Guidos!

George De Stefano (August 06, 2008)



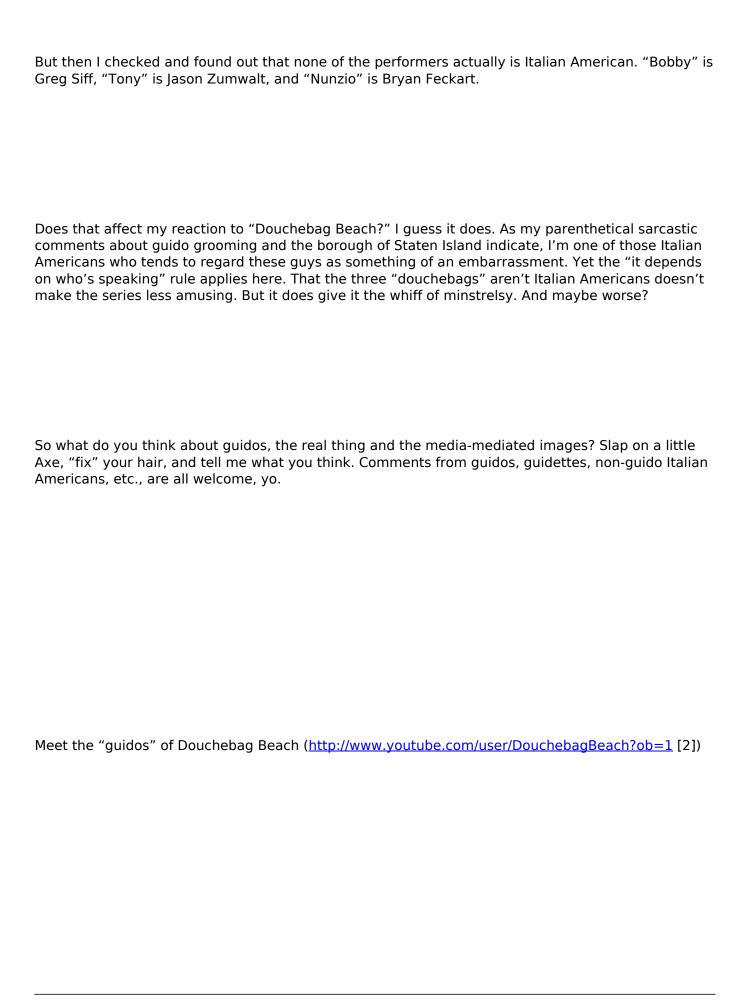
The mayor of a New Jersey shore town inflamed ethnic and borough passions when he complained about "guidos" from Staten Island. But how do you feel about them, and the media stereotype?

"Guido" is a pejorative slang term for a young, lower class or working class, Italian-American male from the urban Northeastern United States most often New York and the surrounding areaThe Guido stereotype is often portrayed as humorously and incorrigibly uncultured, with a thuggish and overtly macho attitude and an unyielding pride in his Italian ancestry.
Clothing associated with the stereotype includes gold chains, working class clothing such as plain T shirts, muscle shirts or "guinea t's" (derived from the term "guinea," an ethnic slur for Italians), leather jackets, sweat or tracksuits, scally caps, unbuttoned dress shirts, and dress suits.
Wikipedia
Ken Pringle, the mayor of Belmar, New Jersey, ruffled guido feathers (loaded with "product" and spiked) when, in July, he complained about their presence in his seaside resort town.
"We think of Guidos as a kind of rare bird: They flock to our shore towns during the warm months, and are as welcome as, oh, Canada geese," he said in a column he writes for a local newsletter.
"The call of the Guido," he added, "is bellowing, and frequently slurred, invariably starting with the sound, 'Yo,' followed all too often by some creative variation on an expletive beginning with the letter 'F.'"





Guidos, whatever your view of them, constitute a substantial Italian American subculture. In fact, the type is so well-established by now that other urban "ethnic" males who affect the sartorial and lifestyle trappings can be called – and call themselves – guidos. There are Jewish guidos, Latino guidos, Greek guidos, Arab guidos. Up here in the Northeast, it's Guidoworld.
Moreover, it's not only in the United States. As Wikipedia informs us, guidos also are found in parts of Canada, where they're called "ginos."
The guido phenomenon is all over the Internet. On You Tube, three uber-guidos called Bobby, Tony, and Nunzio are starring in a comedy series called "Douchebag Beach." Here's the promo for the series, which currently comprises 11 "webisodes":
It's summer, and three 20-something douchebags from Northern New Jersey have packed up their Axe Body Spray, collared striped shirts and house music CDs for their annual trip to the Jersey Shore. But this year Bobby, Tony and Nunzio aren't looking for a piece of a*s, they're searching for something much bigger: True Love They're three douchebags looking for love in South Jersey what could possibly go wrong?
The creators of "Douchebag Beach" obviously know their guidos. Their dispatches are often very funny and very on-target. One segment, "DJ Twink," hilariously skewers the unacknowledged homoeroticism that often underlies guido male bonding. My first impression was that "The Three Douchebags" were a young Italian American version of The Three Stooges, only more knowing and satirical.



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