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## Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by honeyb - 2006/06/06 22:17

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Ladies & guys,

You know i love Starting Over as much as anyone on this board, but I have come to the conclusion that we are just wasting our time and probably are being laughed at for flooding their lines with calls and petitions to keep this show on. It all comes down to one thing, and i am sure you know what that is. MONEY!! Every show has to have sponsors that buy time to advertise their products. Maybe the sponsors didn't want to endorse their products on that show anymore. Not enough selling potencial or something. Anyway, they are going to do what they feel will benefit them, they don't care about the fans, or viewers. or nobody but who will bring in the revenue. What i can't understand is why Tyra Banks and Jerry Springer are on all the time?! Tyra is rich and so is Jerry, so maybe they are kicking in some cash to keep their shows on. I noticed Tyra is on like 3 or 4 times a day!! I don't think that many sponsors want to pick her show up! It all comes down to money! I am so tired of hearing "That mailbox is full right now", if every call is to logged and counted, then a lot aren't getting through, and i don't think NBC gives a darn either. I am through trying, they are going to do what they want to anyway. I think I will just stick to praying!! God hears and logs and counts my prayers, and He answers them too!!

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Tara - 2006/06/06 23:03

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If it comes down to money then NBC is just plain clueless. Starting Over costs very little to produce and they also have a slew of sponsors. Affiliates stations are also more likely to pick Starting Over up than a big name show because it costs them less.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by SOCynic - 2006/06/07 10:07

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I think you're right. It's naive to think that Rhonda, Iyanla, Dr. Stan, the SO producers and production staff and Bunim-Murray aren't moving on with their personal and professional lives.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by girltalk - 2006/06/07 12:28

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People STARTING OVER is over!!!!!!! here is proof!

For all the folks who have signed the petition 'with their illiterate comments' and wasting their minutes and \$\$\$ calling that 818 number in the Valley, here's a little something I dug up: <http://tinyurl.com/l3q0>

Here's another article about efforts by fans to save the show. <http://tinyurl.com/pl3ef>

More info can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/owcuc>

And, the final nail in the coffin comes from The Futon Critic. Up until a couple days ago, the site said the series was 'still being shopped.' I knew it wouldn't be a BM production any longer because the entire staff was either reassigned or terminated by early May and the office space now houses Human Resources. Here's that link: <http://tinyurl.com/hlu46>

SO GO GET A LIFE PEOPLE....you are wasting your time!!!!

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Tara - 2006/06/07 14:03

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I think you are the one who needs to get a life. People here are putting their energies into something positive unlike you.

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How much time did it take you to make each of those urls in to a tiny URL?

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**Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!**

Posted by turtle - 2006/06/07 17:44

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Right on, Tara! Whining isn't going to keep SO on the air. Calling and petitioning might, though. It's been said that every letter or phone call represents 1000 people.

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**Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!**

Posted by LikeUno - 2006/06/07 17:49

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Tara wrote:

I think you are the one who needs to get a life. People here are putting their energies into something positive unlike you. How much time did it take you to make each of those urls in to a tiny URL?It took girltalk less than five seconds to copy and paste Incognito's post. Here's the one you might want to read:  
<http://tinyurl.com/hr52b>

Friday, June 2, 2006

Starting Over

NBC ingeniously creates special Starting Over voice mail box to appease annoying fans

While daytime reality soap Starting Over is not yet officially cancelled, the show's future doesn't look promising. But fans of the show are "working hard trying to save the show from being canceled," according to a press release sent by fans who gather at StartingOverTalk.com.

At first, that hard work involved creating free petitions and gathering names and illiterate comments. But then, some viewers "decided to take action" by making "a flood of phone calls ... to different departments of both NBC and Bunim Murray," the press release says.

NBC apparently received so many calls that they created a special phone number (818.777.0244) attached to a special voice mail box just to handle all of those calls. That sounds like a victory, but as the fans' press release points out, "so many people have been calling the Starting Over viewer line that during most hours the voice mail box has been full and no longer able to accept new messages."

