

RESPECT

A FASHION INDUSTRY BUILT ON RESPECT AND ACCOUNTABILITY



MAY 16, 2018

RESPECT

OPEN LETTER

Over the past year, many courageous individuals have revealed the dark truth of sexual harassment and assault by powerful people in the fashion industry. These concerns have yet to be addressed in a meaningful, sustainable way.

As models, our images serve a commercial purpose, but our bodies remain ours. Agreeing to be photographed or filmed as professional representatives of a product or brand does not constitute agreement to be groped, fondled, involuntarily disrobed or worse.

RESPECT also recognizes that sexual harassment does not exist in a vacuum – models are often body-shamed and bullied, pressured to lose weight and jeopardize their health in order to book jobs, or to work in debt

to their agencies and remain silent even when paid late, or not paid at all, for their work. RESPECT will go beyond addressing specific acts of sexual harassment, and also seek to foster a work environment that is no longer fertile ground for abuse.

Every company in our industry says it abhors sexual harassment and wants to protect those at risk of abuse. We believe that if a company is serious about protecting us, it will be willing to go beyond mere promises to do better and embrace enforceable standards, with real teeth.

Together, we will enable a working environment in which creative collaboration and self-expression flourishes, and everyone can work without fear of harassment, abuse, discrimination or violence.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE FASHION INDUSTRY,

We know that companies and executives at the top bear responsibility for ensuring that our rights are respected when we're at work, but they too often treat the discovery of abuse as public relations crises to be managed, rather than human rights violations to be remedied. We also know that lofty-sounding standards without genuine enforcement will not work.

Today, we are putting forward the solution: the RESPECT Program. Designed by models and their allies, RESPECT provides an industry-wide blueprint for protecting models and their colleagues from harassment. RESPECT goes beyond words of sympathy and bandaid fixes, and works towards prevention by empowering models to identify and uproot these abuses, backed by the enforcement power of the top companies in fashion. We

modelalliancy • Follow

modelalliancy Over the past year, many courageous individuals have revealed the dark truth of sexual harassment in the fashion industry. These concerns have yet to be addressed in a meaningful way. Today, with over 100 other models, we are putting forward the solution: the RESPECT Program. We are calling on brands, agencies and media companies to sign a legally binding agreement to foster an industry defined by safe workplaces and mutual respect. Link in bio. #Time4RESPECT

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glyniscarpenter awesome!!!

emmahopeall 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌

harryjoshair This would be major ❤️❤️

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546 likes

2 DAYS AGO

THE NEW PROTOCOL IN THE FASHION INDUSTRY
- THE "RESPECT PROGRAM" -

ROLEMODELS MANAGEMENT

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