

What happened to social responsibility?

Newspapers and magazines seem not to have any social responsibility anymore, especially viewed in the light of children.

Please tell me, what has happened to social responsibility in the media? Going through some old magazines lately, I found 3 photos in different issues of the same family-orientated publication of American and other celebrities giving the finger to paparazzi (Lindsay Lohan, Prince Harry, Cameron Diaz). Why not at least blur the finger? Don't these editors realize children also read magazines, and are more inclined to imitate the behaviour of celebrities? And don't get me started on the headline-advertisements of a new daily newspaper! Thankfully they're mostly in Afrikaans, so English-speaking youngsters are spared. On each lamppost you'll find placards screaming about some business man and his prostitute ("ryk sakeman en sy hoer"), violence ("Bart wil bliksem"), etc! Let's not forget about the page 2/3 "hot" photo! I understand their platform, but do we really want a future generation exposed to this kind of crude language, nudity, and underhand activities? Since censorship was lifted (since 1994) social responsibility from the media has become, sadly, something that isn't even paid lip service any more.

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