

Good morning Mr. Chairman, Senator Mike Thompson and members of the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee.

A few years ago, I had an unpleasant experience working at a company that I am currently contracted with. While working in my area, an elderly Caucasian man was looking my way as he looked up at my hair, then at my feet. I saw a look of disgust on his face. He then made a comment to me that my hair looked like someone he seen in the jail house. I was speechless that someone could make a comment like that to me. In essence, he was comparing me to someone who doesn't take care of their hair. The style I was wearing was simply a style that black women wear today. And I thought to myself, why can't I represent my culture.

After this incident, I reported it to the proper authorities.

That day I expressed myself with my hair and felt insulted. No one should ever have to feel that way.

Thank you,

Charmaine McGaugh