

My Thoughts on Celebrities and Paparazzi.

The following is **entirely subjective**, so treat it as such.



Before I begin, let me say that I don't hate celebrities, whether that be who they are or what they do. They are people working in their chosen profession, and I respect that. That said, what I **do** hate is the American, and potentially the World's mindset when it comes to celebrities.

Put bluntly, we are giving them far too much attention, and the very fact that we have People magazine is a testament to that. Of course, it's not enough that we have People, we have 6-7 other magazines all spurring the same bullshit about celebrities: "They're back together!" "Is she gaining weight?" "Who they voted for!" And to compound this, you'll often see the same story covered by 5 different magazines, **which is not only a waste of paper, but is a waste of time.**

Now, the aforementioned article examples, which I'm sure all of you have seen at one point or another, all beg the question as to, "Why do we care?" And no, that's not a rhetorical question, I'm looking for the answer on this. I fail to understand why any of this shit is important. There are only 5 things I care about when it comes to celebrities:

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1. Is their recent movie/album/novel any good?
2. Did they win an award for their performance?
3. Did someone die?
4. Did they commit a crime? (Only if it's a valid one. Smoking pot is not a scandal and anyone who thinks so is full of themselves.)
5. This one is iffy, but I can tolerate hearing who is getting married. I'll live with that.

Aside from those, I don't care about celebrities past what they tell in interviews. The fact that they are movie stars and artists should not make them extra-special Gods the deserve all our attention. If you'll look on news websites, you'll find that a good 40-50% is centered entirely around celebrities, while you'll hear, at least in America, virtually nothing about the Iraq war.

Well...last time I checked, a war where American citizens fighting for freedom or the stabilization of those nations is *vastly* more important than hearing about Brangelina's latest adopted child. Good for them, fine and dandy, but I don't want to hear about it. Speaking of that couple, I'm also tired of this stupid bullshit between Angelina Jolie and Jennifer Aniston. This has been going on for years...YEARS. I am sick of magazines and paparazzi running around saying "She's not over Brad," or...and this is an actual article I saw, some "Body Language Expert" discussing Jennifer Aniston's body language in front of Brad Pitt during the Academy Awards earlier this year.

I am completely aghast at the fact that paparazzi are somehow given the clear when stuff like this happens, and, while this may be a bit harsh, I simply think that the vast majority of the press we hear should be illegal. I'm tired of seeing photos of such and such on a private vacation from some fuckwit who decided to trail them to their destination and take candid photos of them.

Last I checked, this completely goes against "Right to Privacy," and yet very few people mention that. As far as they are concerned, it is perfectly okay for that to be broken so they can read about it. Call me an idiot if you like, bring up the argument that "Well, they're celebrities, so they ask for it," all you want. I will refute your arguments by simply saying that "Celebrities are people too, and what they do is their own fucking business unless they say otherwise."

That said, if you have read this entire thing and still feel that celebrities are golden beacons of human perfection and should have everything known about them, you are free to present a valid argument against what I have said.

- Jean-Luc Fortier

