



We See

What We See
Changes
Who We Are

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Society Controls People

By WITNESS Youth Staff

Many people may not believe that society controls people. Society is described as a group of people that share a defined territory and culture. Where as Culture is really the way people think and act, it's really the material objects that together shape a person's way of life. Somehow I see myself as a strong and dedicated individual with an ambition to do well in this society. But sometimes this seems so impossible to do. Especially when people are always bossing me around. Many times I feel lifeless like a robot—do this and do that. For heaven's sake! I want to have a saying. I'm always being told what to do, how to do it and when to do it. The society that I live in is made up of lots of goodies but it's just not for me. Is this too hard to accept?

This might be crazy, but I believe society categorized youths into different forms. Most of them are labeled rude, reckless and rebellious and out cast. These are the ones that proceed to follow dreams, even when others believe they should not. To society their dreams are meaningless. On the other

hand, the category of good youths, these are the ones that listen to whatever society says, even if the person is not happy.

I find myself seeking to facilitate changes within this advancing society because there are a lot of social issues. One of the main ideas to facilitate changes is really encouraging our moms and dads, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles and even grandmothers and grandfathers to be better persons in society. I believe that many adults may not have the capacity to combat some of these social changes because they are not directly affected by it. This is the main reason why the youth within this society should always be thinking about new knowledge to better individuals' life whether it is through social changes or even contributing to the nation's technological world.

Many times we as youths think that we are little and have no voice. But have you ever thought of what we can do if we all work together and acknowledge that we are strong, strong beyond measure?



WITNESS members Haresh Bhagwan, Daisha Henry, Kaesia Munroe, and Nakasie Noel examine camera during summer film camp.

Wasting Time

By WITNESS Youth Staff

I am a sixteen-year-old youth, I am very quiet and can be unsocial at times, but as a youth with positive friends, I am working on being a more social individual. Society that should be this plays a major role in our life in my eyes and it is giving me a different vibe and sending me a different message. I find that society today is very judgmental and discriminatory, not to mention totally unfair at times. The reason being for me saying this is a youth shouldn't be judged for being poor. I recall being asked where I am from when I was applying for this school and when I replied I was told that the school was full. After I left a young girl was accepted into the school that should have been full because of her status. What I see is children with a high status are the ones that get to go to school and forward their studies in the education sector. Even with society being this terrible, the way they view us as youths is even worst. Society

views youths as useless and incorrect. They only downgrade the youths of today.

It annoys me to hear the way some older folks describe us youths. It's like all they see is the bad things that happens with us—only the bad things! They don't try to investigate the reasons for our behavior as youths, to know why we are acting the way we are.

Being a youth who totally rejects what they say about youths of today, I feel all we need is support and advice to some extent. I feel like we have a major role in society and that role for me is to learn as much as I can. Knowledge will aid me in everything I do, and I can even share with my fellow youth so we can help to make society better with this knowledge.

I call out to all youths to stand for something, and know what you are doing. Are you playing your role in society? If so, then what do you think it is?

The Boy Who Saw the World

By WITNESS Youth Staff

When you look at the world
and all you see is black, you feel
like it's all just weighing on your back

When you look at the sky
and see there's nothing there,
you must open your eyes
and look through that mess of black hair.

When you're with a loved one and you look into her eyes,
but all you can see
is a conundrum of lies.

When she holds out her hand
and hugs you ever so tight,
you feel like the world
is relinquished of all plight.

But then she takes a step back
and your heart moves to your throat.
She turns and walks away
leaving you to drown in a moat.

But then you look up,
through that mess of black hair
and you come to realise
that she has always been there.

Standing right beside you
pulling you out of the mud,
she brushes off the filth
and you see, she has always understood.



“What we see changes who we are.” – JR

Are you a witness or victim of violence? You are not alone. Make your anonymous call to Help & Shelter today and speak with a live counselor on 227-3454 or 225-4731.