

## Maroon hair keeps girl out of school

by UPI

PEORIA, Ill. -- A Peoria, Ill., student with micro braids and maroon highlights was sent home and barred from returning to her middle school until she changes her hair style. Shawnterya Carter, 12, recently had her hair put into the braids and highlights added. She was subsequently confronted by her school principal, who said the color was inappropriate and she wouldn't be allowed to return until the maroon is gone, the Peoria Journal Star reported Wednesday. "I don't think there's anything wrong with it," Carter told the newspaper. Her mother, Ebony Neasman, agreed. "If I felt it was inappropriate, I wouldn't let her do it," she said. Neasman said she contacted the school principal, Sandy Somogyi, but the administrator would not budge on her position. "She said it could cause a problem with other students or be a distraction," Neasman said. "I think I'm going to have to get a lawyer," she told the Journal Star.

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