

Processed Interview Results — Identity 52 — Profile Picture Propaganda

Interviewer: Andrew Westling

Subject of Interviews: Leigh Scheffey

Interviewed Persons: Cecily Devoto, Alex Stoltze, Ben Bye, Mike Weiland, Copeland Downs, Josie Baldner

Self-Image

- Is this person well-liked? **unanimous yes, mostly because she's not alone in photos**
 - yes - comments about missing you, etc.
 - yes, because from the pictures, a lot are with other people in situations that you don't do things with people that you don't like. no angsty self-shots; a lot of "stand in group with girls you go out with" pictures - pictures of dude licking face and honey in mouth... indicate she has some amount of substance
 - ben= yes, pretty social in photo;
 - alex= yes, not alone in photos
 - yes, with many different people, large focus on being with friends, comments say being with friends
 - scenario analysis: if she's not in a sorority, then yes, she's well-liked. because she's not buying her friends. but yes, she puts up a lot of pictures with her and her friends
- Type A or B personality? **majority type A, because outgoing**
 - type A - outgoing
 - type A / outgoing; a lot of pictures are being expressive
 - -ben/ type A / looks well liked, looks outgoing
 - alex = type A / looks well liked, looks outgoing
 - type A, according to the definition andrew gave
 - type B in the sense that she likes to hang out with her friends because she has so many. and type A in the fact that she's very meticulous about the way she looks.
- Is this person insecure? **many said yes, because of focus on appearance; but there were some that said no because the pictures weren't to an extreme level of desperation**
 - yes / a lot of pictures are posing in a way to make her look good, of her wearing specific clothing, etc
 - no, not especially insecure because her pictures aren't too ridiculous... doesn't seem desperate or trying too hard.. there's a fair amount of steadiness.
 - alex= yes;
 - ben= yes, otherwise she wouldn't be doing the "back pop thing" / poses that accentuate certain features - forced
 - hard to tell, maybe friend group as a whole is a little insecure, just because the comments about "your eyes look good, etc" - maybe just supportive
 - it's possible. i think she's pretty, but she may feel like some of her friends are prettier than her. by no means ugly. normal sized.
- Does this person take himself/herself seriously? **general no, but not in a bad way — there was a sentiment that she was willing to laugh at herself, but academic/career rigor wasn't clear**
 - totally willing to have fun and laugh at herself, not necessarily academic sense, but probably someone who does what she needs to do but is also willing to relax
 - i don't think that she does, in the sense that she's joyous and funloving - might be serious about school but in general life no. - supported by comments and

captions...things about lyrics to songs or funny things

- ben = photoshopped her face on someone, is goofy with herself -
- alex= agree with ben
- no, (about facebook in general) - a lot of focus on outside activities, focus on going out and maybe trying to show playful image
- not too seriously, which is good. she seems like a person who likes to laugh at herself. and the guy licking her face, shows that she's not a very serious person. the only she looks serious in is the one in the woods by herself. usually people who are serious have pictures of them standing alone by themselves doing boring things, but that's not true though.

- Does this person think of himself/herself as the subject or an object? **again, a divided result — many said subject, but a few said she can appear an object. I tend to think the respondents didn't understand — based on their definitions, they mean subject.**
 - majority definitely of *her/* her and another person, looking at the camera - she can be picked out very easily in the photos
 - a lot are very intentional... intentionality might preclude subjectivity. picture is being taken to capture HER. and all are of her "done up" - none are in a scenic place. most are with other people (don't know what that means for s/o)
 - ben= subject - always part of a group, has a group identity to her ;
 - alex= she's like objectifying herself - looks at herself as an object because of the way she poses and dresses
 - people perceive her as more as an object, but in the pictures she is the central subject - a lot of pictures about the group... maybe she's not the subject as much about those pictures
 - subject, because she's in the pictures with just her friends - only the people are the important parts

