

PAPARAZZI

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“Paparazzi” is an Italian term used to refer to photographers who hunt and exploit athletes, celebrities, politicians and other prominent people.

Paparazzi tend to be independent contractors, unaffiliated with any mainstream media organization. They are not real journalists and usually do not hold any degree in photography or fine art.

Paparazzi photographers are often described as an unacceptable annoyance by celebrities. Many celebrities complain about the extent to which paparazzi invade their personal space, and some have even sued them.

The word came into use after the release of the movie «*La Dolce Vita*» directed by Federico Fellini in the 1960, the main character of which had a friend – photographer named Paparazzo. This character was conceived by director as pesky and nosy photographer, like a mosquito.

Fellini told that this name he borrowed from one of the high school friends, who was nicknamed the paparazzi for a quick way of talking.

Later on, the word was changed from the singular "Paparazzo" to the plural "paparazzi", and in other languages it is used in such way relatively photographers who pursue celebrities for compromising pictures.

In the beginning of the XXth century in the suburbs of Moscow region it was possible to meet the so-called “instant” photographers. They spent hours on duty in waiting to snap the curious or bathing scene. These people got persecuted and beaten.

Nowadays in many countries there’s a paparazzi service of «order» yourself and your friends. This service implies the payment of professional paparazzi «hunting» for you, for example, during your walking in the park or to the store. The idea by itself is something like a street photo with the only difference that you decide where you will be shot, and the identity of the photographer is left unknown for you .

As for the famous people, they are the ones who keep up their own popularity and can’t live normal life the way everyone does at the same time due to paparazzi. That’s the reason social media made celebrities as victims in fans’ eyes by showing the inevitability of great attention to their privacy. There are a lot of favourites of paparazzi, such as:

Nicki Minaj: she is an American rapper and singer-songwriter. Minaj has been mentioned in the media for her attractive body shape. In the interview for “Vibe” magazine she discussed her sexy image: «When I was

growing up, I saw women who were doing certain things, and I thought that I would do the same. Female rappers talked a lot about sex... and I thought that I should be something like that to get success“;

Michael Jackson: not only Mike’s musical talent, but his private life also attracts the attention of paparazzi and mass-media. Journalists always talked about his plastic operations, disease vitiligo and assizes while photographers got crazy and obsessed with taking his snaps;

Lady Gaga: shocking Lady Gaga became famous due to her theatrical performances and provocative attitude. Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta (real name) says: “Glory is a form of art. And it’s about three things: about death, about fashion and about venal celebrities”;

Madonna: she is an American singer, songwriter, actress, director, dancer and entrepreneur. Known due to her videos and stage performances as well as using political, sexual and religious images in her works.

Due to the reputation of paparazzi as a nuisance, some states and countries (particularly within Europe) restrict their activities by passing laws and curfews, and by staging events in which paparazzi are specifically not allowed to take photographs. And it’s also legal to release photographs when they are relevant and of general interest.

Paparazzi motto: “One good shot deserves another”.

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