

Empathy

By Anna Yulsman

In everyone's life there is a situation where they are either calling someone a name or making fun of them. In my opinion this is a waste of time. And when you do these things, you are not thinking about how the other might feel. If you could take the time to put yourself in their shoes, then maybe you would think twice about disliking this person.

The majority of the people in your life always tell you that everyone is equal. Well then, why do we treat people as the opposite? If you see a person all alone or that may look different or act different than you, you judge them without even saying a word to them. Couldn't you be using your time to make a new friend instead of saying these harsh words that make them cringe at the thought of even being friendly towards you? I think that the people who are made fun of are normally the more interesting ones with an outstanding personality!

The word "popular" is over-rated especially among teens. Some kids care too much about how they look and act around certain people, while other kids concentrate on the more important things such as having fun and dressing and acting like themselves, instead of lying to themselves about who they are just to be popular. Acting fake makes fake friends. I would rather be my true self so I can see who my true friends are. When middle school and high school become too much about how many people like you, it creates a domino effect. When one person is "popular," kids strive to be just like them, which leads to imitation of that one "perfect" girl. This is dangerous, because that one kid who is "popular" could be a bad influence on the others, getting into drugs, bad grades, having sex, etc. When they look up to the wrong people, kids go down the wrong path.

When we say that everyone has their own rights, all we are doing is lying, because many people judge the rights of others by being mean towards them. Where does that get us? A drama filled lifestyle. All the stuff that goes on behind and in front of people creates a stressful life. We should be spending our young years having fun and making as many new friends as possible. Leave the drama out of it. It doesn't matter. Start thinking about what you say and how other people perceive it.

We need to realize who we really are and who other people are and start to appreciate it. This will create love and a carefree world. If people had a little bit more empathy in their lives, then there would be less hatred and more love.