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The University of Chicago and the University of Oklahoma are among the educational institutions that have had classes or conferences about the show.[10][11][12] In 2010, the cast of Jersey Shore were named on Barbara Walters' 10 Most Fascinating People list,[11] and the series has since been exported to dozens of countries worldwide.[13]

There are several remakes of the show in other countries, with two set in the United Kingdom; the well-known Geordie Shore, set in Newcastle upon Tyne, England,[14] and The Valleys, which is filmed and set in Cardiff, Wales.[15] The only other official remake of the show is GandÃ-a Shore, set in GandÃ-a, Spain.[16]

VH1 producer Anthony Beltempo proposed the idea of a show focusing on the "guido" lifestyle for TV, in the form of a competition series. Executive producer SallyAnn Salsano, who previously worked on A Shot at Love with Tila Tequila, devised a new concept, inspired by her summers in a Jersey summer share house, and retained casting director Doron Ofir to find the cast. MTV Networks President Van Toffler felt that the series "loud, young, bold" style was better suited to MTV's sensibilities than VH1, and MTV programming executive Tony DiSanto felt that "[After The Hills], it was time to go for a more authentic approach, like a documentary." Van Toffler described the casting process by saying they looked for "candor, honesty, boldness and a very combustible, chaotic mess. You could honestly say none of these people were traditionally beautiful." [17]

They have cameras everywhere, all the time... You're always being watched. You kind of get a little paranoid, because you're like, 'Who's watching me?'... It's trippy. it messes with your head. But that's why we go crazy. That's why we fight with each other. That's why we drink. We're living in a house for two months with that shit. We can't have cellphones, TV, radio or internet... There's no normalcy. It's like a prison, with cameras. The only time we're not on camera is when we're in the shower, and that's why we all take three-hour showers, just to get away from it all.[21]

Believed complications caused by Nicole Polizzi's pregnancy, and several cast members (including Polizzi, DelVecchio, and Farley) receiving spin-offs sparked talk about the future of the series past the fifth season, however on March 19, 2012, MTV officially confirmed that the series would return for a sixth season, with all cast members expected to return. Filming for the sixth season is expected to take place in Summer 2012, which will see Polizzi nearly eight months pregnant. MTV said in a statement, "While things will definitely be a little different this time when they hit the boardwalk, their trademark hilarity and family dysfunction will remain the same".[37]

Farley is a graphic designer and club promoter from Franklin Square, New York. During the casting process, she stated, "I thought the guys would be enormous and really mean, and I thought the girls would be catty and overdone."^[17] She enters the shore house with a steady relationship at home but cheats on her boyfriend with castmate DeVecchio and ends her relationship in season 3 episode 4 for different reasons.^{[46][49]} Farley has had breast augmentation surgery, which she got as a birthday present to herself just before turning 21.^[50]

21-year-old Guadagnino comes from a traditional Italian American family in Staten Island.^{[55][56]} A graduate of the State University of New York at New Paltz who had plans to attend law school if acting did not work out. Guadagnino applied after a friend sent him an application asking for "the orangest, most muscley, spiky-haired people", which Guadagnino filled out "as a joke." Describing first meeting his castmates, he says, "I see Pauly and his spiky hair and his whole guido look. Great, they found the most stereotypical kid. Then Snooki seems like a train wreck. But you realize we're all starting this crazy new adventure."^{[17][57]}

Pivarnick is a New York City bartender. She starts out the season with a serious relationship at home, but the two break up in episode 3, which indirectly leads to her eviction from the shore house after refusing to work her shift in the T-shirt shop.^{[46][62]} Pivarnick again departed the house during Season 2, after violent confrontations with Mike and Nicole. She did not return for Season 3. She calls herself the "Kim Kardashian of Staten Island," but is mocked by other cast members as the "Staten Island dump" or the "Rob Kardashian of Staten Island." Pivarnick made a brief cameo during Seasons 5 & 6.

Polizzi is from Marlboro, New York, and is an aspiring veterinary technician. She applied to an ad on Facebook that said "Calling all guidos and guidettes," which Polizzi said, "was definitely about my lifestyle."^[17] Polizzi earned the nickname "Snooki" in middle school after being the first of her friends to "make out" with a boy. She became the center of controversy when a man punched her in her face during a bar confrontation. Polizzi was arrested by Seaside police on July 30, 2010 on public intoxication charges, which were later dropped.^{[64][65]} She previously suffered from an eating disorder in high school.^{[66][67]}

Sorrentino, an assistant manager of a fitness center in Staten Island, develops an attraction towards Giancola, which does not come into fruition when she becomes interested in fellow castmate Ortiz-Magro.^[69] Sorrentino worked as an exotic dancer in 2004.^[70] In the 2010 season of *Dancing with the Stars*, he partnered with Karina Smirnoff, but was eliminated in week 4.^{[71][72]} He also appeared on the British television show *Celebrity Big Brother* in August 2012.

The cast of *Jersey Shore* appeared on the 2010 MTV Video Music Awards on September 12, 2010.^[91] Nicole Polizzi appeared on TLC's *Cake Boss* episode "Snookie, Super Anthony & a Ship" on November 8, 2010, in which she orders a cake for her mom. Polizzi also appeared on the March 14th, 2011 edition of *WWE Raw* as the guest host and she wrestled a professional wrestling match on April 4, 2011 at *WrestleMania XXVII*.^[92] Jennifer Farley and Angelina Pivarnick appeared on various episodes of *TNA Impact* in 2011.^{[93][94]} The cast of *Jersey Shore* appears on MTV's Season 4 of *Disaster Date*, starring Jen Lilley, Lauren Zima, Cale Hartmann, Jason Karasev, Russell Pitts, Hasan Minhaj, Diarra Kilpatrick, and Kara Luiz.^[95] Angelina Pivarnick appeared in the show *NY Ink* in which she got a tattoo that shows her time in *Jersey Shore*.

