

Teenagers - Wake UP!



Zabalaza Books

"Knowledge is the Key to be Free"

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TEENAGERS - *WAKE UP!*

"Everyone is out to control my life!" Does this sound like you? Are you tired of being constantly told what to do? Seems like everything around you is controlled by other people and your personal life becomes a battleground. Whether its about clothes, hair, music, curfew, dates, sex, cars, smoking, alcohol, drugs, school, grades, attendance, church or your job, it all boils down to the same old thing - being hassled and ordered around, by parents, relatives, teachers, bosses, police - ADULTS.

Maybe you can't wait until you can move out, quit school, get your own place, your own car and your own job. Then you'll be able to leave all this bullshit behind. You want to be treated as a real human, given your freedom and left alone.

What are you going to do until then? Get by? Bitch and moan? Party hard? Get away with as much as you can as often as you can? Drop out? Escape? Put up with all the shit? Fight back? These are all choices made by youth to get control of their lives back. Whether its forging notes to skip school or lying to your folks, they all have the same thing in common - doing what you want and avoiding punishment until you can get out on your own and not have to worry about adults ruling you.

Well, I've got some news. You can stop biding your time and laying low - LIFE DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER OR EASIER ONCE YOU "GROW UP". If you don't stand for something now, you'll fall for anything. The orders and bullshit you take from your parents and teachers now will just get worse, and the punishments just get bigger. You may think you're limited now, but you can't getaway with anything once you're an adult. If you don't follow the rules of your job, you get fired, period. If you can't afford a place, you're out on the streets. If you break a law, the cops won't talk to your parents, they'll bust you and throw you in jail.

You're better off young. No matter how much they hate you, under the law your parents have to give you food, clothing, and shelter until you turn 18. Once that time is up, nobody owes you anything and nobody will GIVE you anything. There seems to be no way out of this problem. If we want to get by in this society we have to "play the game." But without a good background, money or education - we're going to lose the game. We'll end up with a boring dead end job, and lousy life, living from paycheque to paycheque, always with someone else telling us what to do. Anyway, lets face it; almost all jobs are a waste of time, no matter how much they pay.

What's the solution then? If we really want to "win" we have to change the rules of the game. We have to take control, fight the power, grab the power. We have to

"We don't need no education, we don't need no thought control. No dark sarcasm in the classroom. Hey, teacher - leave those kids alone! - *Pink Floyd*

"School's out for summer. School's out forever. School's been blown to pieces." - *Alice Cooper*

"Kids don't care about books or rules, all they wanna do is burn their schools! We gotta burn, burn, burn 'em down." - *Abrasive Wheels*

This pamphlet was first published by a local Anarchist Youth Federation chapter. The AYF are young people just like you, who have come to the realisation that today's society is stifling and oppressive. The time is now to break out of this vicious cycle of isolation and destruction. If anything is to be accomplished, we must unite and find our strength in numbers.

Now is the time to get together, and establish a federation of anarchist youth and youth groups. With a network of communication open between anarchists and youth everywhere, we can work together to fight against oppression and spread the ideals of youth rebellion, communication, action, and liberation. Anarchism is not just violence or lawlessness. It is a belief in the freedom of humanity, and the belief that we can all get along without cops, rules, force, bosses or any other authority. Thousands of teenagers around the world have fought and died for anarchism. Their Fight is your fight. Join us.....

don't fit into their world. There's no room for us in their society. School is just an excuse to keep us off the streets. But we can use school as a training ground from which to take over the streets.

One last word about how you rebel - THINK FOR YOURSELF, do it your own way. For example heavy metal bands write songs that will piss off your parents - they do this because they know that anything that will piss off your parents is something to have. In other words, they know kids will buy it. The same is true of companies that make pre-ripped or outrageous clothing and disgusting products. They're betting you'll buy it just to tick adults off.

These people and companies are not on your side. They are using you, making money off your anger, frustration and rebellion. They are just as bad as the adults who want to control you. They aren't out to see you succeed or help you - they want to channel your aggression into buying their stuff and making them rich. If you ever won your freedom they would go broke. Don't be fooled by the bastards. Decide for yourself what is good because YOU like it, not because it's "cool" or anti-parent.

Above all:

★ **STAY TOGETHER**

★ **STAY SMART**

★ **STAY ALIVE**

★ **STAY FREE**

***AND LET IT BE KNOWN THAT
WE WILL FIGHT BACK!!***

get beyond the little shit and concentrate on the big stuff. We have to prepare for a future of struggle with assholes and hassles. Fighting with your parent's over earrings and pocket money really gets you nowhere in the long run. In a few more years, you'll be able to wear whatever you want - if you can afford it - and no one will care. The hassles you deal with now are just practice runs to prepare you for the greater hassles of real life. So what can be done if it all seems so hopeless?

First, realize you're not alone. Your anger and rebellion is not just a kids versus adults thing. It's part of a larger movement of rebels and outcasts against authority, of free people against systems. A desire for freedom up against those who want control. See yourself as a part of this larger struggle. Learn more about it, be prepared to join it when you become an adult. Get help from these people for your problems - maybe they can be solved. A group of punks once helped kids stop anti-skateboarding laws. Lawyers like the Lawyers for Human Rights often take on free cases to protect peoples' rights - such as dress codes in schools and so on.

