

The Declaration of Teen Independence

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When in the course of human events, it becomes a necessity that we as the future citizens of this prominent country the United States of America that we liberate ourselves from this horrendous union; and to now take hold of these God given rights that were lavished onto every citizen of the United States and respectfully say to our tormentor that we presume it has descended our time to separate permanently.

We, the teenagers of Spring Valley High, hold these truths to be self evident, that women and men of all ages are to be treated equal, that each man, women, and teenager should be allowed to create and reform the very criteria that could potentially impact their personal lives, that among these respect, and equality should be presented throughout each and every persons in the Spring Valley High School. To confirm these basic rights to each persons in Spring Valley High, these rights should be instituted by the students themselves; If and when the power of the facility becomes unbalanced and over used , it should be the rights of the students to alter or abolish it, and to institute a new system, making the system in a way to benefit the students and faculty in such a way based on happiness and safety. Prudence, will dictate these new changes and will be a long term based decision that will not be altered for minor infractions, and accordingly the students of this fine establishment are more disposed to suffer while the deprived are sufferable.

The school system in place that “benefits” the young minds of the students of Spring Valley High is in need of major updates, and no one seems to hear the thousands of pleas from the students coming to the faculty with new and bright ideas. Are we the future generations that irrelevant to society and our older adults that our ages drown out our voices and propositions? Many things about our current school system have not been updated and the DPI still requires classes that are not needed, and do not require classes that should be on students required class schedules. For an example a class such as Home Ec is no longer offered at many schools let alone having the class be a required class as it was previously. Offering or even making more classes that will help students prepare for the outside world will make a massive difference, instead of preparing students to understand calculus which only 16% of student out of the country need to understand for the profession their going into.

The school system for years has repeatedly punished students for being simply honest which is supposedly praised in the eyes of the faculty. Not a single human being on planet Earth is perfect and the simple fact that certain faculty members expect every student to go years without making simple mistakes is absurd. Why are simple, harmless mistakes now treated as a felony crime at school? At the school of Spring Valley High there are no excuses for being late such as a vehicle breaking down, because the school provides transportation for students. There is just one major flaw to that rule the administration is missing. When a student gets their license or they begin using the buses less and less the bus will take your stop off the list, so if you need to use the buses you have to call the bus garage the night before by 8 o'clock, but how are students supposed to predict that their vehicle is going to not start or break down. Then the whole other issue arises besides being late for school the school will give you an unexcused absence which will result in a detention. For all those people that were honest they get a detention but the people who lie and say they had an appointment or just stay home and claim being sick get no punishment.

There is a saying "treat others as you would like to be treated", which, apparently does not apply to the school district of Spring Valley. Teachers and other faculty have always demanded respect out of students during the class hour which is very attainable, but the second a student wants some respect, whether it be answering a question or simply having a conversation, teachers and other faculty will act in such a way that we are too dense to know what we are talking about, but the teachers and faculty are there to teach us criteria to make us more intelligent.

Spring Valley High has so many young and bright students with so many fascinating ideas that would really bring great things to this school, but every idea that a student brings up gets shut down in a matter of seconds. Constantly turning down good ideas that could turn into something great discourages students, in the future when students are asked to come up with their own ideas they tend to shut down and stay quiet afraid of being told their ideas are idiotic.

Bringing dates for prom each and every year has been an issue for people that are dating or would like to bring a person from a different school, or people that have graduated from a different school. Every student wants that magical night with the person they want more than anything to be there with them but that opportunity gets ripped away because of certain rules that don't apply in the rule book. They are made up rules by the faculty. The supposed rule is that you may not bring a prom date that is not in good standings with their own school, if they have graduated from another school, or they are over the age of 21. I understand why one rule is in place. I agree that 21 and

older should not be attending a high school event in fear of having underage drinking, but the two other rules are ridiculous. The reason for the two rules being ridiculous is because those two rules don't apply to everyone at this school only some. There have been multiple times where the rules have bent for certain students and not others. If there are rules bent for some why aren't rules bent for others? When setting standards for bringing prom dates there should be equal rules for each and every student at Spring Valley High with no special treatment.

Test, such a simple word that creates such anxiety in students. Teachers create slides and make students copy word for word what they present during each class hour with no real explanation. Then students go into a test with little to no information besides the word for word notes they took from a slide with no information, most teachers believe in no notes on tests which is absurd, when students cling to their notes with every ounce of strength they have, because all the information they have to pass the test is on those notes that each student took time out of their class hour to complete. Students should have the right to use notes on a test, because every person blanks from time to time and to have that little reminder to get you back on track is what some students need to pass the class.

The school system of Spring Valley High discriminates against women. The dress code is aimed toward women in many different ways, and not towards men. Women are told to dress in a way that will not disrupt the class. What does that even mean? It means that we may not show our shoulders afraid it may distract our male peers, we may not have writing on our sweatpants near our behind afraid of attracting attention from our male peers, we may not wear less than mid calf summer shorts because it will give off the wrong impression to our male peers. There is a time and a place to wear certain attire that does not involve displaying body parts that should be concealed for a school day. Instead of body shaming, and telling young women to stop "distracting" our male peers we should be telling our male peers to stop sexualizing women and to see women as equals.

We the teens of Spring Valley High stand by our grievances and will no longer stand to be discriminated against by the administration for simply not being the same age. We the teens deserve equal rights, and we will continue to fight the school system until we see change in the way we believe we deserve. We the teens of Spring Valley High will be the future generations to finally make a difference, be heard, and see through the positive changes in Spring Valley Middle High School.