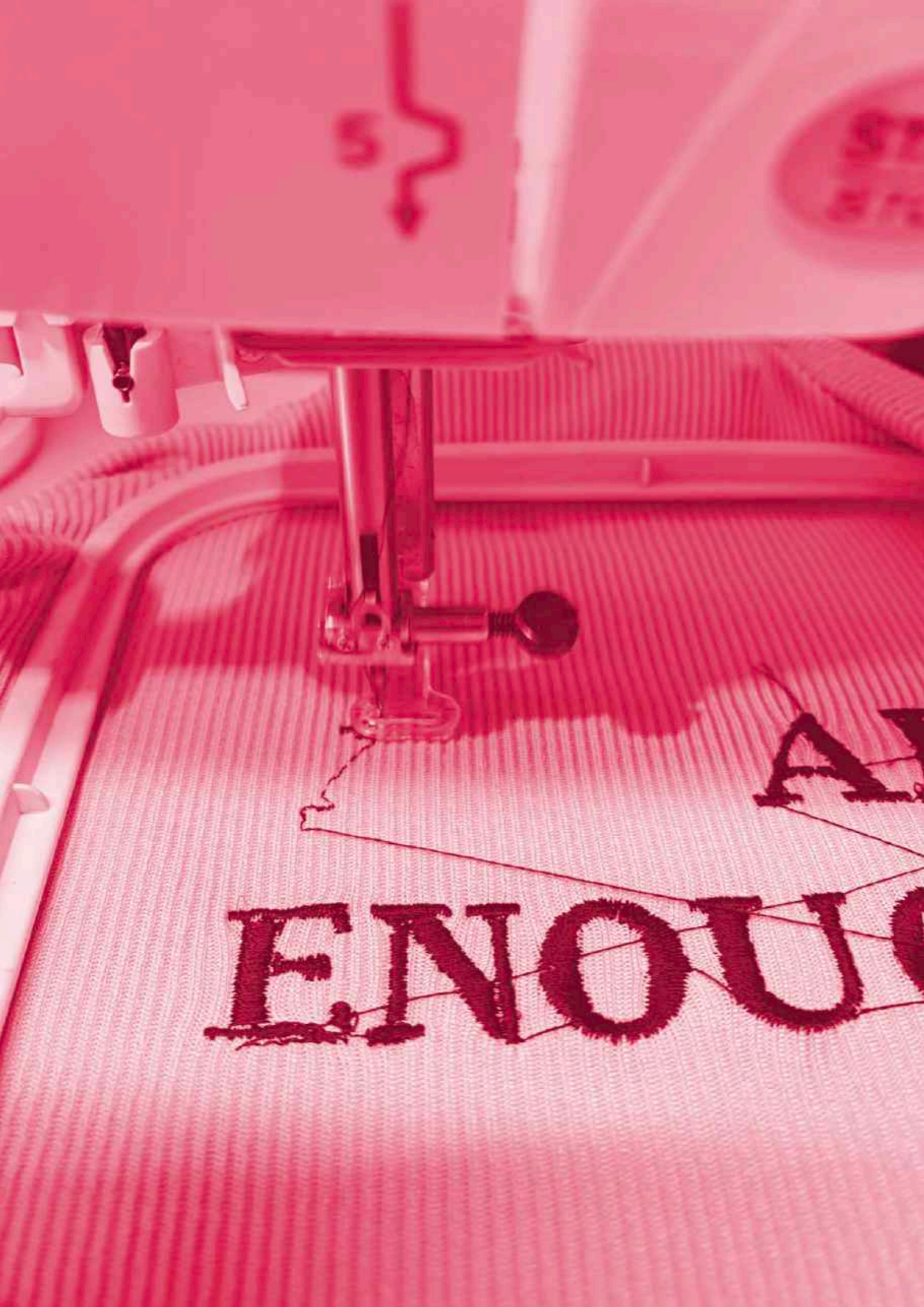
# Triobal fleece



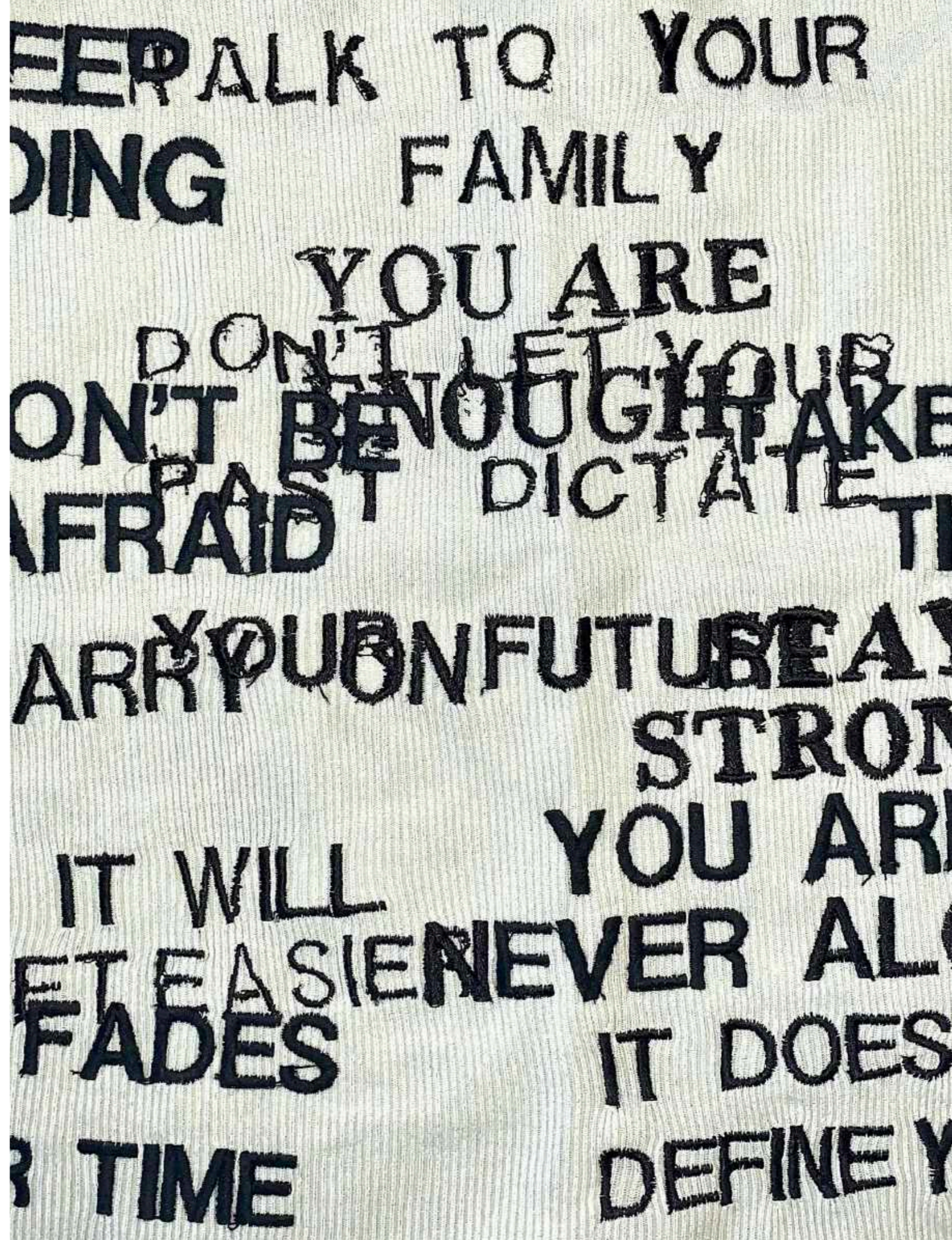
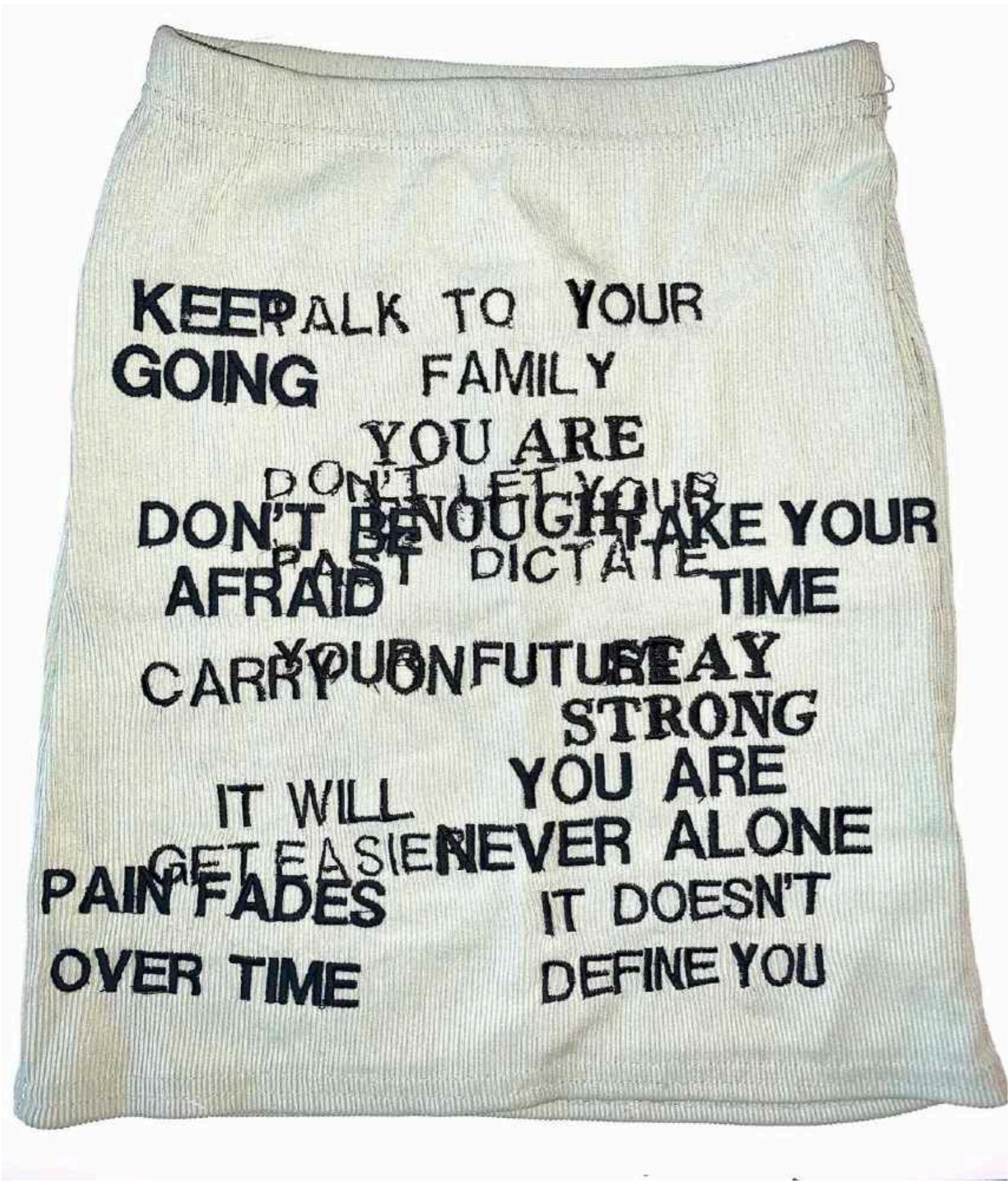


# Polyester satin plaza





Encouragement (2020)



Encourage wall (2020)

**Liberation  
manifested  
itself  
physically  
in the  
relaxed fit  
of garments  
and with it**

**came a new  
set of ideals  
for women.**

The main purpose of the flapper appearance was to look virtually boyish somewhat than looking feminine.

Smita Bagai  
1920s FASHION: DAWN OF WOMEN'S LIBERATION.



# COMME DES GARÇONS

‘Like the  
boys’

Why is oversized seen  
as masculine? How can  
women explore their  
identity in oversized  
clothes?

Comme Des Garçons  
Wikipedia



# Sandra Mujinga

Mujinga plays with  
the economies of  
invisibility and opacity  
negotiating questions  
of identity and self  
representation.

Art rabbit  
Sandra Mujinga- Structural Keepers

**Prettiness  
is not a rent  
you pay for  
occupying  
a space  
marked  
female**

Florence Given  
Women Don't owe you pretty

**'Prettiness' is not  
something we need to be  
just because we have the  
title of 'woman' #**

**Is prettiness even real? Is it  
a social construct?**

Is beauty a concept in this sense? “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” we often hear. Certainly, this maxim seems to be consistent with the assumptions of conceptualism; nevertheless, I can't help but be troubled with this notion. If beauty is nothing more than a mental representation relating itself to a particular object in the world, I can't help but think that this mental representation is arbitrary. Does beauty really exist in the world or only in our minds? If the latter, then isn't beauty by her very nature untrue, or, to be more precise, isn't the very nature of truth in question?

According to “concept's” most basic meaning beauty could perhaps be called a concept, but I am not prepared to call it *merely* a concept. Beauty is far more than our ideas about her, far more than what our imagination or reason can conjure up by themselves. She confronts us as something other, calling us to the very mystery of Being itself. Is “concept” really the right word with which to describe her?

