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IS SOCIAL MEDIA BRINGING US CLOSER OR FURTHER APART?

The Paradox of Our Digital Connections

Is It Worth All the Hype?

Ever wondered, what end of the bargain do I get from following my favourite influencers online? In the fast-paced world that we live in, it's easy for online personas to get caught up in all the haul of everyday life while having content to post regularly on social media.

So, does social media, in fact, bring us closer together in the online community or does it actually drive us further apart? Let's dive deeper into this article to explore my own reflections through personal experiences.

I'll share a quick rewind

A year after I completed high school, 2021, that is, I had this burning urge inside my chest to accomplish a goal that had long stayed close to my heart, right from when I was a pre-teen. I'll give you hint: It had something to do with weight-loss- body goals. You get it. So, an interesting idea flashed up in my head, and I thought of a beautiful short-cut to help reach this goal. Well, it was beautiful then because I didn't know what I was doing. Had I known that life had better in store for my weight-loss attempts, I would have dropped the idea instantly.

This short-cut seemed reasonable at the time for the particular goal I was aiming towards, which was cosmetic fat loss. So what was this random idea? I thought of sending out a direct message to all my favourite celebrities who once went through a similar experience, weight problems, that is, and achieved their weight loss goals in the

most spectacular ways as they got deeper into their fame and success. I looked up to these celebrities, and most of them were musicians. Some of them include Ariana Grande, and Leigh-Anne Pinnoch from the little mix girl band.

So, one particular week, I started working my way around the DMs of these specific celebrities because I felt that they could relate to my story. I started typing in that introductory text, followed by a manual slide of pictures of a hand-written letter, expressing my story and asking for financial assistance to help fund in my procedural goal. Weeks passed, and I waited, waited and waited for a response, but to no avail from ANY Of THEM. It ended with months of waiting going by without a reply to my messages, and then I just gave up. It was the most heart-breaking disappointment I felt at the time because it was so important to me.

What helped me further was that I decided to reconnect with a long-lost friend about my situation during that period of waiting and she actually warned me not to bother because she had once tried the same method too regarding the funding of her modelling career, but to no avail from the celebrities that she had contacted as well.

The point of this story is not to paint a bad picture out there about our famous celebrities and role models, but to address the question of topic. So, is social media bringing us together or pulling us apart? In this particular category, I'd have to say no.

Celebrities are human, too, and they all have their personal lives to minister to, on top of all other things. And with all the negativity, toxicity and cyberbullying circulating all over social media platforms, it's easy to pull the switch and disconnect from it for a while. Additionally, most celebrities have a large follower base to begin personally attending to all the comments and messages of fans, which further enhances the divide. And don't get me started on the time. 24 hours has become too small and compacted to compensate for all our daily tasks at once. What even is that?

So, to answer your question, is social media really doing the job? Well, not really. But don't take it personally. Blame it on the clock.

