

Not a warm welcome for CMT's 'Party Down South'

Written by Kimberly Blair
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News producers for CMT's "Party Down South" are coming to town to film the second installment of the reality show has lit a wild fire under thousands of people who have taken to social media, Facebook and even email to protest it.

Since launching Wednesday, more than 7,000 people have "liked" Locals Against Party Down South Facebook page. The likes grow by hundreds per hour.

Conversely, another Facebook page -- <https://www.facebook.com/localsforpds> -- supporting the show cropped up today but so far has only garnered a fraction of likes.

The series follows eight young Southerners during a summer of extreme fun involving booze, bar fights and bed hopping. The premise is they're all American young adults who embrace Southern values.

One poster on the Facebook page summed up why so many people are against it: "Jersey Shore and Party Down South are like the TV producers big inside joke of stereotyping us. PDS makes a mockery of our Southern pride by showing adults who claim to have manners and then cut immediately to some of the worst behavior seen outside of a frat house."

So far, 500 people have signed a petition that's to be delivered to Gov. Rick Scott stating: "We the people of Pensacola do not want CMTs Party Down South to take place in our town EVER" "We're hoping we can be put on the map based on our support to keep our integrity, not selling it to a show that exploits 8 people for \$500 an episode."

Pensacola Beach Advocates issued an alert to its members urging them to research the show and provided numerous links to the show's website and news articles about the controversy that erupted in Murrells Inlet, S.C., last year where the inaugural season was filmed.

The beach leaseholder's group told their members if they find it "offensive, belittling and disruptive to our community as we do, then we must work together to get this stopped. Email or call the SRIA board members and the Escambia County Commissioners and tell them you don't want this show in our community."