

# Effects of Media Representation on Youth Fashion and Style Preferences

Adarsha Harinaiha<sup>1</sup>, Amit Kansal<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Mohit Parekh<sup>3</sup>, Jatin Khurana<sup>4</sup>, Usha Kiran Barla<sup>5</sup>, Dr. Varsha Agarwal<sup>6</sup>, Anoop Dev<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), India, h.adarsha@jainuniversity.ac.in

<sup>2</sup>Quantum University Research Center, Quantum University, India, amit.kansal@quantumeducation.in

<sup>3</sup>Assistant Professor, Parul Institute of Management and Research-MBA, Parul University, India, mohit.parekh29543@paruluniversity.ac.in

<sup>4</sup>Chitkara Centre for Research and Development, Chitkara University, Himachal Pradesh, India, jatin.khurana.orp@chitkara.edu.in

<sup>5</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Fashion Design, ARKA JAIN University, India, usha.kiran@arkajainuniversity.ac.in

<sup>6</sup>Associate Professor, Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, India, varsha.agarwal@atlasuniversity.edu.in

<sup>7</sup>Centre of Research Impact and Outcome, Chitkara University, Rajpura, Punjab, India, anoop.dev.orp@chitkara.edu.

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## Abstracts

Media portrayal has a huge impact on young fashion and style preferences, driving both social and personal trends. This study investigates whether media portrayals, such as social media, television, and fashion businesses, influence young adults' fashion choices and self-image. The study investigates the influence of exposure to media on fashion preference formation through the analysis of collected datasets. The key findings show that fashion personalities and media channels have a significant impact on style acceptance. The study focuses on how brand reputation and the variety of media content impact consumer behavior. It employs SPSS software to conduct statistical methods, such as Chi-Square tests, to examine the link between demographic factors and media influence. The findings underscore the dynamic nature of fashion trends influenced by media and emphasize the need to understand how media shapes the fashion choices of today's youth.

**Keywords:** Media Representation, Youth Fashion, Social Media Influence, Fashion Trends, Brand Impact, Statistical Analysis.

## Introduction

Media theaters are an important part of promoting worldwide culture. Media provides access to knowledge regarding a nation's lifestyle, culture, manner, nutrition, and traditions [15]. Accordingly, imperialism of culture can lead to ethnic genocide by disconnecting individuals from their cultural roots or traditions. Media imperialism can also create a false connection between the audience and the media's persuasive material [7]. As a result, they buy the thing that was advertised. Fashion trends change, but a culture's ideals are shaped by its beliefs and culture. Fashion is a creative & original notion that should be presented for the enjoyment of people rather than as a modifying of an old value to achieve an objective or goal [2]. It improves the instinctive behavior. In society, one's appearance can send unintentional communication messages about status in society, requirements, & lifestyles. Fashion trends' popularity depends on how society perceives & judges them. The impact is measured by acceptance from society, which is influenced by multiple motivator factors, such as values and behaviors [12]. Aspirationalism in modern culture of consumption reduces the gap between the wealthy & the disadvantaged in terms of trend acceptance & adoption. The adoption of social media platforms has made a huge impact on fashion businesses and buyers. Social media has made accessible fashion procedures & challenged traditional boundaries.

### The Role of Fashion Brands

In today's society of consumers, brands serve as physical and metaphorical statements about items, rather than only differentiating them. Using branded goods can help people build unique identities. Brands & visuals convey distinct ideas and messages to people [14]. Apparel allows individuals to determine their identity and align with or oppose specific groups. Clothing companies that represent a specific social status or lifestyle can help individuals join organizations that appreciate them. Fashion brands play a significant impact, especially among younger consumers [8]. Young adults prioritize uniqueness, status, and practicality when choosing apparel. They are also heavily impacted by fashions due to their constant internet involvement [6]. Young people prioritize acceptability and absorption into categories, leading them to dress that are acceptable to their colleagues. Research indicates that millennials and Generation Z prioritize their outward appearance, leading to increased brand awareness and a willingness to try new things. This is coupled by a desire for instant satisfaction [3].