**Is Beauty a concept?  
DougasMaximus.wordpress**

# Cy Twombly



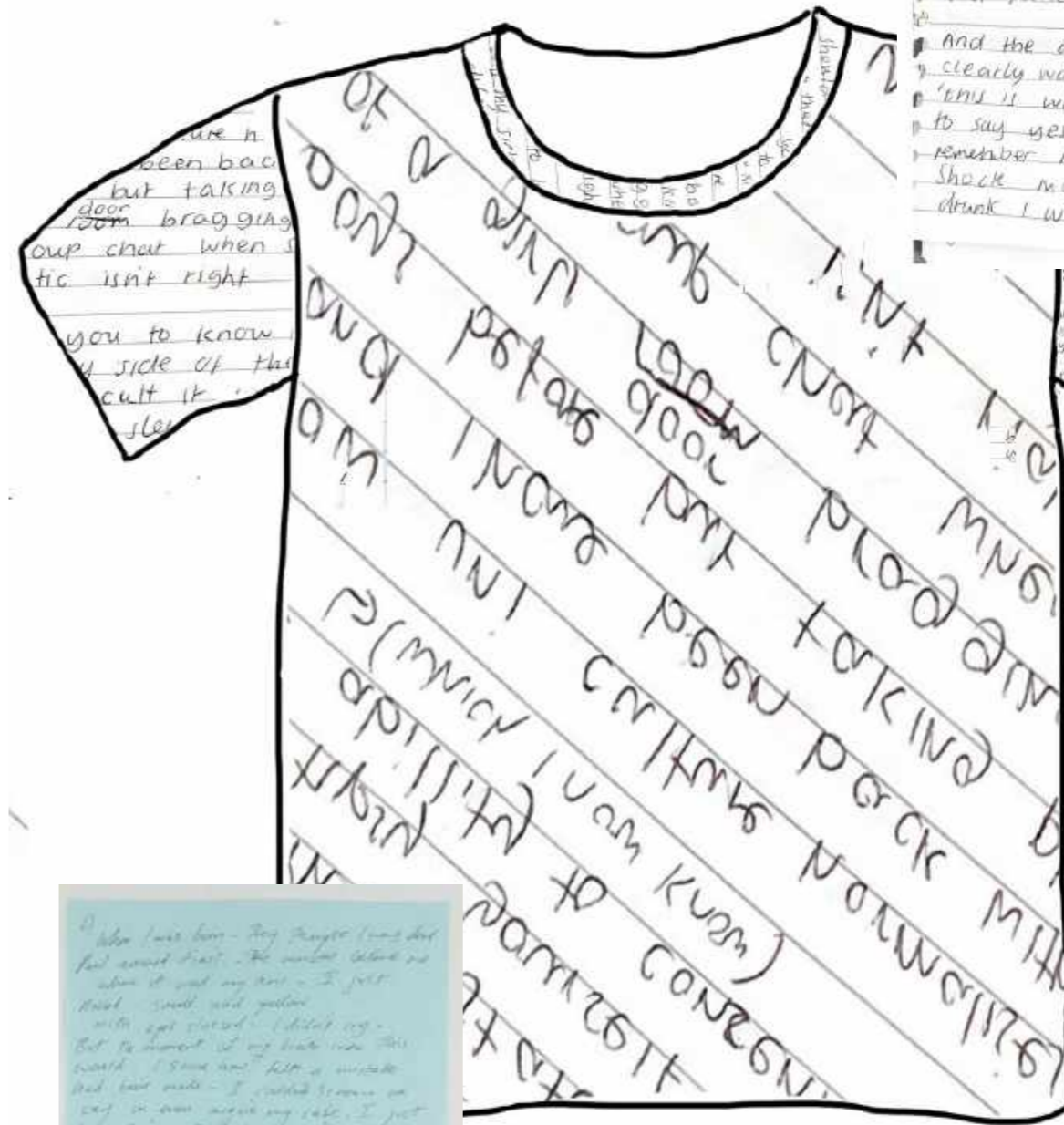
Untitled (Bacchus, Psilax, Mainomenos), 2005  
Cy Twombly



Lipstick (2021)  
Lucy Lucas



Lipstick T-shirt (2021)



all I know is that when  
I lay there in pain and  
falling asleep not really  
knowing what was going on  
was that at this point  
I didn't want it  
you then shone a flashlight  
in my eyes I've thought  
over this so much - why  
would you shine it - surely  
if you knew I may be  
eyes closed/asleep sex should  
of been taking place in the  
first place  
And the one thing I do remember  
clearly was your words -  
'this is wrong isn't it' I tried  
to say yes I suppose but  
remember mumbling, I was in  
shock maybe it was how  
drunk I was but I couldn't

When I was born - my mother (was) dead  
and I was left - The world looked so  
when it was my first - I just  
think - small and quiet  
with eyes closed - I didn't cry -  
But the moment of my birth was the  
worst - I was born - I was  
that last night - I couldn't breathe  
and I was alone - I just  
lay there motionless - looking I could  
not see - that is when I had  
they got me into a little glass box  
and they - I was -  
that and I was - I was -  
they got me into a little glass box  
and they - I was -  
that and I was - I was -  
they got me into a little glass box  
and they - I was -

"Exploration of the soul" (1994)  
Tracey Emin

Exploration T-shirt (2021)



# HOW TO DRAW A FASHION

## FIGURE IN A FEW SIMPLE

bbc.co.uk



Riley was one of the students whose photo was altered (Image courtesy of family)

A Florida high school is facing a backlash for altering the yearbook photos of 80 female students to add clothing to their chests and shoulders.

The school district told local media the changes were made to ensure the photos met the dress code, which says girls' shirts must be "modest".

But critics pointed to yearbook photos of male students left unedited despite violating the same standards.

The digital alterations were made without BBC permission, the students say.

**Florida high school alters 80 'immodest' yearbook photos of students**

able to sketc

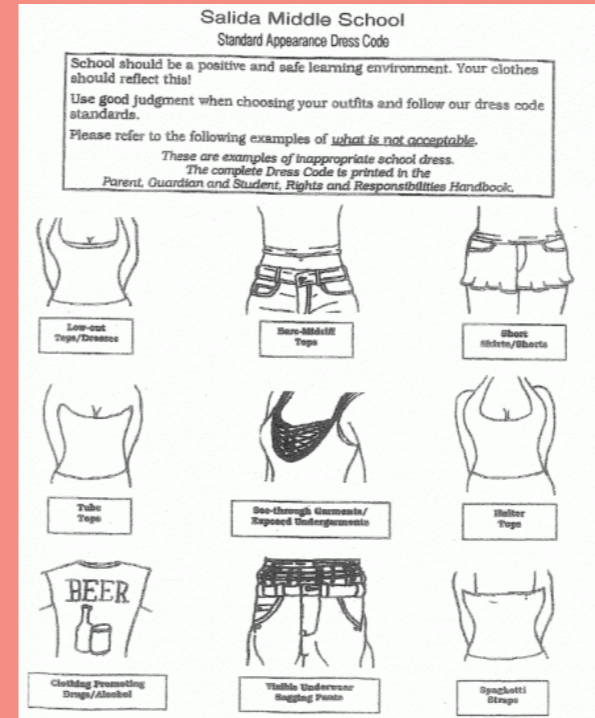
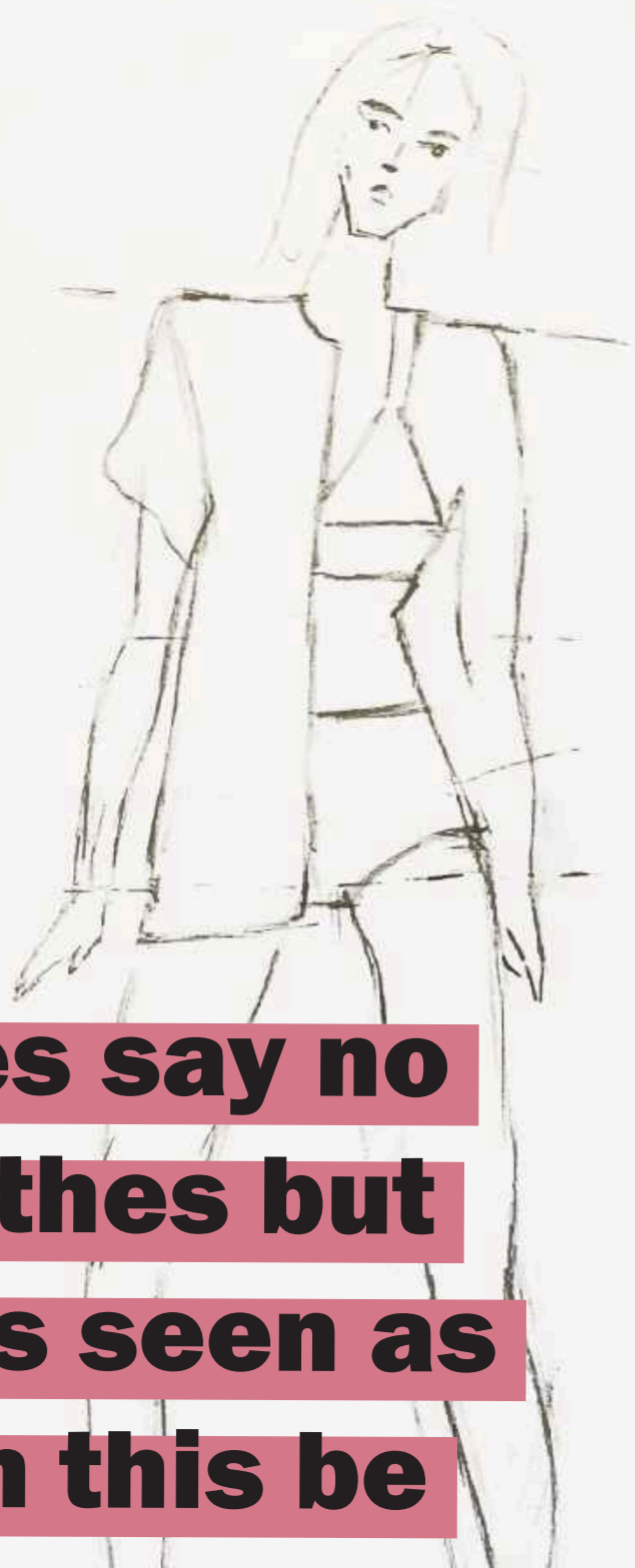
**Dress codes say no**

