

Dear Patti: STOP Curl Bashing!

[NaturallyCurly.com](#) has had it with your curl-bashing ways. Season after season, we've listened to you fuel insecurities and spread a notion that you can only be attractive with smooth, straight hair. We say, shut up already, and we challenge you to a debate with [NaturallyCurly's](#) co-founder and president, Michelle Breyer, on dating and hair.

What would people say if you were asking women to change their skin color or eye color to attract a man? That is what you're doing in your ongoing campaign against curls.

Your quote in Sunday's New York Times is further illustration: "Today's going to be tough love with her, Stanger said (about a client). 'She needs to straighten her hair, for one. She can't get arrested with her rat's nest. When the client arrived, she perched on one of the lip chairs to wait while Ms. Stanger gave a phone interview. Dressed in flared jeans and brown wedge shoes, the client projected a '70s vibe, enhanced by her hair, a mass of wild dirty-blond curls, and undermined by her French-manicured toenails. After a testy exchange about her hair — "Is it working for you, the curly hair?" Ms. Stanger queried."

We could not disagree more. [NaturallyCurly](#), as well as the curly community as a whole, have worked so hard to change this type of attitude toward natural hair texture. You appear to be living in a time warp where only one standard of beauty exists: the Barbie Doll. In today's multicultural world, women are celebrated for their own unique beauty—whether it be straight, wavy or super kinky. Just look at stars like Beyonce, Shakira and Annalynn McCord.

You could use your weekly platform to instead encourage women to accept and embrace their natural beauty

Some of your other horrendous quotes:

- "If you want to keep it curly, go to Israel."
- "Men appreciate hair they can run their fingers through—and they don't want to get them snagged in scraggly, frizzy, pubic-looking bird's nests. The era of the perm is over, ladies. Wavy hair is fine, but a hair ball is definitely not a man magnet. The money you spend straightening and conditioning your hair might be the best, most profitable investment you'll ever make."

We have set up a Facebook Group "[No More Curl Bashing](#)" to support our campaign to encourage society – and you - to stop bashing curls. Also please help us stop curl bashing on Twitter with the hash tag: [#NOCMOREURLBASHING](#)

**Michelle Breyer, co-founder and president of [NaturallyCurly.com](#), challenges you to a debate where we can discuss her misguided ideas on curly hair and finding a man. And we dare you, Patti, to rock your natural curls!**

Sincerely,  
The NaturallyCurly.com Team

### **About NaturallyCurly**

Founded by Michelle Breyer and Gretchen Heber, NaturallyCurly is a network of sites that informs, empowers and unites a community of people brought together by a common interest – curly hair. The flagship brand, [NaturallyCurly.com](#), attracts 450,000 monthly engaged, influential consumers creating user-generated content on a daily basis. The network includes [CurlyNikki.com](#), the leading natural hair blog with a growing community of 120,000 unique, [CurlStylist.com](#), a professional community especially for stylists servicing their curly clientele, and [CurlMart.com](#), a boutique e-commerce site showcasing more than 50 brands and 500 community-vetted products. The entire network logs 1.2 million monthly visits from an average of more than 200 countries worldwide, all finding the common thread – a curl, kink or wave – that bonds them together.

### **Contact:**

Alicia Ward, NaturallyCurly  
[Press@naturallycurly.com](mailto:Press@naturallycurly.com)  
512.371.7545 x 305