Celebrity Cartoons

Detailed Description: These four cartoons exemplify some of the points that Elizabeth Currid-Halkett makes in her book, *Starstruck: The Business of Celebrity.* The first cartoon shows two women talking over coffee, discussing that they would not know what to do if there were not celebrities. Currid-Halkett writes that fifty-percent of men and fifty-percent of women talk about someone else in daily conversation; people live through celebrities and actually hope to become celebrities. She argues it is an adhesive that binds the world together. The second cartoon is a cartoon of a father telling his boy that Paris Hilton is famous. The little boy responds, “What does she do.” The father replies, “ I just told you.” Paris Hilton is a celebrity that is discussed many times in the book as a star that is famous because people notice her. Cartoon three show two business men in suits, one man is telling the other that it does not matter if you win or lose, you just have to be seen on TV. This is an example of how politicians are promoting themselves and increasing their celebrity in ways that have nothing to do with their talent to pass legislation. Lastly, the fourth cartoon humorously depicts a man being excited that his tweets are being recognized, as he is surrounded by birds. Currid-Halkett states many times that it seems almost anyone can become a celebrity today, if people take an interest to them. For example, Tila Tequila got offered a reality show because her Myspace profile received the most views.   
Subject: Celebrity/Culture  
Instructional component type: Cartoons are used as a way to depict the points in Elizabeth Currid-Halkett’s book.   
Keywords: Celebrity, culture, media, talent, fame