**to tight clothes but**

**oversized is seen as**

**'manly' Can this be**

**ideology be broken?**



Salida middle school dress code pinterest



Half and half top (2021)

At this point it starts to feel like such 'codes' are less about protecting children and more about protecting strict social norms and hierarchies that refuse to tolerate difference or diversity.

Laura Bates Time- How School Dress Codes Shame Girls and Perpetuate Rape Culture

# Be A Lady They Said

**'I will**

**Choose**

**to wear a**

**tight fitting**

**bodycon**

**dress.**

**However**

**those**

Camille Rainville  
Be A Lady They Said

a skank. Don't be a whore. Don't sleep around. Don't lose your dignity. Don't have sex with too many men. Don't give yourself away. Men don't like sluts. Don't be a prude. Don't be so uptight. Have a virginity test. Be a virgin. Be dirty. Be

**Occasions**

**will be if/**

**when it suits**

**me and not**

**when I think**

**society**

**demands it**

**of me'.**

Georgina Wong  
The Tab- Feminism and Fashion: I dress for myself

# Experimenting with stitch

**Thread tension:** Adjust depending on the material

**Thin material = thread tension 2-3**

**Stitch length:**

**Thin material = shorter stitch**

**Thick material = longer stitch**

**Zigzag stitch good for stretchy material such as Lycra.**

# FASHION

# TROPES

**Clothing has an identity depending on the fabric/style/colour/pattern etc**

**Feminine- glitter, satin, lace, pleats, floral, pastel**  
**Masculine- leather, studs, shoulder pads, blazers, oversized**

Harry Styles  
@enksha\_saxena  
Times Now News- 'Clothes have no gender'. Now netizens came out in support of Harry Styles' 'dressy' look in Vogue cover shoot

# Silk

Thinner, finer, 'delicate' fabrics have been traditionally associated with women.

Silks satins and lace are often used for women's lingerie, designed to make a woman feel 'pretty and feminine'

Leah Morgan  
Huffington post- It's Finally Men's Turn To Embrace So-Called 'Feminine' Fabrics.

## What does it mean to be feminine?

What it means to be feminine can differ from person to person and ultimately, being feminine is whatever you want it to be – it's should be what makes you confident and happy. To me, femininity means being hard-working, strong, self-sufficient, resilient, empathetic, and passionate.

Sumaya Hussaini  
Women's Republic - What does it mean to be 'feminine'.

'Pretty' (2021)

**Gender reality is performative which means quite simply, that it is real only to the extent it is performed.**

Judith Butler. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. London: Routledge, 1999, p.179.

'Pretty' up close (2021)

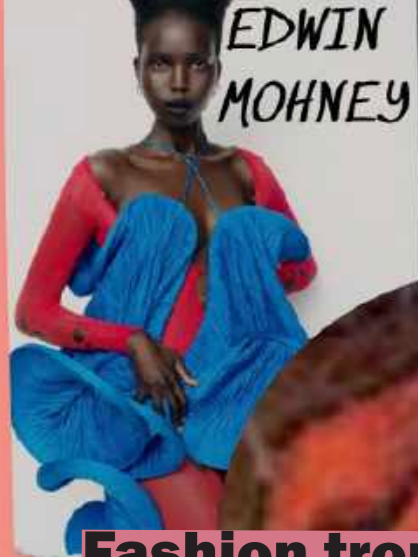
**Why should clothes be defined by gender?**



Work in progress (2021)

Every piece of clothing begins as a natural fibre or synthetic filament. Each of these are spun into thread and then woven into fabric. Fabric is not living and it has no gender, but what I find curious is that a piece of fabric which starts as a cotton boll, for instance, should have rigid social and gender prescriptions around it, and yet it does.

Leah Morgan  
Huffington post- It's Finally Men's Turn To Embrace So-Called 'Feminine' Fabrics.



Entrance movement

Fashion tropes have historical meanings for both women and men so why do we so strictly gender them today?

Shirring



'BADGE OF HONOUR'



ELIZABETHAN



ICONIC WOMAN



Women belonged to their fathers then to their husbands



Power ruffle (2021)

**Aggressively  
oversized,  
gave the  
effect of  
holding their  
head up**

Nicole Livey  
Fashion magazine- Charting the unlikely history of ruffles.