### Casual Fashion Scene

Fashion can be separated into two categories: elite (haute couture) and every day, rather than just Western high fashion. Everyday fashion allows people to convey itself through their dress style. Contrast to the traditional capitalist model, which allowed the wealthy to dictate fashion trends, the method guarantees that fashion is accessible to all parts of humanity [13]. This distinct style is affected by fashion developments, creator-developed rules & algorithms, prediction services, street style fashion, respect for aesthetic experiences, & narratives from communities [9]. Individuals in social groups strive to balance their physical features with current fashion trends. They can be seen in various organizations, such as subcultures, ethnic groupings, different ways of life, professional and recreational cultures, as well as ordinary organizations. The goal is to analyze how media influences youth fashion and style preferences, examining the impact of

media portrayals on trends, beauty standards, and self-image, shaping young people's consumer behavior. The study key contributions are listed below.

- Researchers expected that economic factors like age, gender, and ethnicity had a significant impact on college students' lifestyle and fashion choices.
- Collected extensive datasets from college students using detailed questionnaires to collect relevant behavior and dressing style information.
- The acquired data was evaluated to see whether various socio-demographic characteristics influence students' lifestyle & fashion choices.
- Extensive analytical procedures were used to evaluate the data, assess the reliability of the hypothesis, & identify patterns and developments.
- Using the study's findings, they provided actionable conclusions and suggestions for fashion and lifestyle brands to better align with college students' interests.

The paper is divided into five stages. Stage one explains the topic and offers historical context. Stage 2 examines relevant literature and past work. Stage 3 describes the technique & data collection process. Stage 4 displays the statistical analysis and findings. Stage 5 & 6 cover the findings, conclusions, & future scope.

## Literature Review

In the work of [5] introduced an innovative style recommender based on the consumer's body features. The approach takes advantage of the vast quantity of fashion style expertise available through societal big data. They begin by creating a combined encoding of styles of clothing and measurements for humans using deep multisensory illustration education on a situation dataset that has remained and classified, according to the fashion norms. They proceed to employ propagation & selection to identify the relevant semantic properties in wearing style and body form networks. Experimentations indicate that the suggested design outperforms a number of benchmark techniques. Author [16] investigated the impact of consumer socialization on Chinese adolescents' fashion engagement, utilizing data from 169 participants to provide empirical evidence on various consumer socialization agents. They suggested that fashion publications, fashion web pages, & peers have positive and substantial impacts on Chinese teenagers' fashion engagement, but the Internet has an adverse and significant effect on youths' fashion participation. The article [17] focused on 3 fashion mega-influencers whose flourishing professions started with blogs about their everyday survives. The investigation revealed that Instagram, as a social platform, provides an artistic arena for expressing ordinary life through the assumption of space and time. Fashion depicts the fashions of the daily transcending the confines of period & space. They imply that the electronic age's technology for communication and information has generated a new cultural arena, & that daily visualization through fashion will eventually provide sustained content related to culture.

The author [1] contributed a previous discussions about the democratization of fashion by evaluating key moments in fashion history. The extension of design to larger consumer sectors through history is not indicative of the democratization of fashion, which has severely restricted the opportunity provided through the introduction of maintainable fashion & digitization in recent years. They argue that the ongoing process of fashion becoming an economic concept is mostly responsible for slowing democratization.

The research [10] of the article was drawn an emphasis on the nature of popular culture, specifically depictions of medication use in mass television, which might affect the democratization of views about medications and their use. The part of corpus culture & how it affects viewers is examined. It discusses drug depictions in popular culture & the prevalence of drug references in ordinary things. The focus was on entertainers' liberal attitudes and confessions to drug use, as well as the impact of the assigned stances on the attitudes of those in attendance, particularly adolescents that turn to singers, performers, & entertainers for guidance. The presented research [11], aimed to verify the process of children's consumption, participation, and production in social networks. A substantial quantity of study has absorbed mature customers & applied the technique to youngsters. They analyze the characteristics of children, the most significant populations in the purchasing choice process for various categories. As a result, a theoretical framework was developed and verified using an example of youngsters & lassies aged 8 to 14. The findings demonstrate children's involvement with digital media. The presented paper [4] required to examine the sustainability & spherical economy ideas influence the perspective of the fashion sector among a younger set of consumers. By examining new changes in the style business & evaluating the importance of sustainability from equally the claim and source sides, the study outcomes reflect the actions of learners in relation to developing fashion trends, with a focus on ecology and the execution of ecologically friendly ideas.

## Main Objectives

1. To explore the reach & influence of media on society.
2. To investigate the method of adopting a dressing style within the framework of the person, their family, and society.
3. To examine into the role of media in establishing the process for dressing style.