Um, is it not completely obvious what's happening here? NBC has brilliantly stopped obsessive fans from annoying them and made them feel empowered all at once. That's sheer genius. At best, an intern is going to listen to those messages and make hash marks on a Chiptole bag, probably while listening to Gnarl Barkley's "Crazy" on their iPod, singing along at the especially relevant parts: "You really think you're in control/Well, I think you're crazy/I think you're crazy/I think you're crazy."

Mary

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**Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!**

Posted by Debby - 2006/06/07 17:52

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Thanks for all the words of encouragement! Just kidding... When someone tells me there is something I cannot do, I try even harder to get it done. That's just me. So perhaps the incendiary posts will reignite my commitment.

I never feel foolish when working for a cause that I believe in. It appears that many of you have invested much time and energy by trying to call the hotline and obtaining information about SO. It's sad that you are now so frustrated.

I think that all we can do, is all we can do. I couldn't live with myself if I just sat back and didn't make any waves.

Some of you may have already contacted NBC about the issue of the full mailbox, however I will be dealing with someone there tomorrow about it if necessary. Wish me luck!

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by LikeUno - 2006/06/07 18:08

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IF Starting Over comes back, it will NOT be a BM Production. The entire staff was terminated by early March. Their office space now houses Human Resources. These are the facts. And, the program is horrendously expensive to produce! Compare the parting gifts from Season One compared to Season Three! Cassie1 was given a new Vespa and a European vacation and I can't remember what else. TJ got a spa day! Sorry, dems just the facts.  
Mary

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Debby - 2006/06/07 18:20

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I'd just like to add that I am delightfully surprised to see all the new members who are logging in new posts everyday, even if it is to say we're fighting a lost cause. It's great to see so many new members join in after the season finale! If it were not for Tara, this would not be possible.

I guess the saying is true that you don't know what you've got til it's gone.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by mazzy - 2006/06/07 19:37

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Debby wrote:

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I think that all we can do, is all we can do. I couldn't live with myself if I just sat back and didn't make any waves.

Some of you may have already contacted NBC about the issue of the full mailbox, however I will be dealing with someone there tomorrow about it if necessary. Wish me luck!

Debby... I do wish you luck, and admire your commitment. Go goil!

Mazzy

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by honeyb - 2006/06/07 21:47

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OK, In my heart i know that Starting Over is OVER!! I don't need to read or investigate anymore urls. or wait on any reports. That's OK with me, I think it was a very helpful, worthwhile show and it has helped and encouraged a lot of women and men also. I am grateful that we had it as long as we did. Now we can take all the tools we learned from the life coaches and use them on ourselves.

I do hope that Tara will keep the site going. With over 10,153 registered members, it would be a double wammy to lose this too. :(

I remember when there were less than 500 members here! We had so much fun. The chat room was always alive with 5 or 6 people talking all at once. We hardly ever talked about the show, but we sure formed some tight friendships here.

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Whatever happens, happens. I can accept that because i have to accept the things i cannot change, and i don't think it is worth all this bickering. I personally think Tara was out of line telling the girl to "GEt a life", that was not nice at all. We have had our disagreements here, but the one thing i like the most is that we always tried to respect each other. I think you owe her an apology.

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### Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!

Posted by onendb - 2006/06/07 22:14

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I have to say I hear the show is over but I am just not ready for it to be.....OVER. I record the show everyday and wacth it and it never fails I always learn something. I feel I am a well together lady but I know I still have alot to learn in life. It was nice to see that I was not alone or that other people do some of the same things I do. I found this web site because I want to send a Thank letter....that was before I found out the show was over. I just now wish I would have done it all sooner.

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### Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!

Posted by patacake - 2006/06/07 22:56

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It generally comes down to what they call market share-- and SO doesn't have a big enough market. I don't know anyone, personally, who will even watch the show. Everyone I talk to about it asks why I even watch it-- they saw an episode, they just don't get it,-- and they're the ones who the show is trying most to reach out to. :( Denial ain't just a river in Africa.

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### Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!

Posted by Mercredi - 2006/06/07 22:59

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honeyb wrote:

I personally think Tara was out of line telling the girl to "GEt a life", that was not nice at all. We have had our disagreements here, but the one thing i like the most is that we always tried to respect each other. I think you owe her an apology.

