

Stephen Glass: Where is He Now?

By: Elizabeth Dreyer

The 2003 film *Shattered Glass* depicts a young egotistical journalist named Stephen Glass (Hayden Christensen), who made up a series of stories to write for his column. After his boss began to fact check him, it was noticeable that some holes were not filled. A reporter from



Forbes began to question the plot behind his news stories and soon exposed him. Glass was then fired after he denied fabricating his storyline. Soon after, Glass was recognized as a liar and was then shunned from many jobs soon after. Our school's newspaper class *The Tartan*, recently watched the movie to learn what not to do when becoming a journalist. Although shocking, the story of Stephen Glass is based on true events.

According to Hanna Rosin, a writer from *The New Republic*, Glass wrote hundreds of apology letters in hope of regaining his coworker's trust. Years later he turned to a legal degree to escape his past of *The New Republic*. In 2010, Glass made a surprising call to his friend Chuck Lane, a former friend who worked at *The New Republic*. Glass needed to file an application within the California state bar that stated Glass needed to be of "moral character." He called up many other witnesses to talk on behalf of Glass and his actions. Although Glass's actions harmed his peers, family, readers, and *The New Republic*, Lane went to the courthouse to help out Glass in getting his law degree.

Living in Venice Beach, Glass practices law focusing on personal injury. Glass had applied for a law firm job through Paul Zuckerman. After Zuckerman read Glass's cover letter about his history, it was obvious that he couldn't be hired. However, Zuckerman had a problem with drug use and alcohol. After a realization that he needed to change, he felt that it was his obligation to help someone out and give them a second chance. He set up an interview with Glass and hired him as a paralegal, which is a person that works for a lawyer or law office. Glass now lives his life accounting for every single lie he has produced. But, the ideology of change has impacted Glass; from a cocky liar who seeks everyone's approval to an employee at a law firm.