

Background Information

Sample Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I'm glad the editorial page of your newspaper gives people a chance to express their opinions because today I have an opinion I want to share. It's about young people.

The ones I see don't appear to be contributing to our city or our Canadian culture. I'm getting tired of seeing them hanging around malls, smoking and getting in people's way. If they don't have money to shop, what are they doing there? On occasion, I've also seen store security leading them away for shoplifting. The ones who don't get caught only cause prices to rise for honest people like me. I have also heard about purse snatching and pick-pocketing by these young people occurring in the malls.

I don't want to pay health and education taxes for their benefit. Why should I pay for their education? They could get a job and pay their own way, or get their relatives to help out.

I'm sick and tired of reckless skateboarders and rollerbladers speeding irresponsibly on our sidewalks and roadways, causing accidents and injuring pedestrians. We have no interest in this, so why should we allow it here at all?

The young people I see hanging around the malls and arcades are not contributing to our society, unless you call it a contribution to spend money on junk food, trendy clothes and things to play with. In all likelihood, they aren't even spending their own money.

My final comment has to do with the future. If these people are just going to grow up and take our jobs, why should we support them now? I say we do something before the problem gets worse. We should keep things the way they are for adults.

Yours truly,
Sick and Tired

Canadian Newspaper Association. "Letter to the Editor." *Media Awareness Network*. http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/resources/educational/handouts/broadcast_news/bw_letter_to_editor.cfm (5 March 2007).