# BETHANY WILLIAMS

**“I’ve always loved the idea of taking something that’s discarded, giving it some time and making it beautiful”**

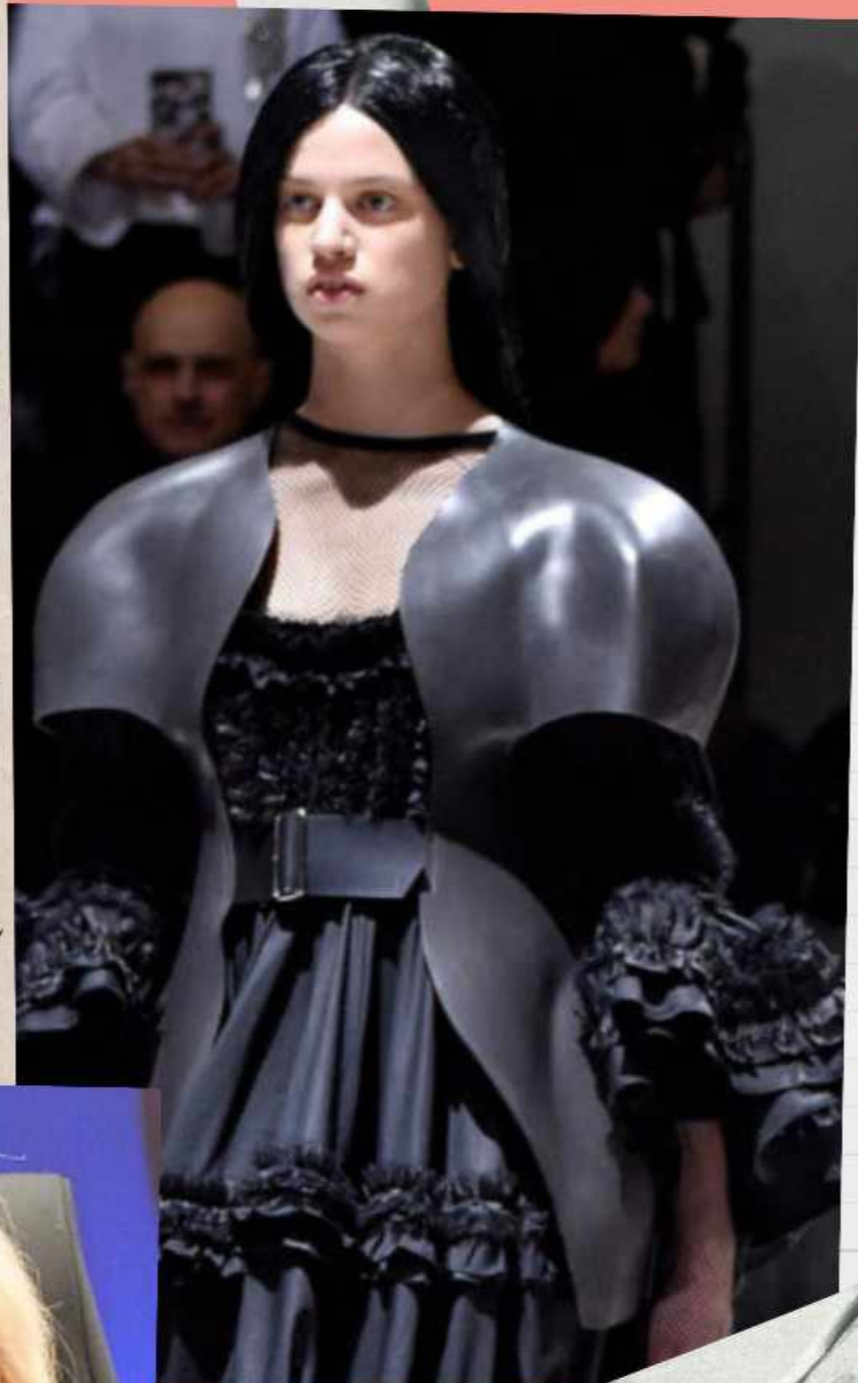
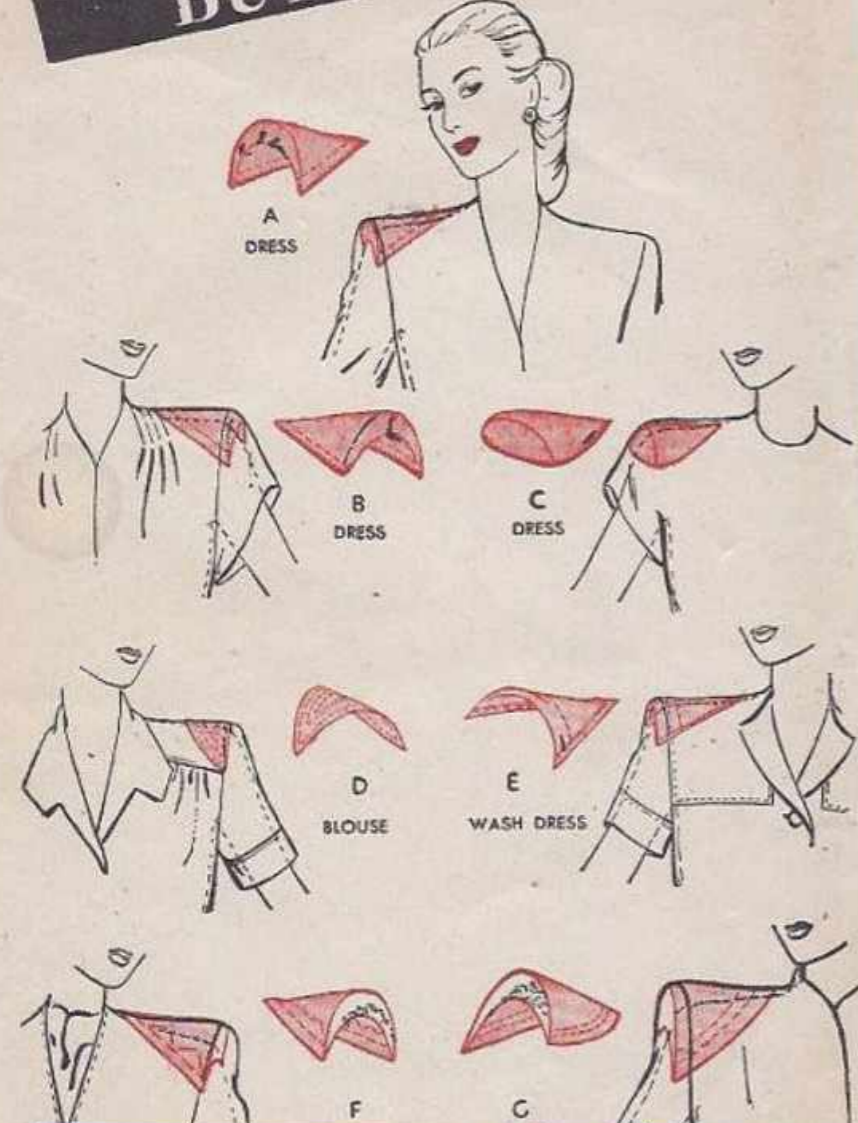
The collection has been named after the Spires’ Butterfly Café – a weekly run session which offers a safe space and meeting point for vulnerable women to socialise over food and drink and partake in creative activities to learn and develop skills in arts and crafts,

Olivia Singer  
VOGUE-How Bethany Williams Radically Reinvented Fashion As A Force



Ruffle experimentation X\$ (2021)





SMA  
SH  
THE  
GLA  
SS



'POWER SUIT'



Work in progress (2021)

# 'Embodied feminist goals of the era'



Model 4400

## CORE PATTERNS

domestic use only. Garments made from this pattern and sold commercially are expressly prohibited. No part of this pattern may be reproduced, resold, although it is permitted for domestic use.

### ASSEMBLING SLEEVEHEADS

PLEASE NOTE: The canvas portion is meant to protect the seam portion of the sleevehead. The canvas should be touching the wrong side of the front sleeve. The notches are there to indicate front and back but do not necessarily match up with the notches on your pattern.

