

"Gay or Asian?"

Racist Feature in Details Magazine

by: Grace Oh

Completely Offensive

is the only way to describe the contents of the recent feature in April issue of Details magazine. It stereotypes two minorities in a tasteless, humorless, and unacceptable manner.

Although Details has issued an apology, this behavior should not happen in the future or in any other publication.

For more information, please visit:

www.glaad.org
www.aaja.org
www.maynardije.org
www.naaap.org

Please send your protest letters to:

Daniel Peres, editor-in-chief
7 West 34th Street
New York, NY 10001
detailsletters@fairchildpub.com

Whitney McNally, writer
Whitney.mcnally@fairchildpub.com

"Details magazine published this feature in thier 2004 issue. Writer Whitney McNally revives a history of stereotypical images of both Asians/Asian American's and the gay community that is utterly disturbing. By denigrating working class Asians - 'one orders take-out sushi, the other delivers it' - and exoticizing Asian male bodies - 'ladyboy fingers,' 'sashimi-smooth chest' - and portraying gay men as sexual perdaters, and Asian men as passive and effeminate; McNally dehumanizes people of color, hypersexualizes gay men, and caricatures the working class and immigrants.

Details plans to publish a statement in thier next issue that says in part 'We regret that anyone was offended by the article.' They say they will keep our concerns in mind, but that leaves the door wide open for similar features in the future. THIS IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH! "

- asianmediawatchdog.com

"Yes, this is a tasteless humor piece. And I think it's a regular feature (previous months include "Gay or Jesus?" and " Gay or British?"). But this is simply freakin' blatant racist garbage. It seriously pulls out every offensive, stereotypical Asian pop culture reference imaginable, objectifying and exoticizing Asian men into a sexual stereotype. To me, this piece is written for a straight white male's racist, homophobic frat-boy sense of humor—a major men's publication effectively categorizing Asian men (and gay men) as an objectified "Other." And they think they can pass it off as a lighthearted joke? It's chillingly reminiscent of those outdated, similarly racist early 20th-century taxonomies outlining the attributes of the "Mongoloid." That's racist!"

- angryasianman.com