

# Fashion with legs

Men in skirts  
break  
social edicts,  
redefine  
masculinity

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Move over George Clooney. Take a hike Goli in Farrell. The most legendary of Hollywood playboys have nothing on the skirts-chasers currently making headlines.

Earlier this month, 100 men took to the streets of New York to lobby their right to wear skirts. The protesters came from across the country to denounce the "tyranny of trousers" that has enlarded men's fashions since the French Revolution.

"We're not transvestites, homosexuals or cross-dressers," retired schoolteacher David Johnson told the media. "We don't want you to call us Jean or Sally. We're men — men who want the right to wear a skirt."

Stanley Carroll fashioned his first "man skirt" in 1982. Since then, the renowned Edmonton designer has included dozens of tunics, sarongs and skirts in his menswear collections.

"It's certainly (a garment) for men who are comfortable with their own sexual image," he says. "We're looking at a 75 to 80 per cent heterosexual — or should I say metrosexual — group of men buying them."

Over his career, Carroll has sold skirts to men of all ages and backgrounds. He says most guys wear them for comfort, though the attention the garments command also plays a role.

