

Why is skateboarding banned from public and middle schools

I only have to make one point, skateboarding is not a crime. So why does everyone treat it like it is? Count how many skateboarders have been hit by cars. Not very many. Now think how many people have been hit on their bikes, or even walking. Police thing that we do damage to everything but skateboarders just don't have anywhere else to skateboard. Why doesn't the town make a skate (skateboarding) park.

Lets get to the point, most public and middle schools won't allow skates to school. Why not? Why does the staff of the schools think that it's dangerous when its not. They won't even try to listen or let it be tried. They just think we are kids and they just won't listen. All it is, is a type of transportation and a fun activity in the summer. They would probably say where would you put it and you could put it in your

locker. Well they won't even try like maybe they could have a skateboarding day. I don't know of one skateboard accident if you ride. You're skateboarding to someone else's house you're not riding it to school. You're riding it to that person's house and they still won't allow it.

People think that it will get stolen. Well that is the skateboarders risk. There should be a licence or something so you can ride it where ever you want. I think when you say you can't skateboard to school you're taking a person's fun away. There is another thing if they take away skateboarding the people that own skateboards will not be able to ride them and something bad will be done instead like bikes will be stolen just as easy as skateboards. All I'm trying to say is please listen to what I'm writing. Give skateboarding a chance in public and middle schools in Halton.

By Chris Howell

A students point about Canada

In the world today all we see is fighting. If it's not the war then it's the Government. Why don't some of the government's people come around to the schools and ask our opinions of what we think of the world today. We are the children of our future. The people and the government are making all the decisions of our future, but soon all the problems will be on us. The older people are also trying to help with recycling but only fifty per cent of them do. The only people that are going to save this earth are the children. We need a child's opinion because soon it's going to be a child's world.

Many people are trying to help but not enough. Parents should teach their kids to recycle because it's going to help them in the long run. All over Canada kids and their parents should be at least trying to help with the recycling of pop cans, jars and newspapers and other stuff that can be recycled.

All over Ontario kids are starting to recycle in their school and mostly in the home. Let's all try to make this world safe for the children of the future.

By Jaimie Connolly

Underage drinking

Some peoples parents agree to let their children drink underage as long as the parents know where they are and what they will be doing. I think that is a good idea because children should be able to have a good time as well as adults as long as they don't get too carried away. I think the drinking age should be 13 years old. Most people are responsible enough to know when they have had enough, and for those people who don't know then it's them that have to suffer with the hangover the next morning. There is also one less worry and that you don't have to worry about drinking and driving because we're too young to drive. Most adults would disagree with that but if they were our age they would want to too!!!

By Carolyn J. Jeffries

I think the drinking age should be changed to 18 instead of 19. 18 year olds can vote, and go to war to fight for their country, why not drink?

I feel it is totally unrealistic to have the drinking age at 19 because most people will have been drinking anyway. Therefore I feel the law will turn relatively law abiding citizens into dishonest ones. Most young people will not go jumping up and down when they turn 19 saying that now they can drink because they have already been drinking. Young people have a lot more peer pressure when the drinking age is 19, but if it is 18 maybe adolescents wouldn't be so rebellious. Adults don't think that young people are responsible but it is mostly the adults that do not drink responsibly. One year might just make all the difference.

By Diane Jones.

Kids need help too

Kids help phone and the childrens aid society represent hundreds of kids help phones around Ontario. Many are serviced around Toronto. That's where most kids need help. The people who run the phones are volunteers and social workers. The government funds some of the crisis lines, but they are mostly funded by private donations. Due to not enough money and unqualified workers the phone lines are no longer available to troubled kids. Kids from all ages call between the hours of 7 a.m. to 12 midnight. Many kids get more than they think when they call. Social workers may get in contact with the child or may recommend a suitable place for where the troubled kid could stay. The government must realize that more money should be spent on

helping, instead of ruining lives. Now that there are so many teens on the street, more crisis buildings are being built and torn down. It's the same as the help phones, the government doesn't spend a lot of money on kids so the buildings get torn down. There are group homes and the Y.M.C.A. where the kids can go to get off the streets. Surveys say most kids go to the street to get away from abusive parents (physically and mentally). Most kids, both sexes, are drawn to prostitution and drugs. Some of the kids don't realize that there is help out there and that it might get better in order to get through and to show the government that more money should be spent on the future of the kids and not on skyscrapers.

Sarah Hiseman.

Skateboarding is not a crime

I think that the school board and police think that all skaters (skateboarders) damage property. I think they should at least give us a park to skate in. Worst of all the school board won't allow us to have a skate on school property because they are expensive and it may encourage kids to steal.

Skating isn't as bad as you think. It keeps most of us away from drugs and alcohol. Because we spend most of our time skating and learning new tricks.

Also it occupies our time so we don't have time to do the bad things like drugs and alcohol.

So if we were to have a skate park it should be in the middle of Georgetown so that everybody could use it. In the skate park there should be curbs, bowls, trick ramps, half pipes, quarter pipes, launches, rail slides and a small shop to buy parts because we have to go to other cities like Brampton and Toronto.

By Jeff Edwards, Class 83

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