

# The Washington Post

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### *Discrimination or Good Business?*

The discrimination that Marc Fisher referred to in his May 2 Metro column, "A Dress Code That Suffers From Shoddy Tailoring," may not necessarily be racist, but it certainly is ageist.

Those who wear baggy pants, chains, exposed intimate apparel and fashionable athletic wear overwhelmingly are teenagers. By enforcing an anti-teen dress code at the first bowling alley to open in the District in decades, Lucky Strike Lanes creates hurdles for the people most in need of safe social options.

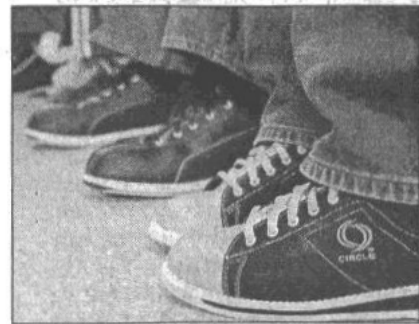
Bowling has long been an activity of casual fun, conjuring up images of hot dogs and funny shoes, not polo shirts and wine spritzers. Shame on Lucky Strike for valuing a swanky atmos-

phere over giving people of all ages an opportunity to enjoy bowling.

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Marc Fisher's column about the dress code enforced by Lucky Strike Lanes was an endorsement for the bowling alley. If a business expects customers to drop \$75 for an hour of bowling, it can't be lenient on any aspect of its business. Paying customers will not return if they're subjected to other patrons' negative behavior.

While some conduct may be predicted based on the clothes that someone wears, the issue is really a person's behavior. If a customer is dressed ap-



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propriately yet is unruly or inconsiderate, that customer should be expelled and banned from the property.

This isn't about race. It's about good business.

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