### ASSEMBLING SHOULDER PADS

pieces. The top and bottom should be cut from felt (lambswool or cotton batting may also be used). The middle section should be cut from lambswool, cotton batting or fleece. All three layers will be sandwiched together, so you may need to add more layers of batting in the middle until you



Top

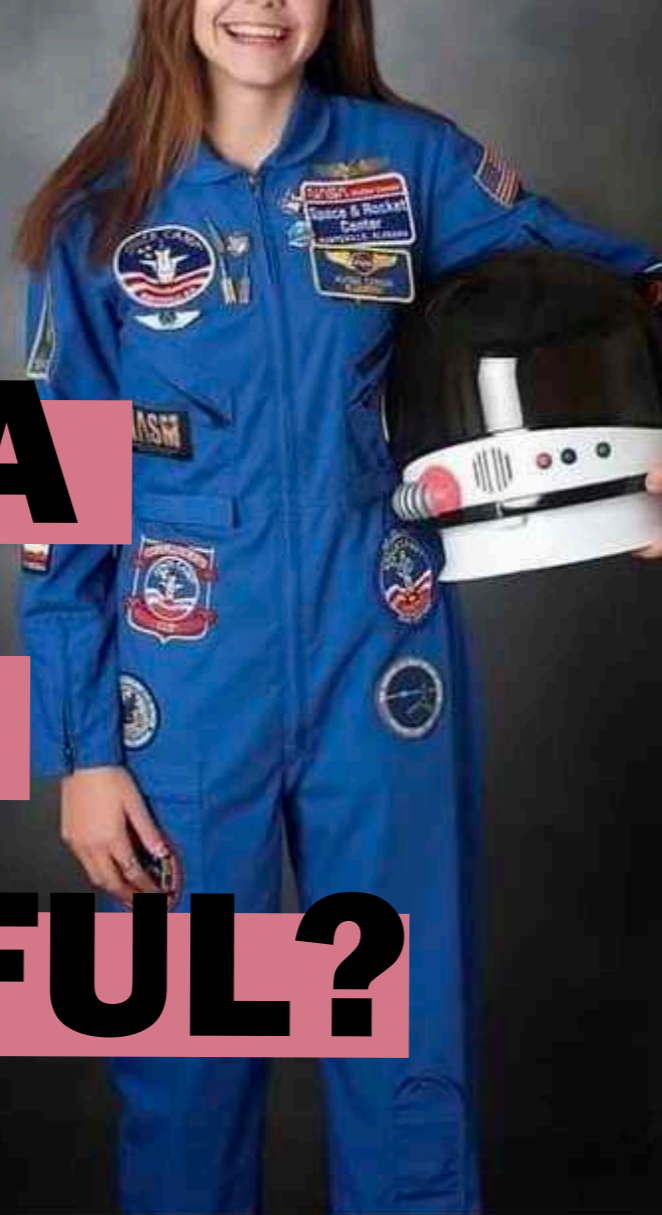
Bottom

Closest Core PATTERNS

SLEEVEHEAD

CUT TWO IN LAMBS WOOL, COTTON BATTING OR FLEECE

# WHAT MAKES A WOMAN POWERFUL?



**'Any woman who is in control, who is in touch with her femininity and sensuality is a woman that is empowered'**

Craig Mclean.  
Independent - Shakira interview: 'Feeling sexy is empowering'

**All women can be seen as powerful for different reasons.**

Contrasting power pads (2021)



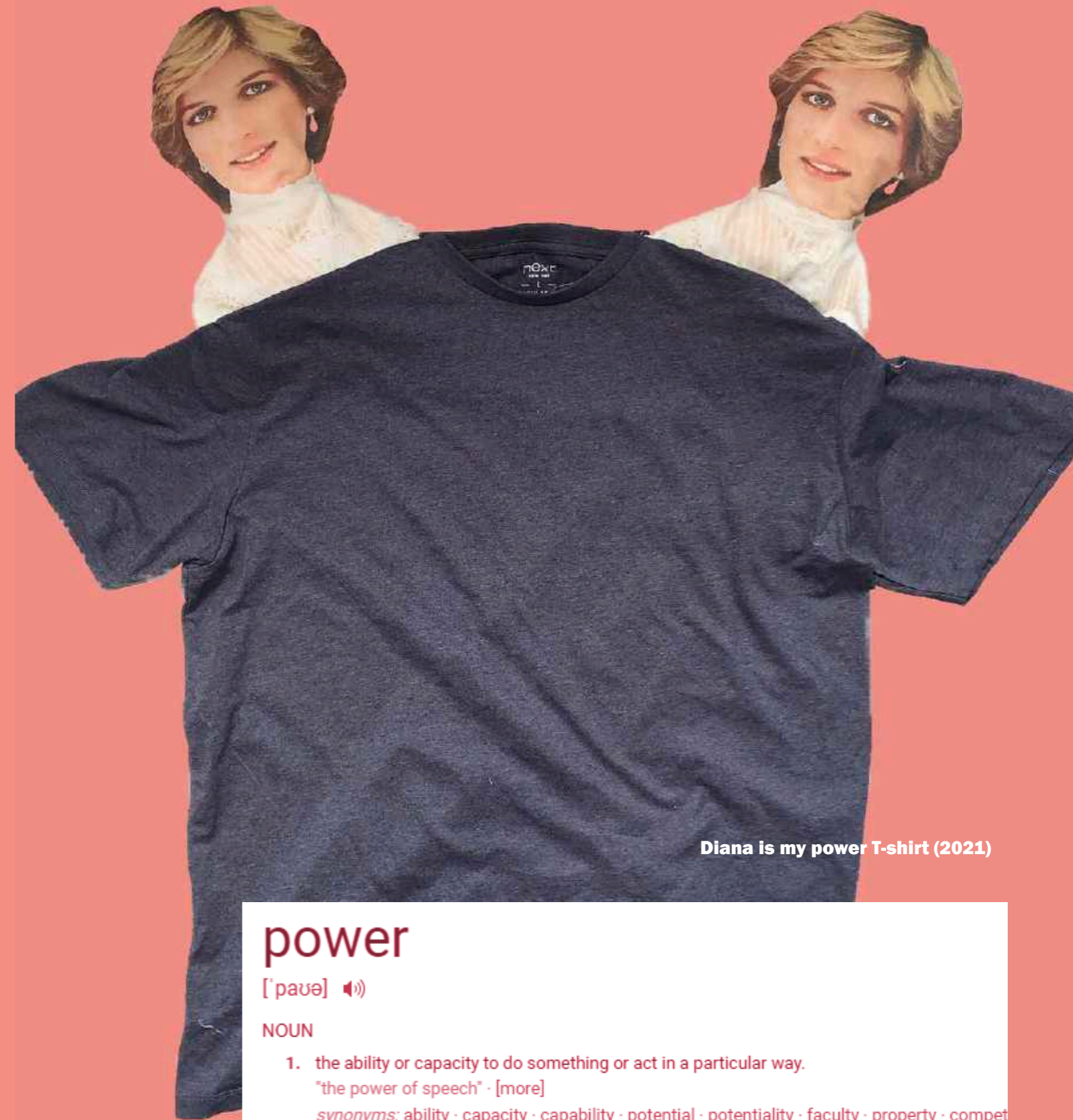
Liked by tommy.m6 and 1,032,474 others

worthfeed A few days ago, a photograph of American model Kendall Jenner in a swimsuit went viral, showing what for many is the perfect body in a woman. On the right, a photograph of Alyssa Carson, the 19-year-old astronaut who became the youngest person in history to overcome all NASA's aerospace tests.

You can probably work which of the two is most well known and globally admired, yet this situation shows us the disproportionate value that society gives to exaggerated beauty stereotypes. While many women struggle every day

# Diana was the triumph of feminine strength in practice

Anne McElvoy-  
Evening Standard- Was Princess Diana a feminist?



Diana is my power T-shirt (2021)

## power

[ˈpaʊə] 🔊

NOUN

1. the ability or capacity to do something or act in a particular way.  
"the power of speech" · [more]  
*synonyms:* ability · capacity · capability · potential · potentiality · faculty · property · competency
2. the capacity or ability to direct or influence the behaviour of others or the course of events.  
"a political process that offers people power over their own lives" · [more]  
*synonyms:* influence · authority · weight · sway · control · say · ascendancy · dominance · [more]
3. physical strength and force exerted by something or someone.  
"the power of the storm" · [more]  
*synonyms:* strength · powerfulness · might · force · forcefulness · mightiness · weight · [more]

**DE-CONSTRU  
CTING THE  
POWER SUIT  
DE-CONSTRU  
CTING  
FEMININITY**



**“Gender is an identity tenuously constituted in time, instituted in an exterior space through a stylized repetition of acts... in which bodily gestures, movements, and styles of various kinds constitute the illusion of an abiding gendered self”**

Judith Butler. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. London: Routledge, 1999, p.179.



