

THE JOE BOB REPORT

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Joe Bob Briggs, Prop. \$3

It seems as though everyone's got the fever. **Quentin Tarantino** fever. He, unparalleled god of exploding heads, is riding high on the success of his recent "paint the walls red" comedy, *Pulp Fiction*. There are, however, those who would propose that perhaps the emperor has no clothes. **Mike White**, a senior at the University of Michigan, came upon an article in a British magazine suggesting a similarity between Tarantino's ultra-violent *Reservoir Dogs* and an earlier film from Hong Kong, *City on Fire*. After finally tracking down a copy of *City on Fire*, White compared the two films and became convinced that the similarities were more than coincidence. A die-hard Tarantino fan, White "felt very angry and a little hurt that Quentin Tarantino would so blatantly take something from another film without crediting it." So he pieced together a documentary, *Who Do You Think You're Fooling?*, illustrating the alleged similarities. When *Film Threat* ran a column with similar assertions, White sent the tape to editor-in-chief **Christian Gore**, who in turn sent it on to *Village Voice* writer **Lisa Kennedy**, whose column piqued the curiosity of the news folks at MTV. Though initially interested, MTV gave White the runaround before finally informing him that the tape was—big surprise—too violent to air. Together with editor **Mike Barnett**, White has also been busy putting together the inaugural issue of *Cashiers Du Cinemart*, a 14-page Xeroxed quarterly zine dedicated to serving the bottom rung of the movie industry. Besides detailing the Tarantino Conspiracy, the zine offers commentary on the glut of smut films and the subsequent decline in quality, an anti-Wynona Ryder tirade, and a Blockbuster alert. The first issue of *Cashiers Du Cinema* is free, or you can get *Who Do You Think You're Fooling?*, the video that "no one will talk about," for \$5. Just write: *Cashiers Du Cinemart*, P.O. Box 2401, Riverview, MI 48192.