

FEATURES

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THE HOLLYWOOD HABITAT

With their talents, celebrities seemingly entertain and influence millions of people around the world effortlessly. However, what some people forget is that they are essentially regular people, just richer and better known. Since they are continually in the media, they've become role models to toddlers and teenagers.

SHELLEY LIN Staff Writer

The New Kid in Town

SYLVIA WINSTON

Features Editor

Albert Einstein once said, "What is popular is not always right, and what is right is not always popular." but many celebrities did not heed this quote over the years. Many celebrities have become obsessed with creating a flawless facade in front of the media. To pursue fame, some celebrities have withdrawn from their true responsibilities as role models.

It is easy to claim that celebrities are a little different than the rest of us. A celebrity is a person who has a prominent profile and commands some degree of public fascination and influence in day-to-day media. Nobody is perfect and the world is beginning to understand that, so we don't expect celebrities to be perfect. Nevertheless, they are expected to influence society in a positive manner; their actions should not leave behind a vacuous emotion throughout the audience. Famous individuals include: the late Princess Diana of Wales, president Barack Obama and Salman Khan (founder of Khan Academy). The list is endless, but don't presume that celebrities are only the ones we see on television. They are also the ones that step out to make a difference.

Gotta Go My Own Way

JACQUELYN LOI

Staff Writer

People may envision the celebrity life as a perfect life where nothing bad happens, but some celebrities have gotten negative critique due to inappropriate behavior. Examples of this are celebrities like Justin Bieber, Lindsay Lohan, and Miley Cyrus.

According to TvGuide, on April 14, 2013, when visiting the Anne Frank House, Justin Bieber left a message in the site's guest book saying, "Truly inspiring to be able to come here. Anne was a great girl. Hopefully she would have been a Belieber." Not long after, Bieber had sprayed a photo of Bill Clinton with a bottle of blue liquid and called him an expletive.

Similarly, Lindsay Lohan has also experienced some drawbacks of her own. Since 2007, Lohan has spent approximately \$1,147,500 on both rehab and arrests. According to HollywoodScoop, Lohan had failed a drug test on Sept. 25, 2010 and on Feb. 9, 2011, she was also charged for a grand theft felony.

In addition, Miley Cyrus's actions at the 2013 VMAs were not exactly applaudible. Furthermore, in her music video for "We Can't Stop," Cyrus dances lewdly and shows herself "cutting" herself.

Now, people may wonder how Hollywood is affected by the inappropriate acts performed by celebrities. A few people may blame Hollywood for the actions of these stars; the stardom and the pressure may lead them to act a certain way. However, that does not excuse their doings. America's youth should be exposed to well respected celebrities that set a good example for them.

In Fame, In Fortune, Influence

JENNY LEE

Features Editor

With technological advancements, news about whoever and whatever is accessed wherever and whenever. Retrieving the latest celebrity gossip requires nothing but a few taps on a phone, a few clicks of a mouse or a few buttons on a remote control.

Because celebrities play a significant role through American entertainment, they become role models who can influence a sizable number of their fans. An idol's poor decisions affect the language, self esteem and self respect of young fans.

The National Institute of Mental Health calculates that over five million Americans have eating disorders, starting from age eight. With the media glamorizing products with models looking like Barbie Dolls, even young adults feel less confident and more dissatisfied and angry about their appearance. Newsweek surveyed that 84 percent of Americans claim sex plays a greater role in popular culture than it did 20 to 30 years ago. Celebrities like Lindsay Lohan and Miley Cyrus, voted the Worst Celebrity Influence of the Year on an online poll aimed at 9 to 15 year olds, raise questions over the connection between celebrities and these statistics.

Although not every idol is negatively influential, those who disrespect themselves or immerse themselves in drugs and alcohol should not only be wary of their health, but also of how they are perceived. The moment a person steps up to be a celebrity, they become a role model.

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