

Dear Mayor and Commissioners-

I believe it is a mistake to pass a resolution which requires that a woman wear pasties over her nipples if she is body painted during Fantasy Fest.

Why is it that a male is allowed to go topless and not a female? In Columbus, Ohio, a woman is allowed to go topless in public. A judge ruled that if a male can be shirtless, so can a female. Otherwise, it is discrimination.

How is it that an overweight man with a large stomach and breasts that are so large they could fill a bra, is allowed to be shirtless in public and have that be totally acceptable, but not the nipples of a beautiful female? Which is more unsightly?

In 2002, I had my breasts painted and I totally enjoyed it. It was not a sexual experience in any way. It was fun and freeing. If I had wanted to be sexy, I would have dressed up in fishnet stockings, leather, a garter belt, high heels and a push up bra.

I have since had a double mastectomy and I can tell you that my chest doesn't look nearly as attractive as it did when I had my breasts, but now I could go topless legally because I don't have nipples? And on that point, how about the women that have had reconstruction after a mastectomy. There are some that come down here every year and get body painted. Should they have to wear a pasty over their reconstruction even though there is no real nipple? There is a company that makes prosthetic nipples for women that have had reconstruction. The prosthetics look very natural so would these women be required not to use them if they had their reconstructed breasts painted?

How about if a female is wearing a fishnet top? If her nipples were visible under the top, would she be arrested? How silly would that be!

I would think that there would be a lot of Police Officers that would like to have the job of "Nipple Checker". The Police would have to get up close to breasts to check to see if there was any sort of pasty under that body paint. I bet my husband would volunteer to help the officers!

See how complicated this whole issue is? People come down here to enjoy Fantasy Fest and the freedom that goes with it. Let's not become judgmental nipple nazi's down here. We are so much cooler than that!

I want to make it clear that I am not talking about or condoning lewd behavior. This letter is only about female nipples.

Women just want the same freedom as men. Don't tweak the ordinance. Please vote NO!



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