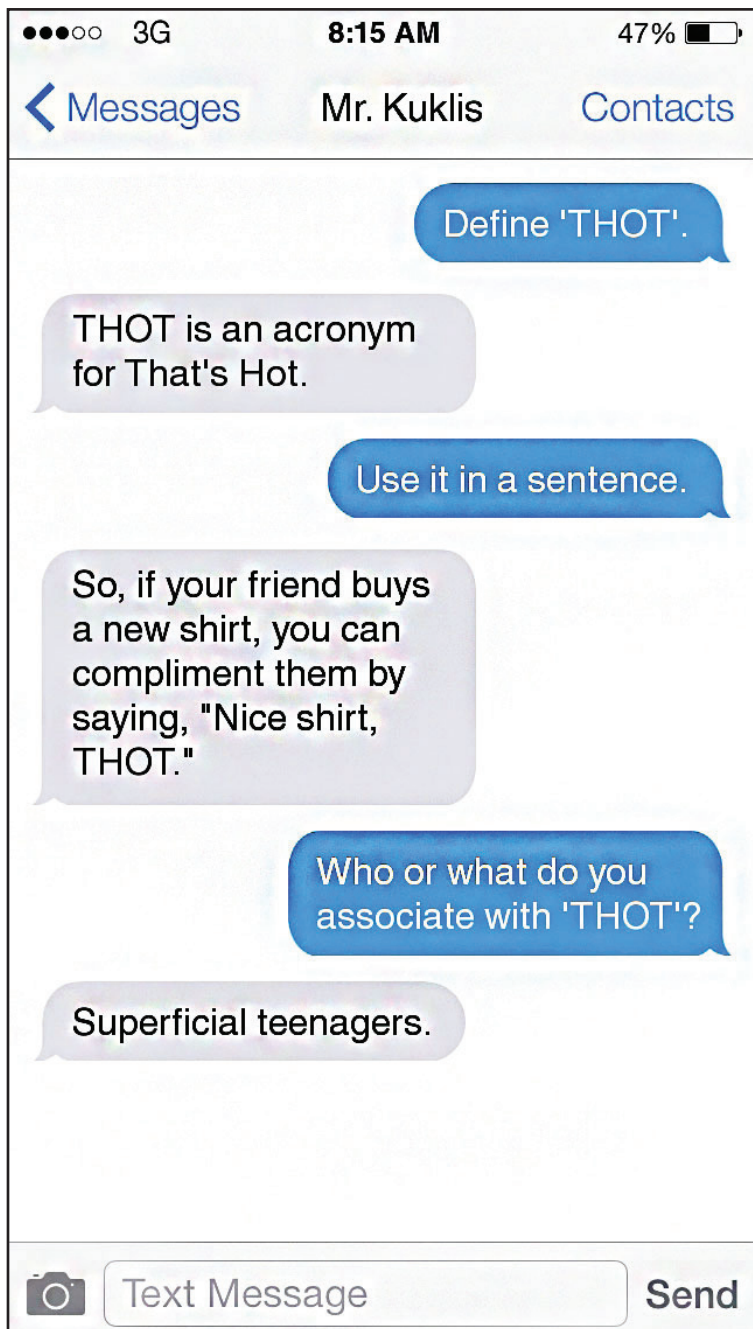
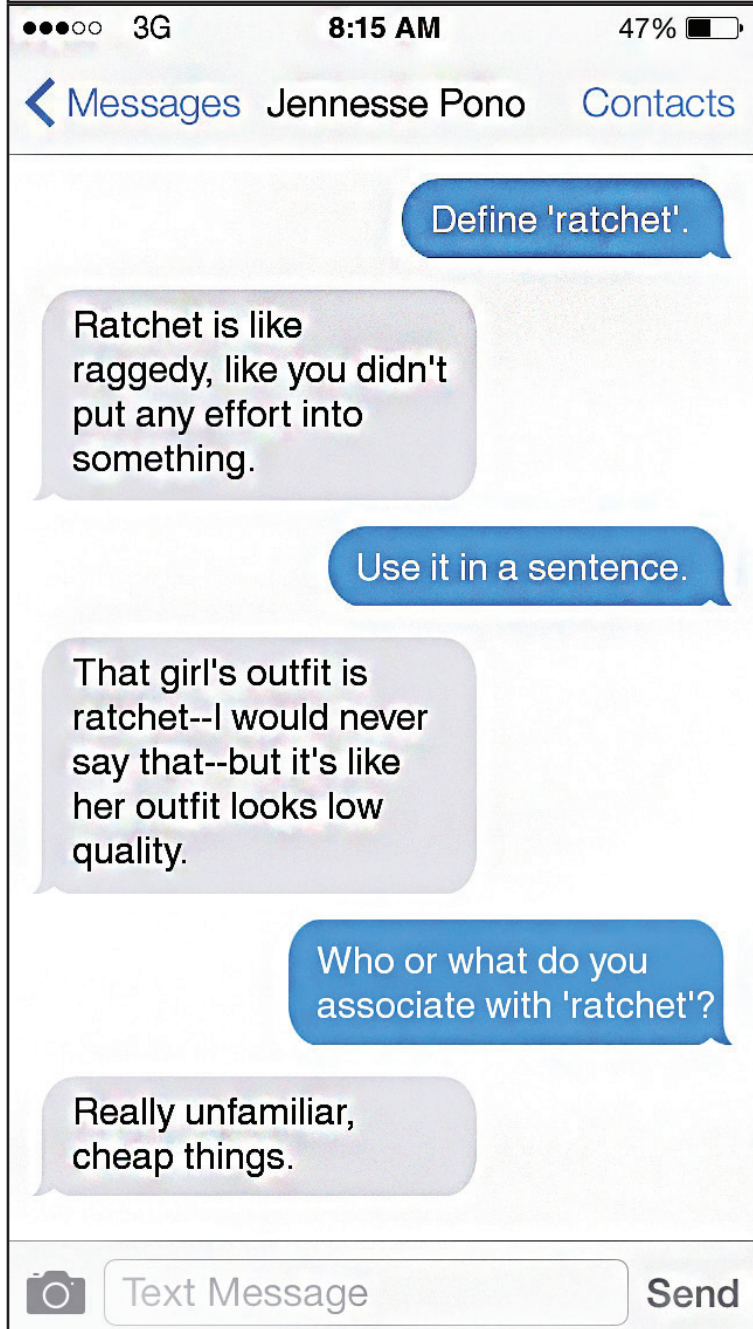


