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HIGH HEELS FOR BABIES

Novel fashion statement – *or worst idea ever?*

THERE'S a big battle brewing over tiny high-heeled shoes – for babies!

Heelarious, the company that makes the \$35 pint-sized stilettos, say it's all in good fun, but children's charities – and parents – are stomping mad about the new product.

The shoes are the brainchild of moms Britta Bacon and Hayden Porter – a self-proclaimed shoe fanatic – from Seattle.

The high-heeled baby shoes are “being taken way too seriously,” Hayden told *The ENQUIRER*. “People should take them as a joke, the way we intended – a little girl's first pair of high heels. That's why we called them Heelarious. The idea behind them is pure fun.”

Hayden and Britta have had plenty of e-mails and adorable pictures from moms delighted with the shoes – but they've had their share of attacks, too.

“People claim babies can poke their eyes out with the stilettos, their poor little feet will get mutilated – they just haven't researched the product,” explained Hayden.

“The shoes are for babies from birth to six months. They're not designed for walking. They've passed government safety tests because they're made from soft, harmless material. The heels collapse if any little ones try to put weight on them. They're safe and they're never going to hurt



blogs to blast the shoes. “Any idiot that pays that much money to make their infant daughter look like a common streetwalker ought

to have social services knocking on the door,” blasted one angry mother.

Another wrote: “Any mother who lets their daughters wear these shoes is the same mother who will let their daughters dress like Paris Hilton at 13 years old!”

Some experts fear that parents are sending the wrong message by dressing their babies in the controversial shoes.

“Parents need to exercise good judgment about what image their babies portray,” said Derrek Hofrichter of Childhelp, a group that fights child abuse. “The image that goes with high-heeled shoes is just not something their babies should be associated with.”

But Hayden scoffs at the notion that

People should take them as a joke, the way we intended

