

The Trouble With Kids Is They Believe Adults

EDITOR:
Isn't it going to be a little embarrassing for Livonia government teachers to teach about freedom of the press and other constitutional rights while three Bentley seniors are under suspension for refusal to halt distribution of an "underground newspaper" on school property?

The trouble with "kids nowadays" is that they believed us when we told them we wanted them to think for themselves. After reading your account of

the incident, I mailed an extra contribution to the American Civil Liberties Union.
MRS. COY SANDROCK,
Livonia

Livonia Board
"Ill-Prepared"

EDITOR:
Last night, those of us who took the time to sit through four hours of the Livonia school

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words.
Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.
Please type or write plainly.
The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

Protesting The Protests

EDITOR:
What is the point -- no point or point of no return? Killed in Vietnam -- 40,000 men. How many killed on our highways? In one year -- 55,200 killed. Isn't that a needless slaughter?

There is no justification. None of these people wanted to die. Can we blame the circumstances of their deaths on our government or the people over 30 years of age?

We should have a moratorium for the people killed on our highways. Parade down the streets with such victim's name on a their skirts or growing long placard. Be sure to remind their families. We all have the right to dissent, don't we?

We could go to Chicago and call the police "pigs" and throw bricks at them; then scream "police brutality" when they retaliate.

We could have folk festivals all over the country. Jam ourselves in like molded sardines and smoke "pot" to prove our beautiful unification with one another.

Surely by causing disturbances on school campuses we can stop the processes of education.

We could all be UN-GRATEFUL together. When anyone disagrees with us we can man and groan loudly because we do have freedom of speech. After all, we are right and they are wrong.

We may bear them but we surely do not want to listen. They may have something to say.

We could set up booths in shopping centers and pass out "flyers" headlined "40,000 Drivers Dead." What has your car done for you lately? Join the fall drivers education of defensive class. Token withdrawal means nothing.

The slaughter is not over unless we have all the cars off the highways. Come out of your house to join your neighbors.

Participate in this new kind of politics, the power of people and strength of morality. Walk, walk, talk, talk. Be symbolic. Go underground.

Paint all our cars black (remember, no white sidewalls). Wear black clothes, hand flags at half mast. Put black crepe on your doors. We can even paint the streets black (at night, of course). Talk with your friends, pray for the "car" dead and all of us.

Write to President Nixon and your Congressmen. March on Washington!

Surely this will stop cars; thereby transportation. There may be a problem of crowded sidewalks but we could hold hands and uprise through the tulips or grow morning glories.

We have had war since man begot and we will have war until man fills his plot. It may not be in Vietnam or on our streets, but it's all we've got.

KAY F. DUMSICK
Livonia

Conflict Good For A City

EDITOR:
I disagree with Philip Power's Observation Point, "Does Livonia Need A City Manager?"

No!

A city manager is hired by the city council and answers to the council thus eliminating all checks and balances the strong mayor system affords.

Furthermore, why pay a mayor and city manager when the mayor can do the job?

Having lived under a city manager system in Grand Rapids (and its continuous biring and firing), I know of the problems and politics a city council-city manager relationship presents. What is wrong with "conflict" between council and mayor? It keeps more facts before the public.

BONNIE PETERSON
Livonia

Too Much Credit For Mod Schedule?

EDITOR:
Would like to ask Earl Seaman why Franklin, also on modular scheduling, did not have any National Merit Semi-finalists. Could they not assume this was due to modular scheduling?

Fact is, these kids could have made it on either scheduling. They've got the "smarts."

In my opinion, traditional scheduling is best for the majority of students who need to be pushed; they lack sufficient motivation.

Only a few are leaders--always been that way. The majority are too busy shortening their skirts or growing long placard. Be sure to remind their families. We all have the right to dissent, don't we?

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KAY F. DUMSICK
Livonia

Citizen Is Left With The Bill

EDITOR:
On the subject of the Governor's "educational package," I have the following points of respectful disagreement:

1. I disagree that the districts having no high schools should be deprived of their own school boards and incorporated into a regional authority. Every district has its own problems, its strengths and weakness, which are peculiar to itself and known better to a locally elected school board than to an impersonal authority not responsible to the electorate.

We join you in the hope that every citizen will write to their representatives, whether in Washington, Lansing, Plymouth or Northville, to express their point of view on all important issues.

BEVERLY A. McANNICH,
Plymouth

2.1 further disagree that the state board of education should be scuttled because it has proven disappointing in the immediate past. We've had disappointing governors, too, but we haven't abolished the office.

3.1 also disapprove of solving the parochial problem by paying teachers' salaries, as this places the heavy hand of direct control on the private schools. It is entirely possible to give aid to the private schools -- and aid must indeed be given -- by placing it in the hands of the individual students (say in the form of a voucher). I do agree that a means should be found to make a strict accounting compulsory for such monies received.

In short, I gno the "educational package" as another pyramid of power in which the citizen is divorced from any decisions. All be is left with is the bill.

PAULA ERVIN
Plymouth

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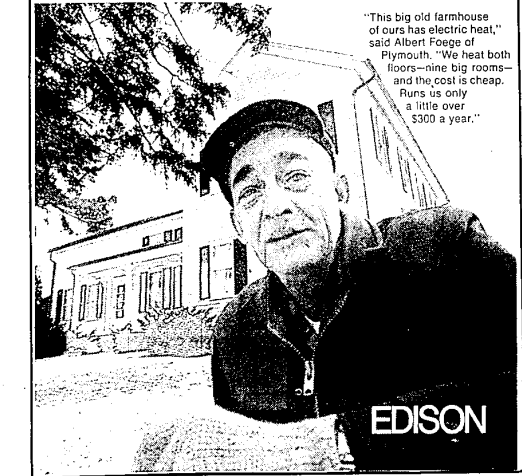
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