

#23 *Declaration Of Teenage Independence*

Through the course of adolescence events, it becomes a must for teenagers to at one point try and break away from the control of the teenagers. We as teenagers have the same natural rights as they do. Therefore, we must announce the reasons that hold us from obtaining freedom.

We, the teenagers of the Spring Valley High School, hold these truths to be self-evident, that all teens are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness with our grades in school. We deserve to have the power over our lives. Our parents and teachers have been in the driver's seat for far too long. They have seized too much power and we will get it back!

They have taken our lives and replaced it with continuous education that has required us unnecessary work, when most of us won't use the education for their career choice. May this be the reason that our country is slowly falling apart into lazy bums? Kids should be able to pursue their dream career or job at a younger age. This will have a higher benefit for every student, and those who are able to and who cannot attend a postsecondary education will get the chance to start their lives off right.

They have forced us to end our night by creating curfews that dampen our rights. Perhaps the placement of the curfews will reduce the adolescent want to do something stupid? A new curfew should be set that is later in the night than the one currently in place. In order to earn this privilege, teens will have to help in following the rules. This will be done by having them make sure that ALL chores and homework are done prior to their plans. While gone the teen must give updates to their parents when they go somewhere or plan on doing something that wasn't planned in the beginning.

They have forced us to eat the most ungodly disgusting food that isn't good. They serve us the same food every week. How aren't we supposed to get sick of the same food? Some

people bring their own food to eat, but most people don't have the time to make a lunch after school. So this is why we should get better food to eat that everyone will enjoy!

They force us to put in an harrowing amount of effort for no pay out. We get up at the crack of dawn just to come to school most of us skipping breakfast just to allow themselves to have enough time in the morning to make sure they have everything. We're forced to stay here for 8 hours but most stay here longer for sports or extracurricular things.

They force upon us the heavy workload of a college class, not realizing that most kids have jobs or things to do when they get home from school. The homework is unacceptable for a high schoolers lifestyle. High schoolers shouldn't have to have a devouring workload in their lives, we should get the chance to focus on life instead of homework!

They have forced us to sit long stretches of painful and exhausting school days. The main problem with this is the fatigue that results from it. Teenagers are at important stages in their young lives, and rest is needed for the minimal performances required of them. For that reason, we say that students can take one day off each month to relieve drama and recuperate their thoughts. In order to earn this privilege, teenagers will have to maintain a set academic level and integrity. Most high school students don't finish assignments because it's too much to do in one night. We should shorten our days or take off every Friday of each month to account for this straining amount of hours at school.

They have forced us to a closed campus. Even the kids who have honor cards and great grades can't leave school during lunch to get food somewhere else because the school food is toxic to our taste buds. They can't even trust the kids to come back to school like we aren't given any freedom.

We, the representatives of the teenagers of Spring Valley High School, demand our intentions to be carried out. We have called out our powerful movement in the most peaceful we could, however all of the effort for change we have called upon have been brushed aside. We young adults have just as much power the adults do therefore everyone must obey the same rules. As the future of this great and powerful nation and for the support of this declaration, we pledge to each other our lives, our integrity, and our honor.