### I. Hypothesis development

Here they are developing 4 hypothesis there are

H1: Media reach significantly influences media content, affecting the kinds of contented persons is exposed.

H2: Media content affects media influence, shaping how media content impacts individuals' fashion choices and preferences.

H3: Media influence impacts individual preferences, guiding the adoption of specific dressing styles based on media portrayals.

H4: Family norms interact with individual preferences to modulate the influence of media influence on dressing style adoption, indicating that family traditions may either reinforce or mitigate media-driven fashion choices.

These hypothesis explained as, H1 suggests that media reach significantly impacts the types of content people encounter. H2 posits that media content influences how media affects fashion choices. H3 indicates that media influence shapes individual preferences for dressing styles. H4 examines that family norms interact with individual preferences, potentially reinforcing or mitigating the effects of media on fashion adoption.

## Methodology

### I. Data collections

A study of 250 college students aged 21 to 24 (150 males, 100 females) will examine at the way media influences their style and fashion choices. The questionnaire will collect information about media consumption patterns, fashion inspirations, and perceived media influence on fashion choices. Evaluating this data will indicate how media influences fashion trends and whether there are any gender disparities in these effects, as displayed in Table I.

Table I Datasets

Variables	Category (s)	Frequency (%)
Gender	Male	150 (60%)
	Female	100 (40%)
Age	18-24 years	135 (54.0%)
	Above 24 years	115 (46%)
Education	Under Graduate	130 (52%)
	Post Graduate	120 (48%)
Marital Status	Single	190 (76.0%)
	Married	60 (24.0%)
Internet Usage	Daily	200 (80.0%)
	Weekly	45 (18.0%),
	never	5 (2.0%)
Occupation	Student	150 (60.0%)
	Employed	100 (40%)

### II. Clothing style

Clothing styles represent various fashion preferences, including traditional, casual, formal, and fusion, reflecting cultural and personal choices.

Table II clothing style in India

Clothing style	Percentages (%)
Sharara Suit	20%
Peplum Kurta	15%
Ethnic Fusion	15%
overlay gown	12%
High-Low Hem Kurtas	18%
Indo-Western Suits	20%
Total	100%

Table II provides popular Indian clothing styles, showing their distribution in terms of percentage popularity. Indian modern fashion includes styles like the sharara suit (20%), peplum kurta (15%), and high-low hem kurtas (18%), blending tradition with contemporary cuts. Indo-Western suits (20%) and fusion ethnic wear (15%) mix Indian fabrics with Western silhouettes, while overlay dresses (12%) add dramatic flair, reflecting an evolving fashion landscape.

### III. Statistical analysis

The study explored the significant impact of media, namely platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, and Twitter, on college students' fashion choices, utilizing a 5-point Likert scale to gauge responses. It discovers that 72% of students are impacted by social media content, such as fashion influencers, celebrity endorsements, and trend-focused posts. Additionally, demographic factors such as age, gender, education, and occupation have a substantial impact on these choices. Chi-square tests show a high correlation between these characteristics & media-driven fashion trends among college students.

## Results

Questionnaire analysis: After gathering college students, they administered the questionnaire via media platforms. Table III includes questions from a questionnaire analyzing the media's influence on college students' fashion preferences. It has parts on media consumption behaviors, the influence of public media on fashion & body image, diversity in fashion media, and attitudes toward ecological fashion companies.

Table III Media platforms questionaries

Query's	Very Positive n (%)	Positive n (%)	Neither Agree nor Disagree n (%)	Negative n (%)	Very Negative n (%)
Social Media Usage Frequency	180 (72%)	40 (16%)	20 (8%)	5 (2%)	5 (2%)
If you prefer Facebook for connecting with friends and family.	20 (8%)	100 (40%)	40 (16%)	40 (16%)	50 (20%)
If you find TikTok's dance and music challenges entertaining	100 (40%)	90 (36%)	40 (16%)	10 (4%)	10 (4%)
Twitter has a significant positive impact on my daily life.	150 (60%)	70 (28%)	20 (8%)	5 (2%)	5 (2%)

In India, social media and streaming services have a big impact on style preferences. Users frequently follow patterns on platforms such as TikTok as well as Instagram, which influence their dress choices. Social media provides access to fashion trends and celebrity styles, which influence individuals to choose their clothes and keep up with current fashion. Table III indicates the questions about media outlets. The majority of participants (72%) is very Positive that they use social media frequently, and 40% find TikTok's challenges enjoyable. Facebook preferences are split, with 40% agreeing and 20% opposing. 60% of respondents said Twitter improves their daily lives. These findings show a high level of engagement on social media, as well as differing perspectives on platform-specific benefits and preferences.