Secondly, be smart and organised in your rebellion. Try to make your enemies a part of your struggle. Parents who bitch at you about stupid things should be reminded how much they hate it when their boss yells at them for no reason. A strong argument is worth much more than just defiance. We don't want to break rules; we want to get rid of them altogether. Do it on principle just to show them you're serious. Let them know that every rule they make is one you are going to break - simply because it's a rule. If they treat you as one of them and give you a choice, you can make up your own mind. Sometimes it will be what they want and sometimes not, but it deserves to be your decision. All arbitrary laws should be disobeyed automatically, just because.

What about the schools? Threaten an eye for an eye. If you want to be late, or skip classes, or eat in class, or wear headphones, you should be able to - it's your education, not the teachers'. If they let you get away with it without being hassled, be considerate and don't push so hard you overdo it. If they come down hard - disrupt the class, strike back, do anything and everything. Make it known you will live and let live, but you can fight fire with fire if you have to.

The schools belong to the students, and should be run by the students! A student council that doesn't attack the administration isn't doing its job. Make your presence known. If the classes are boring and the homework is useless or stupid or too hard - let the teacher know. Just ignoring them and not doing the homework is only going to piss them off and get you bad grades. If a bunch of you demand an interesting class for once, or else you'll make life miserable, the teacher will have to listen. Widen the struggle. Make a war over issues and structures, not minor points or single people. Teachers want you to be quiet and pay attention so you can "learn." It's impossible to do this if you're frustrated and bored out of your skull. So let them know it! Let them know you want something worthwhile and fun to do, not just busy-

work, and until then NO ONE will pay attention. This makes the teacher look bad, not you, especially if you complain to all sorts of people, and with persistence things can change for the better.

Also widen the struggle to include the teachers. Realise a lot of them have it rough. They get ordered around by the school board and the administrators, and often have no control over what they're teaching you. They also get paid very poorly. If you can, get some teachers on your side, team up with them against the system. You can transform the schools into a decent place not a prison. Don't be afraid to test limits, confront your rulers, question, criticise, act, talk to people. As a teenager you can get away with a hell of a lot.

GETTING YOUR ACT TOGETHER: Don't let little differences divide us. We can't afford to be separated into cliques. Jocks, weirdo's, head bangers, punks, nerds, whatever. We call each other all these names and hide out in our own little groups - we're only hurting ourselves by doing this! Whatever clothes you wear, music you listen to, or cars you drive, wake up and realise WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT! We're all up against adults, and their authority. In this situation little differences shouldn't matter. We should be able to talk to each other, get together, join forces. United we stand, divided we fall. If we all team up in our battle, nothing can stop us.

HISTORY LESSON: A lot of you probably think the hippies in the 60's were a bunch of stupid freaks who dressed funny and did a lot of drugs. Believe it or not, they changed a lot of things in the schools and you can learn from their example. They had their act together and knew how to get things done. They knew that if a lot of teenagers demand something and refuse to give in, it's the parents, the schools - society - that will have to change.

It was the hippies that made it possible for girls to wear pants to school, getting rid of other dress codes as well. Until the 60's guys had to wear ties and have crewcuts. You wear your T-shirts, jeans, and hairstyles thanks to the hippies.

They knew how to exercise power. If there was something going on they didn't like, they would shut the school down. Thousands of high schools were either closed or destroyed during the 60's because enough people got together - and they got

away with it! Hippies did everything! They got away with smoking, drinking - even having sex-in the classrooms! Where I'm from you can't even smoke within sight of the school! Hippies were able to increase the pressure until they were treated like humans, not animals. They changed their schools, their teachers, their classes - boring teachers had their periods boycotted.

When you mobilise - when you get teenagers together with a plan of action - you are unstoppable. A high school can't expel 700 kids. Doesn't this organisation make more sense than getting caught and punished one-by-one?

If you create a free personal life and a free educational process when you're young, then rebel youth, as a group, will be ready and able to take on a world of bogus laws and lousy jobs what you get out into the world. We, the teenagers, have the power to tear this system down!

Don't be fooled by parents and teachers who tell you that you have to follow the rules to get ahead. What's the point of getting ahead if you can't escape stupid rules? And why can't we create our OWN society where everyone gets ahead and nobody has to bow down to bullshit? Don't believe their lies that "you'll get over it" "this rebelliousness is just a phase". You only get over it if they shoot you down - or if you turn traitor and become one of them. Adults tell you its impossible to change the world. That's because they're too chicken to try.

Adults who see this are gonna be upset. First, because it challenges their authority. They think they're the kings and queens of the whole world and they can't stand a smart-ass. What they don't know

is, WE'RE ALL SMART-ASSES!

Second, they aren't gonna like the language. Too many swear words "poisoning" your minds. What they don't know is that we all swear already, and we do it a lot, and we don't really care if they think its O.K. or not. If we all stood up at assembly and yelled "Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!" they'd have to accept that words like "Fuck" are a part of our everyday language and they might as well stop bitching, because we aren't going to change.

We've got to take our rebellion and anger out into the open. This is the only way we can change the system - and it can be changed. Adults have little use for us; we

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE HIP TEENAGERS TAKE OVER THE WORLD?