#### Film Stars are Overpaid

Why do <u>actors make more than doctors</u>? One would think that those who directly help save the sick or educate the masses should make more, but this is because <u>society places too much value on entertainment</u>, and not the things that truly matter, such as education and health. Elyse Perry writes, "Based on the numbers, it is obvious that there is something wrong with our societal priorities. When it becomes so apparent that we value our entertainment workers above our healthcare workers, we should realize there is a problem."

While some may claim that film stars are expressing themselves through difficult art, the truth is many <u>actors do not even memorize lines anymore</u>. Sure, acting is a talent, but shouldn't a person who can perform intricate surgery and save lives be paid far more than someone who may or may not be able to memorize lines?

Another thing to consider is that many celebrities are rewarded money <u>based on looks</u> <u>and vanity over character</u>. This is harmful and damaging to anybody watching, especially when it comes to our own <u>body image and self-esteem</u>.

Ultimately, the amount actors are paid is simply a reflection of our societal values. In Neil Postman's <u>Amusing Ourselves to Death</u>, he shows us how entertainment, leisure, and laughter will ultimately bring us to dystopia and death, leading us ever closer to the *Brave New World* Aldous Huxley once envisioned.

#### Celebrities Should Not Use Their Platforms for Political Issues

What exactly qualifies celebrities to be involved in politics? For the most part, the answer is <u>no</u> - Fame, wealth, and status do not automatically make someone qualified to speak on politics. If anything, wealth and fame may only contribute to <u>extreme bias</u>. Political issues like <u>taxes or healthcare may not be relevant to celebrity life</u>, as they can literally afford nearly anything.

There are many examples of celebrities <u>being bribed in different ways</u>, and there is undoubtedly pressure for celebrities to conform to certain political views or risk '<u>being canceled</u>.' How can we know that the political views celebrities hold are truly theirs - not a result of pressure or money? Many celebrities like Akon and Nicki Minaj have caused outrage, for instance, by <u>performing for dictators</u>.

According to <u>Washburn Review</u>, "Celebrities have a larger platform than most to share their views to the world. News organizations are often biased and seek to glorify celebrities they agree with and tear down the opposing side." In other words, we may not even get the full picture of what celebrities believe, and media bias may shut certain opinions down and uplift others.

Further, many celebrities have <u>strong views about topics they have little knowledge on</u>. Many people are quick to believe what a celebrity says over researching the true facts of an issue. This is dangerous for our society and can lead to disastrous, uniformed political decisions. While celebrities may never be fully removed from politics, maybe it is time we all just <u>stop listening</u> and form our own viewpoints and opinions based on rational research - not fame.

# **Disney Live Action Remakes Are Not Better Than the Originals**

Disney live action remakes are considered by many '<u>cursed abominations</u>' and ruining classics for an entire new generation of children. While they make great cash, they rely on <u>nostalgia</u>, not creativity of innovation. Unfortunately, very few of these remakes can live up to an audience's nostalgia, ruining the classics for older generations, as well.

These remakes possess <u>many problems</u> including their <u>scripts and uncanny animal</u> <u>emotions</u>. For example, any complain that the scripts are often exactly the same as the originals, making them boring, and the animals often look and act strange.

People are growing <u>sick and tired</u> of the seemingly endless amount of remakes and wondering if Disney is simply out of ideas. Further, many <u>explain</u> that nobody is really asking for these remakes, and we should keep the classics untouched. Many believe that the changes done to these classics are simply ins

It is clear that these Disney live action remakes are nothing more than a cash grab, and their original creators have difficulty even viewing them. According to Insider, Tony Bancroft, co-director of Mulan <u>boldly stated</u>, 'I think it's all about the money and growing the company and making the investors and stockholders happy.' Disney, it's time to leave the classics alone, as they are <u>soulless and lifeless</u>.

### **Voting Should Not Be Mandatory**

Mandatory voting would violate Article 15 of the U.S. Constitution which <u>states</u>, 'The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.' Nowhere does this article mention mandatory voting, which is simply <u>unconstitutional</u>. To put it simply, if you don't want to vote, it's your right not to vote.

According to the <u>CATO Institute</u> writes that luckily, most Americans do not want mandatory voting, and "The claimed benefits of mandatory voting are highly dubious. The evidence shows it would have little effect on election outcomes because non-voters tend to break down about the same as for voters in their partisan preferences."

Moreover, mandatory voting promotes "donkey balloting", where uninformed and forced voters randomly choose candidates or turn in blank ballots. In other words, compulsory voting doesn't force anyone to care in any way, but instead, it may have a negative impact on voting outcomes. The only thing it does is guarantee ignorant votes.

Jason Brennan of *The New York Times* writes, "Social scientists have shown that higher quality government tends to cause higher turnout. But higher turnout does not cause higher quality government." In countries that utilize mandatory voting, there are often fees or penalties to not voting, and as many countries show, mandatory voting isn't always effective.

Truly, the issue of mandatory voting in America should not even be up for discussion. Why? It's a bad idea and <u>simply unconstitutional</u>.

# **Are Gift Cards Thoughtful Presents?**

A gift card is actually the <u>ultimate present</u> because they help prevent unwanted gifts, force people to treat themselves, and they can help you give a gift from a distance.

While in the past gift cards may have felt cold or last-minute, these days, they are easy to <u>personalize and are available to nearly any store</u> in the world. When you give a gift card to someone's favorite store or restaurant, they can tell you have been <u>thinking of them</u>.

Plus, gift cards are great for the environment, which is thoughtful towards the world itself.

Gift cards are thoughtful because they consider the modern world - they are <u>safe</u>, <u>fun</u>, <u>and convenient</u>, and they always come in handy.