

ORIGIN OF CLOTHING

SUBMITTED BY
MISS BEENU
ASIT. PROF. F.D

- It is well known fact that clothing is one of basic need of man along with food . Clothing plays a significant role in our life by protecting our body against external sources such as weather, insects etc.
- But due to this basic conception we often overlook social and emotional need that are met by clothing. Clothes reflect the lifestyle more efficiently.

clothes communicate social status, occupation, self confidence and personality of the wearer .
So a person is also judge by clothes he or she wrar.

There are some theories and concept which explain the origin of clothing . Broadly there are main four theories :-

- 1 Instinct theory
- 2 Drive or need theory
- 3 Economic theory
- 4 psycho - analytical theory

INSTINCT THEORY

- 1 Modesty Theory :- According to this theory, clothes were first wore to cover the nakedness, because of shame. It is recognized fact that we feel immodest when certain parts of body are exposed.
- 2 Immodesty Theory :- This theory is opposite to the modesty theory and explain the origin of clothing as a means to call attention to body parts of body that cover for e.g., film Actors wear body hugging dresses to emphasis the figure to attract the attention.

- 3 Protection Theory :- This theory has various modifications some believe that clothing are worn as protection against climatic conditions other believe it is worn for protection against insects and still other believes it is worn against supernatural forces.
- 4 Decoration or ornamental Theory :- According to this theory clothing are worn in order to create beauty in form of dresses. This ornamentation is also include jewelry and body painting.

DRIVE OR NEED THEORY

This theory explains that clothing protects people from various kinds of fear in mind.

- 1 Fear of Ridicule :- Everyone has fear regarding clothing like the fear of ridicule has result of improper clothing eg. Teenagers want to wear whatever is in fashion as they feel otherwise they won't be accepted by poor group.
- 2 Fear of Poverty/Estimation of Poverty :- Some people spend extra money on clothes in order to save themselves from being judged as poor.

- 3 Fear of Estimation of Inefficiency :- A person might be very efficient but. If she or he is not neatly and properly dressed then that person might be seen inefficient to most of the people for e.g. if any employee in any company comes to his work place with uncombed hair, wrinkled clothes and with old dirty shoes then that person is obviously considered as inefficient.
- 4 Fear of dermal Discomforts :- Some people suffer allergies or any kind of infection from any kind of external sources or insects etc. So, in order to avoid dermal discomforts we wear clothes.

- 5 Fear of Immodesty :- Sometime some people do not like to wear very tight fitted and revealing dresses because of this fear that she would be criticized for being of immodesty.
- 6 Fear of Estimation of Lacking Good Taste : A person always tries to dress up in those dresses which suits best on him or her and which can make other people think that she has got a good taste. For eg. some people blindly follow the fashion whether it suits them or not than such people considered to be lacking of good taste by others.

- 7 Fear of Underestimation at First Impression :- People try to dress up neatly and properly specially to make their first impression the last impression. This theory can be explained by e.g. that when a girl is to be get married and she has to come for the first time in front of her in-laws she dresses up at her best so that the first impression of girl can be good and she is not under estimated.
- 8 Fear of Obtrusiveness :- A person is considered to be advanced or forward because of his or her culture or society. For e.g. if a girl wear off-shouldered dress in a village then she might be considered to advance by the village people.

- 9 Obtrusiveness :- This is a theory of Maslow's theory of motivation which also explain our needs which leads us to wear clothes, these needs are,

1 Belongingness

2 Self esteem

3 self actualization

4 Cognitive need

5 Aesthetic need

- I Belongingness :- We feel belonged to a particular group, culture or society we always try to dress up in way which give us feeling of belongingness of that particular culture or society for e.g. teenager feels belonged to their poor group. So they like to wear trendy and fashionable clothes and they keep on changing their dressing style as the member of their group do and another e.g. student who come from village area to study in city colleges they start wearing western clothes to belonged.

- II Self-esteem :- To maintain one's self respect a person dresses up properly because it gives him the feeling of confidence or respect.

Good dressing sense gives us confidence to move in society without hesitation.

- III Self actualization :- We always design our clothes or choose those clothes for us which suits us the best because it gives us the feeling of satisfaction and fulfillment because our clothes reflect our personality in the best way.

- IV Cognitive need :- Cognitive means something related to our psychology. Cognitive need of clothing mean curiosity. We are always curious to show those clothes which are latest in fashion. Why we try to learn new trends, style and design gain more and more knowledge about fashion.
- V Aesthetic need :- Aesthetic need is closely related to beauty. Aesthetic need forces us to dress up in a way and use of accessory, ornaments and other trimming to make our dresses and our self more beautiful.

Maslow also explain physiological and safety needs.

On physiological needs he explains that clothes are worn to protect the body against several climatic conditions like we need to wear warm clothes in winter and cool or absorbent clothes in summer and in safety need he explains that clothes are worn to protect the body against skin allergies, insect bites, injuries etc. Why special clothing is worn under special circumstances like special clothes are worn by workers in mines and in chemical industry.

ECONOMIC THEORY

According to this theory people dress up in order to look prosperous.

For eg. A person who is not rich dresses up neatly and properly in order to give an impression of being rich and prosperous. On the other hand, the one who is rich and belongs to the higher class of society dresses up in expensive clothes to show their richness to emphasize their social status.

PSYCHOLOGICAL/ PSYCHOANALYTICAL THEORY

This theory concentrate on two basic instinct or forces according to moslow, the basic two forces are "life and death". If wr talk about life instinct or force then one of the most minutely analyse life instinct is sexual instinct.

This is something related to modesty. This theory rxplain that we wear clothes eg. dress up nratly to atteact opposite sex clothing srtve to cover our body and fulfill the nerd of modesty but some time they also enhance shape of body emphasis its beauty and call attention to various parts.

THANK YOU