

ORDINANCE #22
AGAINST CURRENT ORDINANCE

Ladies and gentlemen,

The reason that most of us are here is because of what we have witnessed at the October Fantasy Fest events, and how it is progressively getting worse on dress ethics. I am here to address the need for a positive change in what we allow on the streets for these events. Body painting is not a costume, nor does opaque colors, cover over extending breast, and private areas for either sex.

A nudity Ordinance or Miscellaneous Offenses - may part the waters of opinions for some people, but the Fantasy Fest event has gotten out of control and the lifting of clothing to expose such parts is even worse. Parades are for enjoyment but- this one has turned into a fashion show of nudity to the extreme of, dressing with less. We have enough indoor entertainment to keep this off the streets.

Prohibited conduct- to me means insufficiently clothed with no regard for our City Law in Key West. We need to mandate that females who are exposed without a bikini, pasties, or a none see through material worn and males flashing or without proper cover at all times will be in violation. Both should be subject to a fine or taken into custody, with a picture of the attire to be accompanied with the charges. If this does not resolve the issue, body painting should be banned completely.

Patrons have gotten away with their uncaring and lude behavior on floats and in our public streets. This is the only event that portrays such behavior and it has become a reflection of neglect, and prior complaints, which has brought us to this point. Stronger guidelines needs to be incorporated in the ordinance to bring back our city's pride and respect that we try to carry at all of our events. We should not have to deal with exposure of body parts, and mis-conduct on public streets. By showing themselves for attention is reckless behavior and often the cause of street fights, and many citizens are displeased by this escalating behavior, which we don't need. Yes, we can go away and ignore it, but where do we draw the line for decency.

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Section (d) of the ordinance is Exemption, I say there are no exceptions where you are expected to be viewed by others in public.-and strict consequences for vendors who air brush without a proper undergarment on these clients. When bending the rules for both sexes to cover a portion of the chest area, buttocks or genital areas we are inviting additional headaches – which, we don't need.

Halloween weekend is about real costumes, and there are plenty of great ones to wear. Plain and simple: Nudity of any kind does not belong on public streets of our town.

It's time to stand up, speak up and support a positive change. Business owners and vendors also have the same responsibility to our city, to demonstrate entertainment in good taste, and to set a precedence for our younger generation.