WHY GROINS ARE JUST GOOD FOR LAWYERS

• They beget lawsuits.
• Property owners will sue the town or state for damage to their properties from groins.
• Boaters will sue when the groins are involved in accidents.
• Swimmers and fishermen will sue if caught in rip currents caused by groins.

WHEREVER GROINS ARE ALLOWED LAWSUITS SOON FOLLOW

Property owners sue each other, the local town or the state or federal governments either because they want a structure to protect their property or want to be paid for the damage done to their property by a structure. Towns and counties open themselves to liability lawsuits if boats hit the groin or swimmers drown near them.

A COURTHROOM SAMPLING

Here's just a few of the types of lawsuits we can expect if you allow groins on our beaches:

• 18 homeowners in Montauk, N.Y., recently filed a $25 million lawsuit against local and state governments, claiming that jetties blocked the flow of sand and exacerbated the erosion in front of their homes.
• Officials in St. Petersburg, Fla., decided to remove a groin after a teenager died in a boating accident at the structure and his family sued the city.
• A father sued Pinellas County, Fla., after he and his children nearly drowned while swimming near a groin.

DANGEROUS RIP CURRENTS CAN RESULT WHEN A CURRENT TRAVELING ALONG THE SHORELINE ENCOUNTERS A STRUCTURE SUCH AS A GROIN OR JETTY AND IS FORCED OFFSHORE.

Liability becomes a serious legal issue if local governments are given the authority to build hazardous structures in navigable waters.