

Editor:

Your editorial of September 29, "Bloomberg Nannyism Extends to Circumcision," exhibited the sort of common sense we witness all too infrequently these days. Mayor Bloomberg and the city Health Department's crusade to regulate the religious rite of circumcision, for the first time in America, indeed smacks of nannyism and represents an infringement on both religious and free speech rights.

As you note, the city isn't ready, thankfully, to make parents sign consent forms before allowing their children to ride their bikes. Nor does it require parents to consent to their children playing football, or to any of a number of activities whose risk of injury or worse is far greater than any risks associated with ritual circumcision. Why is the city picking on a hallowed religious practice?

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Editor:

Your editorial critique (October 1) of the city's Human Rights Commission's overreaching on the issue of some Williamsburg shops' customer dress codes was on-target.

Those stores were simply requesting that their customers observe a modicum of modesty in dress. What that has to do with discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age, gender, disability, etc. is indeed perplexing.

Surely there are actual instances of unlawful discrimination in the city to occupy the Commission's time. It should focus its energies on those cases.

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