

Private Eyes: A profession of the past?

Back in the days before the internet there were many ways to find information, people and secrets. The library, telephone directories and good old fashioned detective work were all fair game. The private detective rose up as an icon in many movies; small smoky office and young, attractive blonde in distress often lead to intriguing stories featuring the likes of Philip Marlowe or Sam Spade as portrayed by screen legend Humphrey Bogart. Nowadays however those private eyes are few and far between as all the research can be done through services available on the internet.

There are many reasons why people feel the need to find out information on a particular person, and more often than not it's for personal reasons.

The most delicate and personal situation is possibly for people who have been adopted. In some cases these children grow up and find that when they get older they would like to find and connect with their birth parents. Often they discover their records have been sealed or they no longer contain the correct information.

Other times the cause of a people search is not as delicate, such as when searching for old friends. Moving around often when growing up and even into adulthood, it's easy to lose touch with people you were once close to - especially now when people move house more than they ever have before. Nowadays, however, many old friends are reconnecting on the internet through social networking sites like MySpace and Facebook, which have made it easier to search for old friends, classmates and relatives.

Searching for those people no longer with us is a bit trickier. As people have become more mobile in recent times, they often lose connections with their past and culture. This is one of the reasons why so many find themselves increasingly interested in their past and family history. Genealogy research has always interested people; the opportunity to find out that someone in your past was famous, or the chance to discover something about your family history that has previously been unknown. In fact, it isn't unlikely when digging into the past to find family secrets that have been kept hidden for many generations!

Unfortunately for people trying to build their family tree they cannot just search on a social networking site. A more detailed [people search](#) will undoubtedly be necessary, especially if you want to go back more than a few generations. Luckily the internet has made this kind of research possible and more affordable than ever before, so finding people can now be just a few clicks away.

About the Author

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