

Joint efforts

- 1 For some time, I had rather smugly assumed that the current vogue for young British women to favour jeans with artful tears around the kneecaps reflected a lamentable decline in honest-to-goodness skills such as darning, a subtle protest against the conformity imposed by male hegemony, or perhaps even a resourceful response to a shortage of materials.
- 2 But it may simply be a deliberate ploy to expose a tender and not especially attractive part of the anatomy as an inverted expression of solidarity with those members of the sisterhood affected by the ban on burqas and similar garments. If so, it merits wholehearted commendation.

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