



world
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What inspires
Drew
Barrymore

her

YOUNG CITY

Saucy, sassy and sizzling – that's what the August issues of HT City will be like

WATCH

OUT

Big brothers are watching

Anamika Chatterjee

If you thought just because you were out of school no one was minding your business, you couldn't be more mistaken? If the private detective agencies of the Capital are to be believed, more and more colleges across the city are falling back on them to keep a check on their students. And they in turn draw their inspiration from some of the city's prestigious schools. Reason: Safeguarding the reputation of the college.

I-SPY: Sanjay Singh of Indian Detective Agency explains how the process begins. "Most colleges want to know what are the notorious students doing. They give us their names and then we investigate." What makes them suspects? Students could be under scrutiny for any kind of indiscipline, ranging from drug abuse, sexual escapades to bunking classes.

HUSH-HUSH AFFAIR: The families of the students aren't aware of any such activities. Says, Pradeep Kumar Sharma of National Detectives, "It starts with a friend circle. We are asked not to inform the family members as then they may end up blaming the college. If you inform fami-



MCT

Why are colleges hiring detectives to spy on their students?

lies, chances are that the college's reputation will be at stake." Sharma also states that, "it's not just the boys they have to keep an eye on, but an equal number of girls too. The trend of hiring detectives is more visible in vocational colleges."

CATCH THEM YOUNG:

Generally people who can look young are best suited for such assignments, says Ashish Mathur of Trident Investigation Network. "Detectives who look young have better chances of digging deep in a particular case. The overall in-charge is, however, someone who is either experienced or well-trained."

MONEY, HONEY? College authorities have limited funds and such assignments require huge funding. Says Sharma, "We charge Rs 30,000-50,000 for an assignment. Duration of assignments is also a deciding factor." Different agencies have different parameters for charging money. Adds Singh, "Generally we charge somewhere between Rs 25,000-40,000. And that too depends on the number of people we have to track down. Colleges make payments in their own name." However, none of the agencies were willing to name any of their clients.

The write beginning

Monika Adlakha

He claims never to have read a book in his life. But 15-



Young

to read or write, I preferred being a closed book. I liked narrating stories, but writing didn't excite me. But once I started thinking there's nothing to lose, I didn't

know how to stop."

Ronen has already completed his