

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

## Stefano Gabbana takes negative Dolce & Gabbana press head-on

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Stefano Gabbana shared an illustration of this D&G sneaker, sparking backlash

By STAFF REPORTS

Italian fashion house Dolce & Gabbana is taking controversy over writing on the side of a sneaker in stride.

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The brand's designers are currently under fire for being insensitive to women who may suffer from eating disorders or struggle with body image. The fashion industry is often accused of not being inclusive to all body types, preferring only tall, thin models rather than including women of all shapes and sizes.

The writing on the shoe

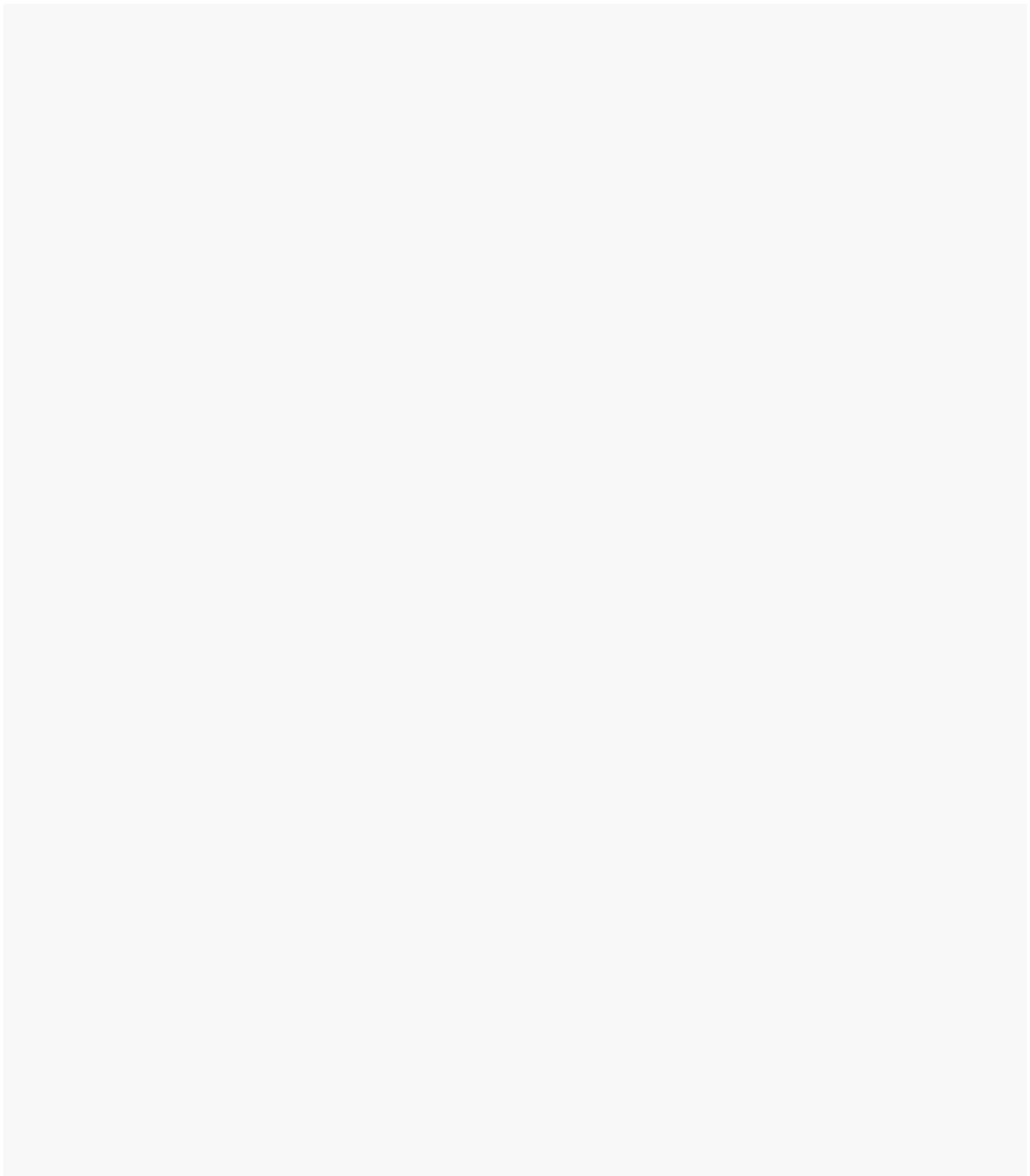
Unlike the time Dolce & Gabbana was called out for naming a pair of shoes, "slave sandals," the latest issue with the brand's design is written on the footwear itself.

For fall 2017, Dolce & Gabbana decorated a pair of tennis-style sneakers with studs, sequins and phrases written in marker and pen. But, one of the marker-written phrases says, "I'm thin & gorgeous" in capital letters.

One half of Dolce & Gabbana, designer Stefano Gabbana, shared an illustration of the shoe on his personal Instagram account. From there, his followers and news outlets voiced concern over the message Dolce & Gabbana's design was sending to its female consumer base.

In response to the comments, Mr. Gabbana replied by saying, "u think is better to be fat full of hamburger??? Stupid" and "darling you prefer to be fat and full of cholesterol??? I think u have a problem," among other statements.

Since then, the backlash has continued by way of headlines from HuffPost, Pret-A-Porter and Forbes, all of which have been screenshotted and shared by Mr. Gabbana on his Instagram.



Thank you guys to make us more strong and popular with your stupid article I'M THIN AND GORGEOUS For a writing on a shoe

A post shared by stefanogabbana (@stefanogabbana) on Apr 27, 2017 at 6:12am PDT

As of press time, Dolce & Gabbana has not released a statement on the matter. But, the brand is no stranger to drumming up controversy by design and designer.

In 2015, Dolce & Gabbana incurred the anger of a number of popular celebrities after its founders Domenico Dolce and Mr. Gabbana got into an argument with British singer Sir Elton John about same-sex families.

Sir Elton took offense when Mr. Dolce made an insensitive comment about in-vitro fertilization, and he immediately launched a boycott of the brand. The boycott was picked up online by a number of other celebrities, who at the time asserted that they will no longer wear Dolce & Gabbana ([see story](#)).

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