

Appropriate Jail Wear

Recently I went to visit a fellow in the Yakima Community Restitution Center in Union Gap. When I spoke to the officer at the reception desk I was asked to show my ID and given some warnings about language that was prohibited in the facility and my attention was drawn to a sheet that outlined the dress code for visitors. The officer said that the staff had worked hard to include as much as possible the disruptive forms of dress that effected the inmates negatively.

Here is the list:

Do not wear: tank tops, halter tops, crop tops, short shorts, wrap around skirts.

Do not wear plunging neck lines

Do not wear gang oriented types of clothing

Do not wear see through clothing or sheer fabrics; low cut pants that expose skin are prohibited.

Visitors are **required** to wear undergarments, shirts and shoes.

No clothing with slogans, advertisements, vulgarity or suggestive or controversial statements will be allowed.

Visit will be denied if this code is not followed.

It is interesting that the jail system is sensitive to how provocative clothes affect people. The officer said they tell visitors who are puzzled "just dress as you would for church". Many respond, "I wear this to church!" This is amazing really! Would our attire that we dare to wear any where much less to Church deny us a jail visit?

May we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

May God help us! fjc+