In 2010, MTV received criticism from Italian American organizations for the way in which they marketed the show, as it liberally used the word Guido to describe the cast members.^[96] The term "guido" is generally regarded as an ethnic slur when referring to Italians and Italian Americans. One promotion stated that the show was to follow, "eight of the hottest, tannest, craziest Guidos,"^[97] while yet another advertisement stated, "[the show] exposes one of the tri-state area's most misunderstood species ... the GUIDO. Yes, they really do exist! Our Guidos and Guidettes will move into the ultimate beach house rental and indulge in everything the Seaside Heights, New Jersey scene has to offer."^[98]

Prior to the series debut, UNICO National formally requested that MTV cancel the show.^[100] In a

letter to the network, UNICO called the show a "... direct, deliberate and disgraceful attack on Italian Americans ..."[101] UNICO National President Andre DiMino said in a statement "MTV has festooned the 'bordello-like' house set with Italian flags and green, white and red maps of New Jersey while every other cutaway shot is of Italian signs and symbols. They are blatantly as well as subliminally bashing Italian-Americans with every technique possible ..."[102] Around this time, other Italian-American organizations joined the fight, including the NIAF,[103] the Order Sons of Italy in America and the internet watch-dog ItalianAware.[104][105]

MTV responded to the controversy by issuing a press release which stated in part, "the Italian-American cast takes pride in their ethnicity. We understand that this show is not intended for every audience and depicts just one aspect of youth culture." [96] Since the calls for the show's removal, several sponsors have requested that their ads not be aired during the show. These sponsors include Dell, Domino's and American Family Insurance.[106]

In a February 2010 interview, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie called the show "negative for New Jersey" because most of the cast members are not from the state. According to Christie, the program "takes a bunch of New Yorkers and drops them at the Jersey Shore and tries to make America feel like this is the real New Jersey." Governor Christie took action against the series by trying to encourage people to experience the real Jersey Shore for themselves rather than watch it through MTV: "I can tell people: They want to know what New Jersey really is? I welcome them to come to New Jersey any time." [107] A Fairleigh Dickinson University PublicMind poll released in February 2010 showed that 59% of Americans who had seen the show had a favorable view of New Jersey compared to only 44% of those that had not seen the show.[108] The FDU poll repeated the national telephone survey in 2011 and showed similar results.[109] Consequently poll director Peter Woolley concluded that "These measures... suggest the show isn't hurting the nation's view of the state. In fact, it may be promoting one of the state's best features--not Snooki, but the shore itself." [110]

Nonetheless, in September 2011, Governor Christie vetoed a \$420,000 tax incentive awarded to the show by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, stating: "As chief executive, I am duty-bound to ensure that taxpayers are not footing a \$420,000 bill for a project which does nothing more than perpetuate misconceptions about the state and its citizens." [111]

An episode featuring several parodies were made into a special entitled Jersey Shore: Spoof'd, which aired on January 16, 2010, featuring a cast commentary highlighting internet and television spoofs that have sprung up as a direct response to the show. The program also included the original cast audition tapes.[112]

On October 7, 2010, Total Nonstop Action Wrestling debuted two characters by the names of "Robbie E" and "Cookie" forming the team "The Shore" as a parody of DeVecchio and Polizzi.[115] Jenni Farley, accompanied by The Beautiful People, appeared on the October 14, 2010 edition of TNA Impact! and got into a catfight with Cookie.[116][117][118] Angelina Pivarnick appeared alongside Robbie E and Cookie on the March 3, 2011, edition of Impact! and challenged Farley to a match.[119] The following week she wrestled in a match, where she, Cookie and Sarita were defeated by the Beautiful People (Angelina Love and Velvet Sky) and Winter.[120]

A video, which may be viewed on YouTube, while pictures can also be seen on the internet, with the characters of Twilight being seen if they, instead of being cast with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson, the characters are "instead cast as Jersey Shore". The video is fanmade as well as a parody of both Twilight and Jersey Shore with Bella being portrayed by Snooki, Jenny as Alice, Mike as Edward, whom seemingly is just as in love with his looks as with Bella/Snooki; the Cullen family: Ron and Sam as the Cullen parents, Angelina as Victoria, while Vinny is a teenager whom the Situation uses to protect Snooki from an oncoming van which would have killed her.

On April 7, 2011, MTV announced it had picked up two spin-off shows featuring cast members Nicole, Jenny and Pauly, picking up twelve episodes of each show. One show focuses on Nicole and Jenny living together in their own apartment and is titled Snooki & JWoww.[122][123] The other

show follows Pauly jet-setting around the country for various DJ gigs and is titled The Pauly D Project. Filming for both shows started at the end of 2011 and premiered in 2012. SallyAnn Salsano of 495 Productions (Jersey Shore) is the executive producer of both spin-offs.[122]

Jersey Shore is a reality television series which airs on MTV. It follows eight housemates while they live, work and party at the Jersey Shore. The show made its debut amid large amounts of controversy regarding the use of the words "guido/guidette", portrayals of Italian-American stereotypes and scrutiny from locals because the cast members are not residents from the area.[1][2][3] Premiered in December 2009, it remains MTV's most controversial show to date.[4]

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