

The Foibles of Fads

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Includes:

Questions and Discussions

Words, Terms, and Meanings

The Foibles of Fads



Merriam Webster declares that a Fad
Is a practice or interest to follow
Indulge for a time with exaggerated **zeal**
Until the pursuit is **deemed hollow**

Suddenly an issue or item is **vital**
A "must have" for all who are "IN"
A secret agreement - but just for a few
Who consider it essential to "WIN"

It always seems odd when rebels create
Fads to define separation
Only to have their exclusive creation
Corral them to full **CONFORM-ation**

In their effort to seek independence
They end up all looking the same
Same clothing - same hair - same words that they say
Their Fad soon becomes rather **lame**

For upon **saturation** a Fad is **passé**
And fades away quickly from view
Those who indulge or hang for too long
May bid "Social Status" **adieu**



I have been witness to many a Fad
And may have been known to take part
As memory would serve - many were fading
Before I was able to start

A question of timing - a question of **means**
Or was I too young to join in
Or maybe it just seemed so pointless to me
To not go along was to win

An investment of time - an investment of money
The requirement to join or to change
While others would race to "Have" or to "Be"
I watched and I thought it was strange

Maybe I would have **indulged** readily
If our wealth and our status were **ripe**
We scraped to get by and extras were few
So I often avoided the **hype**

But there were these jeans - and they were so cool
I worked hard and bought me a pair
Elephant Bells - tight at the top
And then at the foot they would **flair**

Couple these jeans with a shiny silk shirt
And a **macrame** belt with some beads
Top it all off with thick heeled shoes
This outfit would meet all your needs



And so I fit in - grade nine and grade ten
Then straight legs became the in thing
501 jeans - hightop tennis shoes
These were the next fashion fling



Puka Shells - Mood Rings - Tie Dye - Big Hair
I witnessed their rise and their fall
Each Fad a "MUST" - so one could be cool
Now each one means nothing at all

Here for a moment - gone in a flash
And with them the **status** they raise
The lessons I learned remain to this day
A Fad is just simply a **phase**



In the extreme a fad can do harm
When obsessions **usurp** our control
We scrape and we claw to have the next "THING"
Hoping it makes us feel **whole**

But kept in perspective a Fad can be fun
Like Yo-Yos and Troll Dolls and Clogs
Colors and Diets and Funny Hair Cuts
Massages for You and Your Dog



I oft read the book that everyone reads
And go to the movies they see
I like to fit in - I like to have fun
But balance is critical to me



For external trappings will never fulfill
They're gone in the blink of an eye
Focus instead on family and friends
Investments that money can't buy

And know who you are apart from a Fad
Be strong and content **in your skin**
Then welcome the challenge to try something new
For a new Fad will always begin

Questions & Discussions

Make a list of Fads have you seen in your day

Why did people participate in these Fads?

What Fads did you participate in?

- When did you participate?
- Describe what you did?

What Fads did you avoid?

- Why?

Describe the funniest Fad you have ever seen.

What are some current Fads.

Words Terms & Meanings

1. **Foible** - a failing , weakness, or flaw
2. **Zeal** - strong excitement or enthusiasm
3. **Deemed Hollow** - found to be lacking or without worth
4. **Vital** - important, needed
5. **Corral** - collect or gather
6. **CONFORM-ation** - found to be identical, or all the same
7. **Lame** - silly, not cool
8. **Saturation** - found everywhere, no longer unique
9. **Passé** - no longer fashionable or special
10. **Adieu** - goodbye, farewell
11. **Means** - wealth or income
12. **Indulged** - participated, joined in
13. **Ripe** - at a high point, much, available
14. **Hype** - getting really excited about something
15. **Flair** - widen, become larger
16. **Macrame** - hand made items made with strings and knots
17. **Status** - popularity, position
18. **Phase** - a short lived period of time
19. **Usurp** - taking something that does not belong to you
20. **Whole** - complete, fulfilled
21. **In your Skin** - who you are both inside and out