**De-constructing and Reconstructing the blazer, a 'GENTLEMAN'S classic' into items of women's wear. Transforming the blazer into something which isn't strictly masculine.**

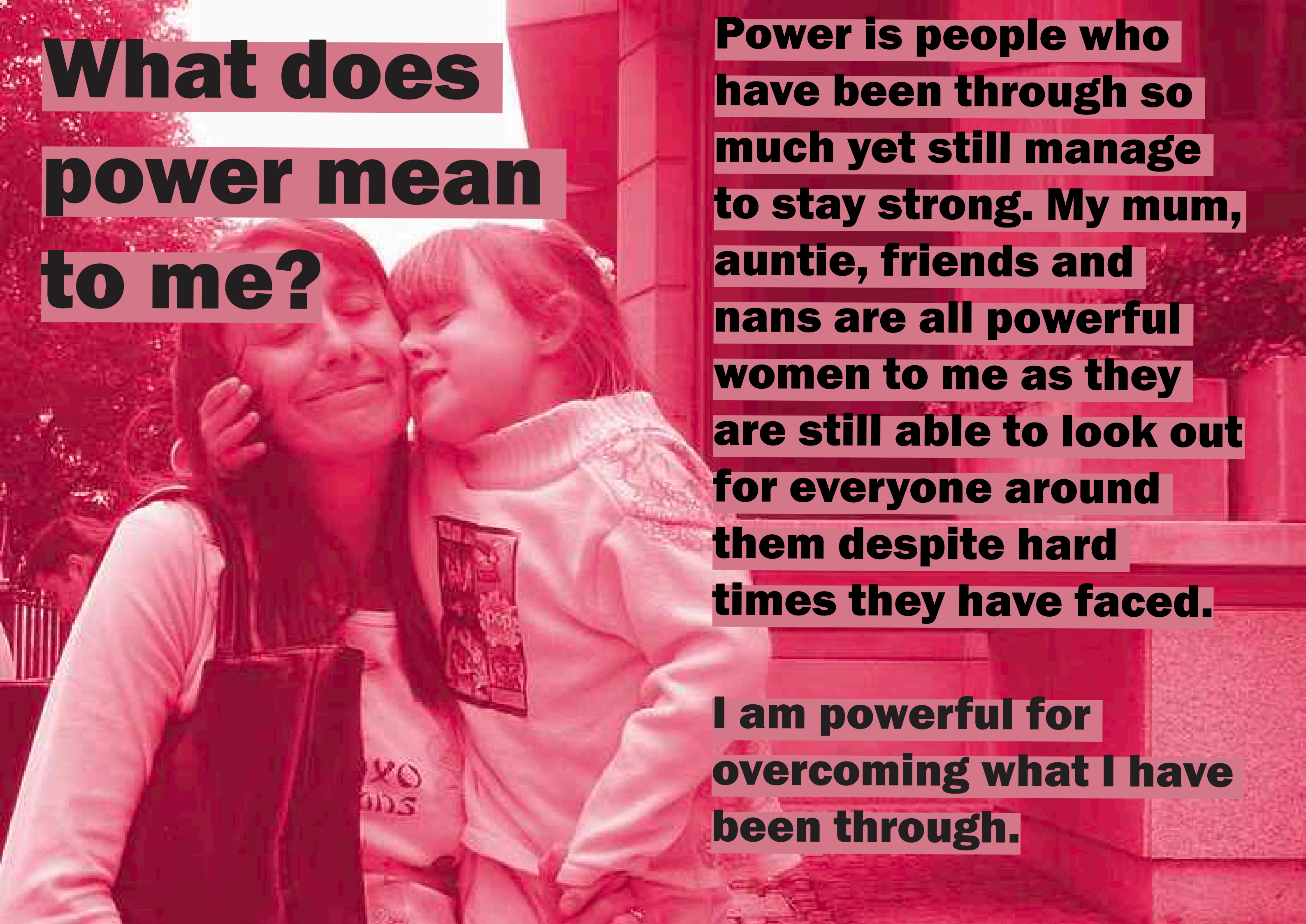
## deconstruction

*noun* [ C or U ]

UK  / ˌdiː.kənˈstrʌkʃ.ən/ US  / ˌdiː.kənˈstrʌkʃ.ən/

the act of breaking something down into its separate parts in order to understand its meaning, especially when this is different from how it was previously understood:

- *her complex deconstruction of the Asian stereotype*

A photograph of a woman and a young girl embracing outdoors. The woman is on the left, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a dark apron, with her eyes closed and a gentle smile. The girl is on the right, wearing a white t-shirt with a graphic, kissing the woman on the cheek. The background shows a brick wall and some foliage. The entire image has a red tint.

**What does  
power mean  
to me?**

**Power is people who  
have been through so  
much yet still manage  
to stay strong. My mum,  
auntie, friends and  
nans are all powerful  
women to me as they  
are still able to look out  
for everyone around  
them despite hard  
times they have faced.**

**I am powerful for  
overcoming what I have  
been through.**



**"()" 2007**  
**Elana Herzog**



Steinum's works are, ultimately, organic and unrepeatable in their unstructured shapes and chaotic colors—showing us that the desire for cleanliness that has historically been imposed on women is indeed dubious.

**"Dubious Desire for Cleanliness"**  
**Camilla Steinum**  
**Artsy.net - Camilla Steinum's Textile Sculptures Take a Feminist Approach to Material**



## Tenant of Culture on Refashioning Old Clothes—and Herself

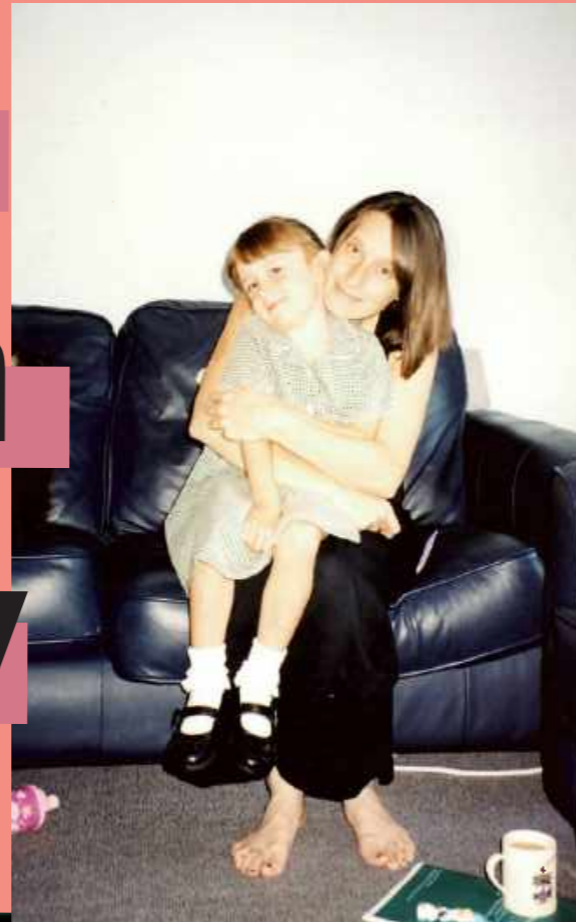
**Louise Benson**  
**Tenant of Culture on Refashioning Old Clothes—and Herself**



