

Is He Your Man?

Straight Men in Fashion: How to Spot Them Before Someone Else Does

...It turns out Steven was as straight as it could get. He started styling in his young teens to make some extra money. At the time he was doing it with his partner, and then girlfriend. His partner today, is merely a business partner, and from what I understand they have a good chance of making it big with their innovative designs.

Upon miles and miles of my apologies to Steven, he told me not to worry and that this kind of reaction happens more than he would like.

Long story short I ended up paying for the drinks, but he said he would get them next time. So I guess my loud mouth somehow resulted in things potentially going well for once- *Don't jinx it.*

My encounter with Steven made me wonder; are there really straight men in the fashion industry? What do they do? And most importantly, where are they hiding? Because if they are all as witty and handsome as Steven, I wouldn't mind meeting a few more.

Looking into history, the numbers speak for themselves. There are many straight males who have made it successfully into the industry, however not without difficulties of their own.

The most predominant name that comes to view is Tommy Hilfiger. Married twice, both to women, Hilfiger is the father of seven biological children. Founder of his eponymous brand, Hilfiger continues to be head designer to date. He founded his brand in his early thirties, starting with a menswear line, and later expanding into womenswear.

A close competitor, Ralph Lauren, is yet another straight male name that continues to turn heads within the industry. He founded his namesake multi billion dollar enterprise at the mere age of 28, by beginning to produce men's ties. Lauren then delved into the world of menswear through launching his *Polo* line, named after his interest in sports. In terms of relationships, Lauren has now been married to his wife Ricky for 55 years. In an Instagram post of the couple in 2014, their son David, CIO of The Ralph Lauren Corporation, captioned that "Their love and kindness inspire [him] every day!"...

