

Busted PETA Activist Strips on Television

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American PETA activists Tracy Patton and Meggan Anderson, who were <u>detained</u> this week while attempting to strip in downtown Moscow to protest fur coats, were given an opportunity to complete the act on <u>Dozhd</u> television.

Anderson posed in her underwear for the cameras Wednesday evening, while Patton, wearing a thick, black sweater, fielded questions via an interpreter.

"This is really just a fun and upbeat way to draw attention to a very serious issue," Patton said. "Millions of animals are skinned alive every year, so we can have a cute fur coat."

But, a presenter asserted, "In Russia, the temperature gets down to minus 50 degrees [Celsius], and practically the only way not to freeze on the street is to wear a natural fur coat."

"Many people don't realize that there are just as warm and comfortable synthetic alternatives," Patton replied.

Police detained the women during their two-person protest at the World Trade Center, saying their event was not sanctioned by the city, but the women were released after a few hours when a judge failed to appear at their hearing. The pair were headed to Estonia on Thursday, then Helsinki, for more protests. On Oct. 26, they plan to demonstrate in St. Petersburg.

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