:laugh: Did you read the girl's post? If someone owes anybody an apology, it'll be the "girl" not Tara. :lol:

As far as the show is concerned it was already over for me anyway when I learned that Iyanla would not be back. But, I truly applaud the fans for trying to keep the SO on the air.

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### GET A LIFE

Posted by Tara - 2006/06/08 03:02

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honeyb wrote:

i cannot change, and i don't think it is worth all this bickering. I personally think Tara was out of line telling the girl to "GET a life", that was not nice at all. We have had our disagreements here, but the one thing i like the most is that we always tried to respect each other. I think you owe her an apology.

How was I out of line? She was the one who came here and told all of us to gets lives. She didn't even take the time to read though other threads here either. She posted a link to a Press release that I wrote and sent out.

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### Re:Don\'t Be Fooled!

Posted by awaken33 - 2006/06/08 22:36

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haha, hey patacake, you sure got it right about that river in Africa! I try to get people to watch also, but they either don't want to stay with it or they just don't get it. Like you said, these are the ones who most need to open their minds & hearts to a show like SO. We have all benefited sooo much & I have a feeling that we are also the ones who are already committed to healing & working on ourselves. To say the very least, it is too bad that people generally don't want to know their own truths & dig up their own stuff. Being honest with one's self can be very painful but the other side is the reward!!! :P

Re: all that Tara has done to raise awareness about who to call & what # to call, BRAVO sister!!! Good work in a worthy cause. Thank you! Peace & love, Lauren

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by KPW1956 - 2006/06/09 00:16

I'll admit the first couple times I saw the show... I literally rolled my eyes.. At first glance it seemed much like your typical soap opera/reality show. I didn't even realize it was a reality show...

But I think I got sucked in during some sort of drama...I think the summer after SO1 when they were doing flashbacks of the season.. and Josie dealing with all her garbage about keeping the baby/ not keeping the baby/ who is the father/ leaving the SO house.. and just really struggling... You could really empathize with her plight... and I remember it was Rain who warmly kept persisting trying to calm Josie down when she was essentially hysterical..

I never got to see all of Rain's story... or many of the other womens... but from what I did see... I really liked her! It seemed like she cared.... and most likely had a tender heart.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Oshea - 2006/06/09 00:48

If we really want to keep the show, maybe we should start contacting the regular sponsors. They had regular sponsors, the ones that advertised with them and gave the graduation gifts.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by ceilidh - 2006/06/09 01:25

KPW1956 wrote:

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When I first started watching the show, it was Season1 in reruns, but it ended after the last of the original six women graduated, so I did not see Rain either. I missed the start of SO2 also, so I

am enjoying that. I did see Josie's first stay via flashbacks, so her progress was easy to follow. As i did not realize there was a Season3 until an old friend mentioned it was on another channel in the morning...I did not catch the beginning of that either, and when I did start watching, I had missed most of Jessica and TJ's stories. I think it was Jill who "drew me in" and got me watching regularly, but it took me a bit longer to feel

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really involved with that group! There did not seem to be as much "cohesion" as in previous groups, or so it seemed to me!

I did not think that I would watch the reruns again, but I'm finding it very interesting, while realizing how much I had forgotten! Sometimes I just got so irritated with one or the other that I would swear I was not going to watch one more day....and here I am!!:)

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by ceiliidh - 2006/06/09 01:25

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Debby - 2006/06/09 12:05

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I was recently sooo surprised when I discovered my second cousin was a huge fan of SO. We got together for lunch and went to her mother's grave Memorial Day weekend. Her mother died a year ago and she is still trying to sort out her feelings.

My cousin was homebound taking care of her elderly mother for several years prior to her mother's death and the show meant so much to her. She is hearbroken with the recent events. The loss of that kind of program is just cruel to so many people across the country.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Peggy56 - 2006/06/09 15:21

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:ohmy: Okay, here in NYC we have Judge Joe Brown (yawn, yawn) he could be shifted to 4:00 a.m. and SO could be put there.

However, here is the fly in the pudding. Oprah and a few others (including NBC) have financed giving Racheal Ray a daytime talk show! Look at the morning line-up here in NYC after the today show ends in the mornings: 10:00: ELLEN; 11:00 MARTHA; 12:00 (used to be SO); all on NBC.

