

Beauty contests in the USA

(axe représentation de soi, rapport aux autres)



First beauty contests were the preserve of adults. They began in 1921 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. In the early 60s, children started to parade. Minimum age to participate was 7 years old. There are several beauty competitions in the USA. The most famous are Miss America, created in 1921 and Miss USA in 1952.

Criteria

Most of the time the women who apply must be thin. They must be thin, strong and well made-up. Women are mainly judged on the physical aspect. They parade in dresses and short outfits that show a lot of their body, though some do not enjoy showing up in a swimsuit.



There is this feeling of willing to be the best. Behind their outfit, everything is taken into account : make-up, hairstyle, skin, size, smile...

Consequences

In addition to the issue of women being complexed by their body, beauty contests add problems like comparing, disgust or jealousy. Many women who watch these competitions, compare themselves to participants. These competitions make you think that a woman must necessarily be thin to look beautiful. This image of the woman represented in these filmed programs can create complexes among spectators and might sadly lead some form of violence to oneself, which can even turn tragic.