Itâ€™s the worldâ€™s most famous thankless job

by Lori_Borgman

I donâ€™t know what the presidentâ€™s job approval rating is today, but interest in having his job is at an all-time low.

Just before the â€™04 presidential election, ABC News and Weekly Reader found that half of the teens polled thought it was possible to grow up and become president -- but 80 percent had absolutely no interest in the job.

Next to being the parent of a rebellious teen, being president has to be one of the worst jobs in the world.

All eyes are trained on you 24/7 waiting for you to trip, totter, stammer, mispronounce a country or throw up at a state dinner.

Your slightest slip is fodder for late night comedians and every hack at a computer keyboard.

Junior Achievement polled teens this summer on their ideal career. For the fourth consecutive year, businessperson came in first, followed by teacher, doctor and nearly anything in the field of computers.

There were 36 careers on the list and President was nowhere in sight.

The Constitution says the qualifications for president include being a natural born citizen and at least 35 years of age. What the founding fathers neglected to list was having a thick hide. Rhino thick. Walrus thick.

In July, the 1976 Nobel peace laureate Betty Williams lashed out at the president in a speech to Australian school children, saying, â€œRight now, I would love to kill George Bush.â€•

If a kid said that in school he would be suspended.

And now â€œDeath of a Presidentâ€• has debuted at the Toronto Film Festival and will be heading to the States. The British film, dubbed a â€œmockumentary,â€• portrays the assassination of President Bush and the events that follow.

Democrat, Republican, Independent or life-long Apathetic, thereâ€™s nothing entertaining in depicting the death of a sitting president.

The filmâ€™s creators insist the movie is not a personal attack on the president. Of course not. Only the thin-skinned and highly sensitive would perceive a feature-length film about oneself being gunned down on the big screen as a personal attack.

To spice things up, a Syrian-American is wrongly convicted for the crime; the real culprit turns out to be a black man. The only thing more appalling than a hideous plot is a hideous plot pumped up with racial and ethnic tension. Something for everyone.

For the record, four U.S. presidents have been assassinated, all by crazy white guys. Better to be a police officer writing parking tickets, a bored toll booth attendant or a roofer laying shingles in the blazing sun. Even the guy scraping animal carcasses off the highway gets an occasional friendly wave from passing motorists.

The president? He gets a film touted as art that depicts his violent death.

And we worry about kids playing violent video games. Our greater concern should be demented adults putting a bullâ€™s eye on our commander-in-chief and giving ideas to the already unhinged.

The kids are right. Who in their right mind would want the job of being President?

Itâ€™s the worldâ€™s most famous thankless job by Lori_Borgman