Values

- Does this person value being well-liked? **pretty unanimous yes. many said "everyone likes to be well-liked"**
 - - yes.
 - i think she does value being well liked, but biased because i think everyone wants to be well liked. i think she surrounds herself with friends. friends are important to her, likes to have fun. helps the type-a personality part.
 - alex= yes she does,
 - ben= always posting photos with people; alex= would probably post more family photos and photos doing other things if she didn't value being well-liked
 - yes - you could have degrees of this- but probably everybody likes to be liked
 - yeah. because she's got like a boyfriend, and she takes photos that she thinks will bring out reactions from her friends. because you like to be liked. and it sucks to suck.
- What are this person's interests or hobbies? **partying, being with friends, getting dressed up**
 - duck games, atleast two pictures; partying,
 - going out, can make inferences from that... not technically drinking in these pictures, values "done-upness"... values makeup. beauty. can't take any interests and hobbies from this, aside from going out.
 - alex= she enjoys partying, and perhaps drinking - looks like a sorority girl, probably enjoys shopping. no photos of her traveling.
 - ben= don't think you can tell interests from these photos.
 - getting dressed up - a lot of focus on clothing and comment
 - drink and party, hang out with friends. not a bad thing. i like to drink and party and hang out with my friends.
- What are this person's dreams or goals? **didn't know**
 - judgey, but she looks like she would be in a sorority and maybe a business major or something like that
 - don't think there's anything that indicates these from these pictures.
 - alex= no idea;
 - ben= can't tell either
 - can't say
 - not sure.

- What does this person value in other people? **people who are similar to her, whether in similar made-up appearance or in outgoing personality**
 - bleaches her hair, makeup - seems like most of her friends are the same way
 - seems like she values some of the same levels of “hygeieneness” and beauty... one picture of guy licking her face... values other people who are outgoing, “whimsical”
 - alex= people who also like to party;
 - ben= friendship and goofyness
 - probably similar values to her own - having fun, enjoying peoples company
 - outgoing people, fun to be around, no debbie downers, probably likes a little bit of drama. has the drama gene, you know, if you’re around that many girls, there’s bound to be a type of drama.

Demographics

- Where is this person located in his/her profile picture? **college life, inside, apartments**
 - usually in the front and center; apartment, or in someone else’s apartment - most are probably at the university
 - in rooms, in specific rooms/ bedrooms and kitchens. very few outside. a lot are in social situations or at parties or maybe before going out
 - -alex= college- UO stickers on face;
 - ben= few outside pictures so hard to tell where she is / college life
 - could tell when it was a dorm room so she’s been to college etc, in small ish apartments - college living
 - in houses, inside
- Does this person travel? Is his/her profile pictures from different places? **no**
 - not really
 - maybe yes, but only based on the fact that she’s probably from uppermiddle class
 - alex= no/
 - ben= thinks she probably does because she’s in college, but doesn’t put those photos up
 - no idea. don’t think any pictures showed traveling
 - no. she’s probably from oregon. or california. she travels to school.
- Does this person have a job? **no**
 - from the pictures, not able to tell that she has a job
 - no. shot in the dark. no. no uniform or anything.
 - ben= don’t know;
 - alex= hard to tell, probably not because no “uniforms”
 - don’t know
 - probably not.
- What social class does this person come from? **upper middle**
 - probably upper middle class
 - uppermiddle, definitely. lower-upperclass
 - alex= middle;
 - ben= upper middle / because she’s going to college and partying a lot
 - upper middle - based on the places she lives/is in, the fact that she went to college
 - middle class. she probably comes from money. nice clothes, nice hair. i like her hairstyles. middle to upper. not like upperclass celebrity.
- What ethnicity or background does this person identity with? **white American**
 - white; people who are similar
 - white... with people who are homogenous. seemingly little differentiation between

- the types of people she's with
- alex= identifies as a white north american...
- ben= not trying to be something she's not
- american... no strong ethnic background that she's connected - lack of culture outside of standard american culture
- white people.

