THE POLITICS BLOG
WITH CHARLES P. PIERCE

'Funemployed' Is Not a Trend. Nothing Fun About It.

By Charles P. Pierce
at 1:28PM

I hate everybody involved with this *Los Angeles Times* story. I hate its feckless subjects. I hate the "experts" who are quoted in it, and all their fanciful theories about why its feckless subjects do what they do. I hate that there's a cutesy name for what they do, and I already hate the inevitable future episode of *Girls* in which it is discussed. I hate the person who wrote it. I hate the trend-happy editors who gave the reporter the green light to write it. I hate the top-level editors who hired the trend-happy editors in the first place. I'm not really fond of the people who delivered the paper, although I might be willing to cut them some slack.

Both Flores and Rounsaville discovered that they like themselves better when they're not consumed by their jobs. "This is the best version of me," Flores said, adding that she feels "completely healthy," relaxed and focused. Rounsaville agreed: "The rat race puts blinders on you and makes time fly, and then the next thing you know, you've missed the chance to be your more exciting self, or to push yourself in a gutsier direction."

Please push yourself in the direction of a large steaming vat of STFU, the two of you.

I don't suppose I should expect much from the people who produce this drivel, but some sort of acknowledgement that there is a difference between leaving your job with Yahoo! at 28 to find your muse, and getting laid off by the plant at 54 with two kids in college and a spouse with a chronic illness. I give this thing about eight hours before it finds its way into at least 30 wingnut screeds about how unemployment benefits should be cut back so lazy bastards don't go on trips to Mongolia, and about how Americans who don't have cushy no-show jobs at the Cato Institute are all miserable moochers who need to be turned into food for their betters.

And I hate myself for having read it.

Read more: http://www.esquire.com/blogs/politics/funemployed-trend-10520514#ixzz20K8Wj6zI