Suburban Dictionary



f Search for people, places and things

[Wrinkly Face]book

by Carly Travis

A day doesn't go by where my mom doesn't reference Facebook.

"I used to have the biggest crush on Jimmy Gardner. He and I took Spanish together junior year."

"Priscilla Perotti and Ab Igram were the prom king and queen and now they're married and have three kids."

"I can't believe some of these other women are my age."

Her entire high school experience culminated in Mark Zuckerberg creating a space for the class of '84 to reconnect and share images with one another.

Although I can't imagine this being Zuckerberg's original intention, I feel like Facebook has evolved into a Mom Mecca. Zuckerberg created the website in his Harvard dorm room; first, it was only available to him and his peers. Eventually, the network grew to include surrounding Boston universities and the Ivy League, and by 2006, everyone over the age of 13 with a valid email address had an account.

Facebook's main purpose is to connect people who have likeminded interests and mutual friends, but over the past several years, many factors have obstructed

that focus.

I fell out of touch with Facebook for many reasons. For one, it became increasingly repetitive. Let's say I'm friends with person A, B, C, and D on Facebook. Person D has a party and invites their best friends, person A, B, and C. In the days following said party, person A, B, C, and D all proceed to post the same pictures from the same party. After years of this monotony, it got the best of me, and so, my Facebook hiatus began.