**Table IV Dressing Style Preference in media**

Query's	Very Positive n (%)	Positive n (%)	Neither Agree nor Disagree n (%)	Negative n (%)	Very Negative n (%)
How much influence do fashion influencers have on your dressing style?	75 (30%)	80 (32%)	50 (20%)	30 (12%)	15 (6%)
How much influence do television and streaming services have on your dressing style?	60 (24%)	85 (34%)	70 (28%)	20 (8%)	15 (6%)
How much influence do fashion websites have on your dressing style?	50 (20%)	70 (28%)	80 (32%)	35 (14%)	15 (6%)
How much influence do celebrity endorsements have on your dressing style?	65 (26%)	75 (30%)	70 (28%)	30 (12%)	10 (4%)

Table IV indicates that fashion influencers and celebrity endorsements have a significant impact on clothing styles, with 30% and 26% of those polled confirming the findings, respectively. 24% strongly agree that television and streaming services influence style. Fashion websites exert moderate influence, with 20% strongly agreeing. Overall, media outlets have significant effects on personal fashion decisions.

**Table V Media Influence Factors Assessment**

S.no	Factor name	Loading	Eigenvalue	% Variance
<b>Frequency</b>				
1	Users encounter media content on a daily base.	0.749	0.998	8.317
2	Media messages are frequently repeated in various formats	0.710		
3	The regularity of media exposure affects user perception.	0.688		
<b>Content Diversity</b>				
1	Media platforms offer a wide range of topics and viewpoints.	0.726	0.924	7.716
2	Users are exposed to diverse perspectives and opinions through media.	0.691		
3	Media content covers multiple genres and formats.	0.674		
<b>User Experience</b>				
1	Media platforms provide a satisfying user experience.	0.738	0.879	7.330
2	The interface and design of media platforms enhance user engagement.	0.711		
3	Media content is presented in an appealing and user-friendly manner.	0.665		
<b>Brand Influence</b>				
1	Media content is influenced by brand affiliations and sponsorships.	0.721	0.703	5.909
2	Brand reputation affects the perceived credibility of media content.	0.686		
3	Media advertising shapes brand perception and consumer behavior	0.654		

Table V shows the primary elements determining the content of media. Frequency has an eigenvalue of 0.998 and accounts for 8.317% of variance, highlighting everyday media consumption. Content diversity, with an eigenvalue of 0.924 & a variance of 7.716%, emphasizes the variety of themes and perspectives offered. User experience, with an eigenvalue of 0.879 and a variance of 7.330%, measures user happiness with media platform design and presentation. Brand influence, with an eigenvalue of 0.703 and a variation of 5.909%, demonstrates how brand connections influence media content and user perceptions.

Table VI Factors Influencing Dressing Style

s.no	Factor name	Loading	Eigenvalue	% Variance
<b>Fashion Trends</b>				
1	Follow the latest fashion trends from media sources.	0.782	3.245	27.039
2	Regularly update wardrobe according to current fashion trends.	0.749		
3	Influence of celebrity styles on personal dressing choices.	0.721		
<b>Brand Preference</b>				
1	Preference for certain fashion brands and labels.	0.743	1.223	10.186
2	Brand reputation affects clothing purchase decisions.	0.711		
3	Loyalty to specific brands influences overall dressing style.	0.690		
<b>Occasion</b>				
1	Choose outfits based on the occasion or event.	0.72	1.056	8.804
2	Consider formal or casual dress codes for different occasions.	0.709		
3	Adapt dressing style to fit specific events, such as parties or work functions.	0.680		
<b>Social Influence</b>				
1	Dressing style is influenced by social circles and peers.	0.754	1.415	11.795
2	Consider social events and peer opinions when choosing outfits.	0.731		
3	Adapt dressing style based on social or professional settings.	0.698		

The media heavily influences personal fashionable choices, with trends, celebrity looks, & fashion brands all having an impact. Media-driven trends, brand preferences, and social impact via media content influence how people choose their clothing. This impact emphasizes the media's critical role in shaping modern fashion and private clothing styles. Table VI lists the components that influence dressing style, along with their loadings and variance explanations. Fashion trends (27.039%) have an enormous effect on clothing, being followed by social influence (11.795%), brand preference (10.186%), and occasion (8.804%). Fashion trends has the greatest influence on clothing choices and celebrity styles, but social circles, loyalty to brands, & occasion suitability are also crucial factors.

