

The effect that social media has had on our youngest generations is undeniable. And while social media can be both a tool to stay in touch with people and an outlet for creativity, it also comes with negative effects. Such as a warped view of reality. My generation spends more time looking at a screen than anyone in the history of technology and this causes these so called "social media influencers" to uphold their namesake and influence our youth. While many of these influencers give good advice and have a positive impact, many of them are liars and scammers. Many influencers repeat the rhetoric that with the rise of social media, an education isn't needed anymore since you can make money there. They post this narrative in between pictures of them with expensive cars, private jets, and exclusive parties. Along with this they are usually pedaling their pricey online course which promises to teach you how to use social media and make money off it. But this is all a lie for hopeful, bright eyed teenagers (such as myself) to fall into. The reality is that usually these influencers have no real money. The cars in their photos aren't theirs. The private jet they fly in is located at a studio, made specifically for the purpose of deceiving people on social media. And the parties they attend are called influencer parties, where the whole point is for it to LOOK high brow. In reality the people there are rarely friends and certainly aren't rich. I say all this to say that these professional con artists make a living off making sure that highschool students value their status and opinion over a formal education. This results in less highschool students pursuing a career as a social media influencer.