Relationships

- Is this person more concerned with a relationship with his/her family or friends? **friends, because no family pictures really**
 - friends; no family evident in pictures
 - friends, from facebook - no pictures with family really
 - alex= friends;
 - ben= friends
 - friends, all pictures with friends. but that might not be true. it seems like the image she might like to give off
 - friends- no pictures with family. likes her friends.
- Does this person have a girlfriend/boyfriend? **many said no, but mentioned the guy licking her face**
 - there are pictures with her being licked by a guy (could be friend, or boyfriend); but probably does have a boyfriend
 - don't think she has either.
 - ben= no;
 - alex=no because there are only a couple photos with her with guys; look like goofy fun photos
 - hard to say - one picture of her with a guy, but almost every picture with girls.
 - definitely got a boy toy. at the very least, seeing someone. that boy licking her face. or they could be best friends.
- Does this person seem welcoming or cold? **welcoming, generally. a few thought "friendly, but maybe there are cold times."**
 - seems friendly but also kind of bitchy at the same time
 - welcoming, not deliberately cold. might be shy or quiet, seems welcoming.
 - alex= welcoming - but probably cold because she's a girl;
 - ben= definitely welcoming, she's always chilling with her friends, got a lot of friends probably should be welcoming.
 - welcoming - because she's always with lots of different people
 - welcoming. if i had to spend two hours with her in the room, i would probably learn a lot about her. she seems like a nice person, and doesn't seem bratty or like one of those girls who thinks she's better than you because you look different or dress different.

General/Final Questions

- Where did you gather most of your information: the pictures themselves, the comments, the captions, tags, and/or the number of times changed? **scattered responses — many focused just on the pictures' contents. those who did look in different parts responded because it's sort of a habit to do whatever they did, for example, not looking at comments unless you, yourself, are going to comment**
 - looked at some of the comments and likes, but mainly the content of the pictures
 - mostly the pictures/ who's in them, trying to figure out the scene. tried to look at dates they were posted. seems like she updates pretty often. read the comments and it was pretty interesting. (in this one picture, this girl looks like a vampire. one with the cat)
 - alex= only at the photos don't care enough to look at comments because you

- don't know her;
 - ben= didn't look at the captions/ not a habit to look at captions unless you want to comment
 - all the things, comments were revealing about one type of information - almost every comment was about how cute you look, girl. interesting to see every comment was similar "this makes me sound like a real douchebag, but i'm not"
 - read the comments. i wouldn't spell like that on my facebook. but that's just me.
- How did that information influence your decisions and ideas about who this person is? **thought she should take herself a little bit more seriously. also made people think about how their own pictures show up**
 - makes (josie) think about the pictures she puts up on her own
 - made me think a little less of her. you can tell she's joking around, but you're in college. have to take yourself a little bit seriously.
- Do you think you would get along with him/her? **no, but this is more a result of who I interviewed. Bros vs. Hipsters is kind of the Sharks vs. Jets of this generation.**
 - no; she'd be nice, but doesn't seem like the type of person she'd hang out with. seems kinda fake, not interested in the same types of things
 - i think i'd get along, but don't think we'd be friends. seems like we're interested in different things/people
 - ben= be fine talking, but probably wouldn't be a friend of hers;
 - alex= don't think she'd be friends with her
 - no, doesn't strike me as someone i would walk up to and try to be friends with
 - yeah, but i don't know if i'm a very 'girl-girl'. i tend to like more down-to-earth people.
- Overall, who is he/she? How would you identify him/her? **a number thought she was a "sorority type" but one response was particularly insightful: "who am I?" — shows we don't really have a good way to tell who someone is from this.**
 - pretty bro-ey. girl version
 - seems like someone who's happy
 - alex= business school sorority girl;
 - ben= who am i? i don't know
 -
- What are three words you would use to describe this person? **outgoing/social and happy; also "whimsical" — this word came up more than once.**
 - friendly, outgoing, insecure
 - goofy, done-up,
 - ben= smiley, partier, social;
 - alex= partyer, christian, lake oswego
 - charismatic, content, whimsical
- Which picture(s) tells you the most about this person? **some said that the pictures all have a consistent quality to them, but the one with the boy licking her face came up more than once.**
 - nothing really stands out, there is a similar expression in many of the pictures - but if needed, the one with pouring a shot and the one with licking face.
 - guy licking face, vs. cheesin' with all the girls juxtaposition is actually very interesting.
 - alex= picture with O's on face;
 - ben= picture with chad ochocinco
 - they all look the same. they all came from the same palette.

