

DACOWITS' RFI for March 2020:
EFFECT OF GROOMING STANDARDS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH RFI #11

RFI Question 11(a): Please provide copies of instructional materials, curricula, videos or other media used to demonstrate and teach servicewomen how to achieve these and any other styles which require pulling or twisting the hair.

RFI Response: See enclosures (1-3).

RFI Question 11(b): If "how to" styling demonstrations are used to train, please provide the Committee video demonstration of this training.

RFI Response: No formalized "how to" styling demonstrations are used to train Navy Recruits. Navy Recruits are shown the examples of authorized and unauthorized hair styles contained in enclosures (1-2) and receive additional guidance through formal instruction based on enclosure (3).

RFI Question 11(c): Are servicewomen specifically, and Service members generally (particularly supervisors/commanders), educated about the potential harm resulting from hairstyles that excessively pull/twist hair and, if so, how?

RFI Response: While neither Recruit Division Commanders (RDCs) nor Navy recruits receive formalized training regarding potential harm resulting from hairstyles that excessively pull/twist hair, RDCs will instruct a recruit to adjust their hairstyle if it is distracting from their training. Navy recruits are taught that male and female hairstyles alike shall present a professional and balanced appearance. Recruit Training Command follows NAVCRUITRACOMINST 1020.1 (series) – Uniform Policy and Regulations and NAVPERS 156651 -United States Navy Uniform Regulations (see enclosures 4-5) with regards to authorized hairstyles, except for pony tails, which are not authorized at RTC.

RFI Question 11(d): Although Service grooming standards do not require "tight" pulling of the hair or "tight buns," Committee members have observed many servicewomen who do wear such hairstyles. Is there any unit practice or encouragement to achieve a more professional looking appearance by employing this styling technique?

RFI Response: Navy recruits are all trained in accordance with NAVCRUITRACOMINST 1020.1 (series) – Uniform Policy and Regulations and NAVPERS 156651 -United States Navy Uniform Regulations (enclosures 4-5). Navy recruits are not given any additional instruction or encouragement to adopt hairstyling techniques that exceed these regulations, such as

excessively tight hair styles.

Office Responsible: Staff Judge Advocate, Recruit Training Command

Enclosures:

- (1) RTC Uniform and Personnel Standards (28OCT19) (PPT)
- (2) Lesson: Militarization Section 2.04 – Uniforms and Grooming (PPT)
- (3) Lesson: Militarization Section 2.4 – Uniforms and Grooming Lesson Plan
- (4) NAVCRUITRACOMINST 1020.1 (series) – Uniform Policy and Regulations
- (5) NAVPERS 156651 -United States Navy Uniform Regulations, Ch. 2, Sec. 2 Personal Appearance, Art. 2201.1 Hair