

#17 - Teen Declaration of Independence

When in the course of student Affairs, it becomes absolutely necessary that any association shall be diminished with another, and to assume among the powers of the school, the laws and rules of the school entitles them, to respect the opinions of the student which requires us to declare the matter which obligate them to separate.

Being that all students are created equal despite of their age and have been given the gift of rights that cannot be taken away. To secure these rights, schools are established among the students, giving them the powers from the school. That whenever any type of school becomes detrimental of these, it is the right of the students to withdraw from the school, and establish a school, creating such powers and ideals that the students organize in such form, that likely effects the student life, safety, and happiness of the students. When the school continuously abuses its power by persecution of students using absolute power. It is the students rights and duty to bring it to the attention of the administration.

They have refused to cooperate with us and not even listen to our important ideas to improve the school. Anytime a student brings up an idea it is instantly shot down without even hearing where we are coming from. All we want is for you to listen and hear us out as we are try and improve the school.

They have taken away our freedom after school with giving work to do out of school. When you play a sport, do you want a big fan section cheering you on? Yes, we all do but that isn't always the case because the fans are sitting at home doing their homework. And as an athlete getting home from a game at 10 o'clock and then having homework in 2 classes keeps you up late. Then the next day they expect you to have it done perfectly and expect you to be not cranky all day is absurd.

They have forced us into taking these strenuous tests twice a year. These are an outrageously high percent of our final semester grade and most of the material is from many months earlier. I get where they are coming from but we shouldn't have a whole day where all we do it take test after test on different subjects. What we need is to change the way they are giving the tests. Allow the teachers to decide if they want a semester test or not and if they want the test, allow them to choose when they think is the best time for the students to take it. This will allow the students to prepare better for each class and not have test after test on the same day.

They have taking away our right to express ourselves and show who we really are because of the restrictions on the dress code. We all have different personalities and we should be allowed to show everyone who we really are by wearing hat, hoods, coats and other things to express ourselves. Allowing the students to wear hats would allow more creativity with their outfit and for some more comfort underneath that hat.

They have restricted the limit on our school colors. We want to add black as a part of the school color because it will create an accent to our uniforms and give us more freedom to have options with them. As of right now we are only allowed to us very minimum black in the uniforms, but if we want black helmets or black uniforms they think that the world is going to end because of it. .

They have taken away our right to get a full meal that fills a student up and actually eat edible food that doesn't taste like regurgitation. Do you want lunch every day that after you eat you are still hungry and wish it would've tasted better? Then we have to fix this problem of school lunch. We need to allow salt either in the food or on the side with a shaker to help give flavor to the food. Adding a little bit of salt will give it a better taste than that

bland rubbage they call food. A in article from Newsweek they had a study showing over 1.4 million kids refuse to take school lunch because of how inedible it has become over the last couple years. If we want people to eat school lunch things need to change quickly.

They have refused to allow the consumption of non water drinks and snacks in the classroom. Studies show that having the right food in the body and actually eating during the day makes you perform better in the classroom and is important for brain growth. So now listen to the experts and allow us to have snacks in the classroom without getting in trouble.

They have taken away from the social needs of students and the personal needs that have to be taken care of during passing periods. Passing time is supposed to be when you use the restroom, talk to you friends, and get to the next class. Except when the passing period is 4 minutes long so you the only one of those things that it allows you to do it get to the next class so you don't get a tardy. We need the passing period extended to at least 6 minutes so that we can use the restroom and get a snack before getting right to the next class. This break will help us be more focused in the next class because we won't be thinking about food or the fact that we have to use the restroom.

They have restricted our right to enjoy the senior trip by insisting that we stay within 2 hours of the school district. This is ludicrous because a lot of schools allow them to raise money or pay for a trip to some place magnificent like Washington D.C or New York not just behind the dam for half the day. We want it changed so that the class as a whole can pick where we want to go. Allowing us to go on a longer trip gives us one last opportunity to go somewhere fun with our classmates and create those lifelong memories.

We, the students of Spring Valley, have been treated with the utmost disrespect and rights violated. We have come together and united as students to revolt from this school, and that all ties shall be cut immediately. We will have power to make our own choices in friendships, and to support this declaration we pledge our lives on this document.