

## Here is the long and the short of it - mullets are back

David Bowie's Ziggy Stardust wore his **cascading** down his neck. Patti Smith's, meanwhile, was pure "business in the front, party in the back".

cascade 瀑布; 级联

consternation 惊愕; 恐怖

Mullets were everywhere in the 1970s and 80s, and now — perhaps to the surprise and **consternation** of many — they are back. The **hairdo** has been reinvented for the 21st century as a statement of gender **fluidity** and cool.

hairdo 发型

fluidity 流动性

Mullets have been big on **catwalks** and the red carpet for a while and the trend is now hitting the high street. Tina Outen, a stylist used by Vogue and i-D magazine, believes the cut can be cool and also political; a statement of **androgyny**. "There is a sense of freedom in the fashion industry and we are in an era of playfulness," she said. "People can be who they want to be."

catwalk 猫步; 狭小通道

androgynous 雌雄同体的; 双性化

Another explanation is that the mullet, mocked by many, is a protest against conventional beauty. According to Caryn Franklin, fashion commentator and professor at Kingston School of Art, the new-wave mullet is a backlash against the high-maintenance, long-haired looks that have dominated portrayals of **femininity** in mainstream advertising. "Hair styling has always allowed for non-**conformist** statements," she said.

femininity 女性气质; 温柔

conformist 循规蹈矩的人

"You'll see more of it," said Peckham-based hairdresser Jackson Acton. "Ten years ago, short on the sides and long on top was **taboo**. Now you see it on guys in suits and on Love Island. I think the mullet will be like that soon."

taboo 禁忌; 禁止