

## **Fact or Opinion?**

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### **MTV's "I Want a Famous Face" Sets a Dangerous Course, Says the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery**

Press release: New York, NY (April 1, 2004) -"Having plastic surgery because you want to look like someone else is the wrong way to start out," says ASAPS President Robert W. Bernard, MD, a plastic surgeon in White Plains, NY. "Plastic surgery was never intended to change who you are, and to believe that surgery can achieve that will only lead to disappointment."

One of the things that plastic surgeons evaluate when interviewing prospective patients is whether they have realistic expectations about the potential results of surgery. "I am always wary of situations in which people bring in photos of celebrities and say, 'I want Cindy Crawford's nose' or 'Make me look like Brad Pitt.' In most cases, such requests are simply not possible to fulfil, but more important they are indications of unrealistic attitudes toward cosmetic surgery," says Dr. Bernard.

ASAPS urges that people interested in cosmetic surgery to enhance their appearance first talk with a qualified surgeon who is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery and a member of the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. The prospective patient should ask him- or herself the following questions:

- Am I focused on a specific feature, or features, that I would like to improve?
- Is my goal to look better, rather than different?
- Will I still be pleased if cosmetic surgery does not dramatically change my life or relationships?
- Have I considered, and accepted, that plastic surgery, like any surgery, has risks?

If the answers to these questions are, "Yes," then cosmetic plastic surgery may be a reasonable choice.

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**Read the ASAPS Press Release: 'MTV's "I Want a Famous Face" Sets a Dangerous Course, Says the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery.'**

**Are these statements 'fact' (F) or 'opinion' (O), or are you 'uncertain' (U) after reading the press release?**

Cosmetic surgery can't make someone look like Brad Pitt.	F O U
Believing that plastic surgery can change who you are will only lead to disappointment.	F O U
Robert W. Bernard is president of the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery.	F O U
The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery always certifies qualified surgeons in America.	F O U
Dr Bernard is wary of situations in which people bring in photos of celebrities and say, ' I want Cindy Crawford' s nose'.	F O U
People interested in cosmetic surgery to enhance their appearance should first talk with a qualified surgeon.	F O U
Plastic surgeons evaluate whether prospective patients have realistic expectations about the potential results of surgery.	F O U