They are not going to cancel any of the soaps, GOD FORBID they should cancel PASSIONS. Racheal, I like her cooking shows but a talk show? When they aired Tony Danza's last show he muttered "Racheal Ray wants this?". He was on ABC at 10:00 a.m.

So there is some maneuvering going on at the networks. Dr. Phil has worn his welcome but Oprah backs him. Do you see the connection in all this? Iyanla was let go from the Oprah show, turns up on SO. I really liked her and now this. I visited her website and it is really nice.

Face it once Mary Ellis Bunim passed away, it was only a matter of time for all the shows they created. I sincerely hope SO come back and hope that NBC has not deliberately filled up the voicemail box (accidentally on purpose).

Food for thought!!!!:unsure:

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by andrewluvsSO - 2006/06/11 15:52

Peggy56 wrote:

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I'm also in NYC, and it sounds like the NBC fall daytime lineup will be Ellen at ten, Martha at eleven, Megan Mullalley at noon, Days at one, Passions at two, Joe Brown at three and Judge Judy at four. So unless they give SO some crazy late night timeslot, I'd say we're out of luck in the Big Apple.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by SOFANEAST - 2006/06/12 15:06

I watched SO at 4 am for two years. I would wakeup that early or tape the show. I have missed only 2 episodes in 3 years. I don't care what time they show SO as long as they do. But I am not a fool, I believe that it is over. I am now only hopeful of them making a dvd of all three seasons. We can still learn from them.

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by turtle - 2006/06/12 19:20

For the past three years, the Greenville, SC NBC affiliate has shown SO at 11 am. I'd just as soon they show it at 2, 3, or 4 am so I could tape it for later viewing. 11 am is one of the worst hours for being pre-empted. Often, it's some local "breaking" news story that could wait for the 12 pm newscast. Something's just happened. Their news crew is on the way. And, they don't even know what's going on yet. So, they break into a TV show just to be "first" on the scene. And, don't even have any information. Save it for your noon broadcast, dumbasses!

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## Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by Debby - 2006/06/13 12:55

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turtle wrote:

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Turtle, I thought it was my imagination that 11:00 a.m. was the worst time for late breaking news announcements. SO used to air at 11:00 in my area. It was then switched to 12:00 noon. I was right. The noon time slot worked out great. I recall far less interruptions than before. Now it's on cable TVone at 5:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., so I tape then and watch in the evening. The problem is that they are airing season 2. I love it, but, according to this site, the rest of country is watching season 3, so I have noone to talk to about it.

Yesterday, Sommer arrived at the house. The women were so rude and cold towards Dr. Stan, I couldn't believe it. When he walked in and joined the hg for group, they looked really ticked off. They said something like, "Oh, it's you." He tried to make light of it, but, they still glared at him, with disdain. It's not the first time they have acted put off by him right in his face. I guess they were not expecting to have a man in the house. I didn't pick up on that resistance to him when I first watched it, but I am now. Anyway, I'm getting off tract from this thread. Just wanted to share that wierd observation about season 2.

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### Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by KPW1956 - 2006/06/13 13:27

I wouldn't mind seeing season 2 again... or seeing season 1 for the first time..in it's entirety. I don't know what all the flack about Nyanza is... It's got my curiosity up... for some to think she was the worse HG ever!

I think Dr. Stan has definitely found his audience... and fan base.. The SO3 women came to love him and appreciate him... as have I!

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### Re:Don't Be Fooled!

Posted by SOFANEAST - 2006/06/13 16:31

Oh yes Nyanza was something else. I would have loved to see lyanla tear into Ny. Ny put together a fund raiser for Cassie1's scholarship fund. She brought tons of people together to honor Cassie and donate money. They did raise a lot of money Ny turned the whole evening around to say, "Look at me for doing such a wonderful thing for this poor girl I dont' even like, Aren't I wonderful" It was really shocking. She was constantly in the lime light putting everyone else down to look better herself. I really liked Lori. She was my favorite houseguest of all time. I would love to see season 1 on a DVD. If the producers are really listening they will learn that the viewers would pay to have this show on DVD.

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