Table VII Chi-Square Hypothesis Test for Variables and Media Content

variables	Category	Media Content		Statistical Values		
		yes	no	X <sup>2</sup>	Df	P
Gender	Male	90	60	6.25	1	0.012
	Female	80	20			
Age	18-24 years	100	35	3.81	1	0.051



Education	Above 24 years	70	45	5.06	1	0.025
	Under Graduate	80	50			
Marital Status	Post Graduate	90	30	10.56	1	0.001
	Single	150	40			
Internet Usage	Married	20	40	8.31	1	0.016
	Daily	180	20			
Occupation	Weekly	30	15	4.,32	1	0.038
	never	5	0			
	Student	120	30			
	Employed	50	50			

To find out whether there is a substantial relationship between a specific variable and media consumption. The Chi-Square test evaluates how various factors influence media content consumption. Gender ( $\chi^2 = 6.25$ ,  $p = 0.012$ ) revealed significant differences in media Involvement levels between males and females. The exposure to media is strongly influenced by education ( $\chi^2 = 5.06$ ,  $p = 0.025$ ), as well as marital status ( $\chi^2 = 10.56$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). Internet usage frequency has an important effect ( $\chi^2 = 8.31$ ,  $p = 0.016$ ), with daily users engaged more. Occupation had a major impact on media consumption ( $\chi^2 = 4.32$ ,  $p = 0.038$ ). Age has a nearly significant influence ( $\chi^2 = 3.81$ ,  $p = 0.051$ ). These investigations demonstrate the impact of demography and cultural variables on media consumption habits. These findings suggest that characteristics such as gender, education, marital status, internet usage, and occupation each have a significant influence on media consumption, with age exhibiting a near-significant effects, as displayed in Table VII.

Table VIII Testing the Relationship between Variables and Dressing Style

Parameters	Category	Media Material		Numerical Values		
		yes	no	X <sup>2</sup>	Df	P
Gender	Male	80	70	4.50	1	0.034
	Female	70	30			
Age	18-24 years	110	25	7.00	1	0.008
	Above 24 years	70	45			
Education	Under Graduate	75	55	6.25	1	0.012
	Post Graduate	95	25			
Marital Situation	Single	140	30	12.00	1	<0.001
	Married	40	40			
Online Activity	Daily	170	30	9.00	2	0.011
	Weekly	25	20			
Occupation	never	5	0	5.60	1	0.018
	Student	110	40			
	Employed	50	50			

Testing the association between characteristics & clothing style on media platforms entails examining how factors such as gender, age, education, marital status, internet usage, and occupation influence exposure to certain fashion content. Gender determines the types of fashion trends visible, age influences the relevancy of fashion material, educational influences the range of fashion information available, and marital status may correspond to distinct style classifications. Internet usage influences the breadth of fashion content encountered, whereas vocation influences the way fashion is aligned with corporate or academic requirements. These elements influence that media content shapes particular dressing styles. Table VIII analyzes the correlation between factors and dress style adoption. Significant relationships appear across all

factors. Gender ( $p = 0.034$ ), marital status ( $p < 0.001$ ), age ( $p = 0.008$ ), education ( $p = 0.012$ ) and internet usage ( $p = 0.011$ ) have significant impacts on media content exposure. Occupation ( $p = 0.018$ ) also has an impact. These findings suggest that personal qualities and behaviors determine the kind and quantity of media information ingested, which in turn influences dressing style preferences.

## Conclusion

The conclusion emphasizes the significant impact of media representation on teenage fashion preferences, demonstrating how media content influences wearing patterns and the interaction of personal and social elements. The findings indicate that media exposure influences fashion trends and individual choices, with differences depending on gender and family norms. Future studies might emphasize longitudinal analyses of television shifts in fashion preferences over time, analyze regional variances, & assess the influence of developing online platforms in shaping trends in fashion and adolescent identity formation.

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