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Manscaping in the Bahamas. Uh, No.

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It's all down hill from here!

Granted moving to the Bahamas was/is an adjustment for this Redneck. Coming to an island (from diverse culture of SoCal) which is stuck out in the middle of the caribbean ocean, with no mountains to explore with my jeep, dessert dunes to jump, the PCH and worse, no Bojangles, Target, Edmunds Auto Repair or 4x4 stores make it a challenge. However I'm adjusting. One of the most interesting things I'm finding hard to adjust to is the "lack-of-body-hair-factor"

here on the islands. I mean, very few men (*and fortunately most women*) have absolutely NO body hair here. And I'm not talking about missing that "walking-bear-back-hair-wall-guy" everyone sees. No, just guys with hair on their chest, legs, ears, eyebrows, arms. Is this a genetic anomaly here? Am I some mutant foreigner here because of the amount of body hair I carry around? Granted as I've aged, the hair has migrated south from my full bountiful head, to my redneck, ears, then onto my back, and now further south to my a**, and even now it's just going away to unknown parts and the floor. It's interesting though that I read in some Mens magazines these days about the trend of "manscaping". Not only metro-sexuals, gay men or triathletes are into this but there is a surge now in popularity for all types of guys, from straights to ultra conservatives to liberals, (according to a recent NYT article). Men are losing it, from their chest to their nether regions.

"It's definitely not just the downtown guys getting waxed anymore" agrees Jennifer Pesce, hair removal expert for Shobha salon in NYC, who says the chain has seen a rise in male clients by almost 30 percent this year alone. "Guys are doing it only because it makes them feel cleaner, but also for the illusion of the "optical inch"—by minimizing hair you maximize the appearance of other 'parts.'" Hmmm. Really?

Seems that stars such as David Beckham and Jersey Shores "the Situation", have contributed to the male hairless trend all over the body. Lidia Tivichi, a clinical esthetician, who specializes in "mens' grooming", and founder of Maris Dusan Span says "there no question that I've seen a surge in men coming in for waxing by at least 25% in just the last year". "Besides, waxes—aka: *The Male Brazillian*—popular areas for guys include feet and toes, butt, back and chest"

Another reason for the recent rise of manscaping? "More men are becoming open to getting waxing because their girlfriends and wives are encouraging them to clean up" says Tivichi. "Usually men come back after the first time because waxing makes you feel more confident by eliminating a 5 o'clock shadow on our back or groin area, and helps relieve ingrown hairs caused by shaving. Plus, it save time since you don't have to shave daily and eventually hair starts to grow back thinner so you don't need to come back in as often."

So, what does the future hold for this Redneck in the hair department? My thinking is that at the rate of hair loss already encountered I'm already ahead of the body "Manscaping" trend, so all I've got to do is use a good broom every few days to clean up around the house.

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