**Arm wrestle (2021)**



# Powerful women in my family



**Mothers are the emotional backbones of the family. They provide the holding place for everyone's feelings and do their best to keep us from being hurt.**



# Winifred Aldrich



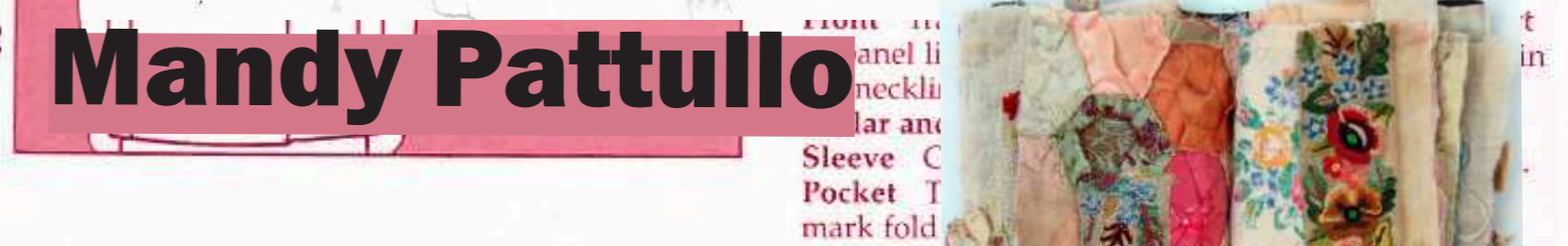
Deconstruction in progress (2021)



## Tailored jackets and coats



ket (or coat)  
 create a semi-easy fitting  
 with reduced der.  
 nt pitch points.  
 it; 8 is midway  
 4.  
 7.  
 or double  
 ape.  
 ref. 19, page  
 line.



# Mandy Pattullo

**'I call it textile collage because I layer up, have raw edges, mix materials and work in the same way as a paper collage artist'**

Mandy Pattullo  
 Untitled  
 Create whimsy Spotlight: Mandy Pattullo, Textiles Artist

## 6th Edition Metric Pattern Cutting for Women's Wear

A letter to my

## A Letter to my daughter

Dear huay,

When I moved to

University my mum

wrote me a letter of

encouragement. After

being assaulted my mum

was there for me and I

read back through the

letter to remember how

much I am loved.

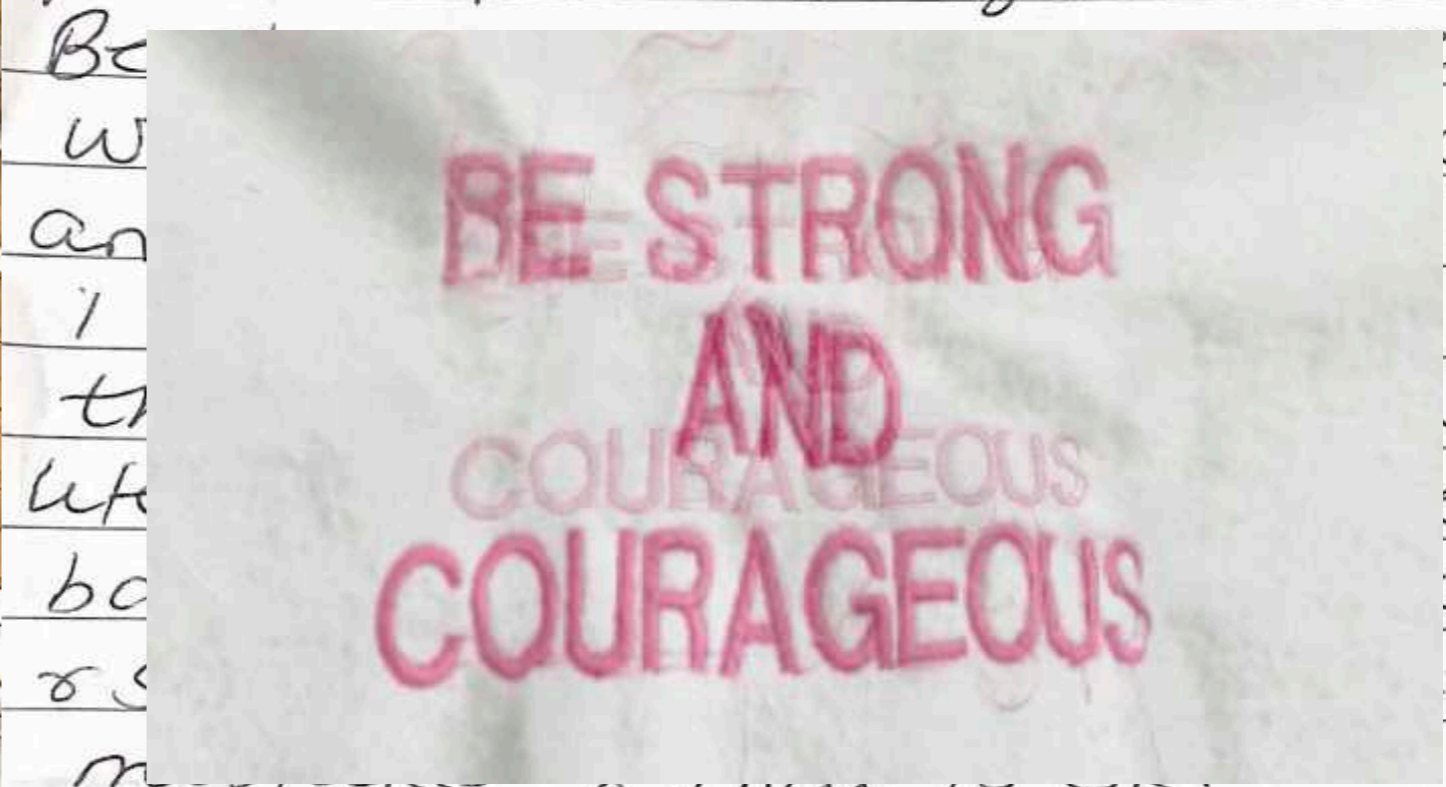
Don't ever forget that. One day a boy you meet will be lucky enough to call you his.

My mum makes me feel

like a powerful woman.

hope it is everything you want it to be.

you are perfect as you are



live, laugh, love and dance ☺

you & your brother, have



camp  
actu  
I love

Follow your dreams

**I want the viewer to see how many pieces of the puzzle it takes to make the garment they are stepping inside or putting over their head. By ironing out all the seams, taking away all the threads, you can see where stitches and folds used to be.**

Margaret Burton on fast fashion



**'The battle for women to be treated like human beings with rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of involvement in cultural and political arenas continues and sometimes its a pretty grim battle'**

Rebecca Solnit  
Men Explain Things to Me.





E (2021)



I (2021)

**'I think we could understand misogyny and violence against women better if we looked at the abuse of power as a whole rather than treating domestic violence separately from rape and murder and harassment and intimidation online and in the work place and in the streets ; seen together, the pattern is clear'**

Rebecca Solnit  
Men Explain Things to Me.

I (2021)



N (2021)



N (2021)



I (2021)





Y (2021)



T (2021)

**I overcame my rape through my own power with the support of my family and friends.**



**We are all powerful as women.**



**We will not be defined and will overcome challenges we face.**

