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DON'T DO PLASTIC SURGERY JUST TO ENHANCE YOUR CAREER

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Q: A lot of people tell me that I should be a model. I'm tall (5'-8"), young (23) and pretty. I **don't** like my butt and I am thinking of getting lipo. What is your advice on (a) breaking into modeling and (b) **surgery** for models?

IM: I **don't** like my butt! In my 30 years of being in business I have NEVER recommended that someone have lipo on their butt to reshape it, which is what you seem to be asking. As a matter of fact, I am VERY cautious and conservative about any recommendation for any kind of **plastic surgery** for young models, especially if it regards opening more possibilities in their careers because you just **don't** know if it will. If you are going to **do** any kind of body alterations, **do** it only if it is really something you want for yourself. **Don't do** it for another person or for a job opportunity.

You seem to have the basic requirements to be a model. If you are not in Miami, go online and review the websites of modeling agencies in your city. Find out how long they have been in business, and whether they have represented anyone famous or who is recognizable to you. Use your good judgment and scout out the agencies that look to be the most successful and have been around for a number of years. Then follow their guidelines for submitting pictures or go into their agencies if they have open calls. Submit a natural snapshot or two using good lighting, perhaps outdoors in the shade. Include a profile, front-on and full body photo. Wear little to no makeup.

Illustration:Photo: Irene Marie (a)