Facebook isn't nearly as filtered as platforms like Instagram. People will post multiple pictures at a time, all highlighting the fact that they went to Cabo for spring break and took a picture in front of an architectural-looking rock. Quite frankly, I would rather see one phony, FaceTuned selfie on Instagram rather than 10 outtakes on Facebook.

Another reason I felt like the URL had no place in my bookmarks was because I was becoming way too interested in other people's lives. The truth was, they were no different than mine. I go on family vacations too and I've never felt the need to validate that by posting 10 photos in front of a rock.

Our parents' generation approaches Facebook much

differently than teens. They're busy showing off their aspiring children instead. Feeds are filled with soccer games, amateur theatre performances, and Science Olympiad wins rather than blurred out red solo cups and aluminum cans (you're not fooling anyone).

As current high-schoolers, we're connected with one another every second of our lives through mediums like Snapchat, Twitter, and Instagram. Our elders, on the other hand, are not. The people they're "confirming" and "denying" have their own lives separate from the confines of the North Shore. The people my mom is interested in staying connected with are actually adding to her life by sharing "what's happening" in Denver, for example, not Wilmette.

Facebook's demographics are clearly changing. Business Insider came out with a report detailing that, in 2012, 42% of teens listed Facebook as the "most important" social network. Only 14% agreed with that comment in 2015. When you live in such close proximity to your Facebook friends, the feed becomes irrelevant. The websites main purpose is to connect people near and far, but mostly far.



#doesanyonecare?

by Melanie Mandell

In 2010, a social media site by the name of Twitter started to become popular among celebrities and tech savvy young adults. The basic premise of Twitter is to share "what's happening" in 160 characters or less, and quite frankly, I don't get it.

Why would anyone care what I've been doing? I can understand why someone like Kylie Jenner or Taylor Swift runs a Twitter; people care and want to know what they're up to.

'I wish I had the guts to try and be funny on Twitter.'

I'm sure by tweeting about my average life there is no way I could possibly get anyone to follow me that doesn't know me in real life, and what's the point of that anyway? They all probably already know what I'm doing.

Humor is a big part of Twitter and why some accounts are more popular, but I know I'd never be funny enough to run a hilarious Twitter.

"I think Twitter is mainly used for following famous people," said

senior Bella Miller, "and finding funny accounts. I love those."

The humor accounts on Twitter are well known throughout the Internet, with screenshots of the best tweets posted on other social media outlets, such as Instagram and Tumblr.

"I wish I had the guts to try and be funny on Twitter, but it seems like a real hit or miss kind of thing," said Miller.

Besides the humor and updates on celebrity lives, I really don't understand why a regular person would use Twitter. Many other social media outlets like Instagram and Snapchat have much more to offer.

Instagram allows for people to post their own photos in a seamless format, whereas posting photos on Twitter always leaves the image awkwardly cut in half until you click on it.

Snapchat allows for a certain level of privacy between you and your friends because no one else can see what you're sending, and the concept of a "story" is great because you can see who has seen it, and it only lasts for 24 hours.

Something great that came out Twitter is the use of hashtags (#).

Since Twitter's inception, the hashtag has taken the world by storm, finding its way into every other social media app, onto shirts and accessories, and even into some songs. Many people have started to use these hashtags ironically, which I find #hilarious.

Although hashtags are nice, Twitter just seems like the most boring aspect of every social media platform thrown into one place.

Each tweet is like a status update on Facebook, and no one has a Facebook to be able to read other people's statuses (Facebook is mainly used to creep on other people's lives nowadays). Other people's unwanted retweets are like the suggested accounts on Instagram; no one asked to see them.

It wouldn't be fair of me to say that I hate Twitter. I just really don't get it or understand why some people use it as much as they do. Maybe that's because I never got into it, or that I know if I attempted to use it I would be just like one of those awkward adults on Facebook that has absolutely no idea what they're doing and manage to embarrass those close to them.