

What Juniors Really Think About Seniors

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At our old schools, seniors and juniors usually got along pretty well and there wasn't much of a dividing line between the two classes. Sounds like a world of difference if you stay at Science and Math long enough!

In many ways we're becoming freshman again - coming to a new school, meeting new people and trying to adjust and be accepted into a new environment. To make it even more uncomfortable, the junior class is under the constant scrutiny of the seniors.

Some seniors treat the

juniors like their younger siblings, refusing to treat them as equals. They make it seem like the simple fact that they have spent an extra year at NCSSM makes them somehow superior. Many juniors turn to the seniors for advice and guidance and ask them questions about how things work here, but some seniors are irritated by such questions. For many of us, acceptance by the class of 2002 exists in a parallel universe and rejection is the cruel reality. A few seniors find it funny to make rude comments to the juniors or call them names such as "stupid little juniors". Some even expect the juniors to follow their

every word and demand.

Something we as juniors need to realize is that the cruel treatment we receive from the senior class is in some ways a blessing. If the senior class accepted us into their groups, our senior year here would be very lonely with all of the seniors gone. We ourselves would be seniors without a group of friends. In some ways, seniors force juniors to make those special bonds with our own class so that we can have a wonderful senior year to look forward to.

The good news is, the majority of the senior class is much more understanding than the few bad apples. Most of the seniors accept us

as their friends and are eager to help us. As the year has progressed, we have seen that more and more of the seniors are beginning to treat us as equals and stop regarding us as "stupid little juniors."

Seniors have shown their respect for us by asking our opinions, taking the time and effort to help us, and even coming to us for advice. Very few actually harbor malicious intent.



Kurt Gula and Chris Erb, 2nd Hill seniors, have a small misunderstanding with Julian and Alex, two juniors on their hall.

Neal Patel

NCSSM Quotations

ELYSA WAN

If you could have just one wish granted to you right now, what would it be?

"To get into a good college."
-Kevin Schaefer

"That my roommate could die so I could get straight A's like in that movie 'Dead Man on Campus.'" -Liz Yockey

"To be a gangsta' rapper."
-Ravi Raghuram

"For the cows and chickens to revolt."
-Shelley Rogers

"To have a pony."
-Julian Himes

"It's one of those questions that I just can't answer; my mind doesn't work like that."
-Dr Kolena

"For a clear complexion and lots and lots of attractive buxom women."
-David Boy

"That everyone had cleaned up after lab."
-Dr. Keohane

"I wish yellow tasted better, or tasted at all."
-George Kachergis



But once everything has been worked out, they become one big happy family.

Neal Patel

Rwanda

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Tutsi attempts at counter-attack, although heroic, were ill fated. Their sticks and stones were no match for the machetes and machine guns of the opposition. Thus the line between humans and brutes was erased as bodies and limbs piled in the streets, fields and churches, slowly being picked away by birds, flies and dogs.

Meanwhile, the rest of the world did close to nothing.

It was not the lack of knowledge that prevented intervention. The United Nations knew of human rights violations as early as 1993. In neighboring African countries television images of dead victims clotting sewage systems were hard to escape. The horrendous death tolls were often reported in the most widely read newspapers of the US, such as the New York Times, Boston Globe, Washington Post and more.

But nonetheless UN help was slow and limited. The already existing force,

UNAMIR (United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda) was created with a confined mandate and a military staff of only 1,428.

This force was clearly insufficient once the killings began. The limited UN forces and additional forces from other countries were focused on evacuation of foreigners. The execution of this task made it impossible to assist civilians. The troops were often forced to leave pleading Rwandans to face certain death.

As soon as evacuation was complete, most nations withdrew their forces and wiped their hands of Rwanda. After the brutal death of 10 Belgian soldiers there was talk of total withdrawal of all UN forces.

After the controversy of Somalia, most countries and even the UN were unwilling to risk another crusade in Africa. Given other events, Rwanda was simply not a priority.

Finally, after about 100 days of blood lust, the moderate Rwandan Patriotic Front gained control of the country, and a transitional

government was established.

In retrospect, the UN has recently released an official statement regarding the events in 1994. It admits its failure and describes the slaughter as "genocide in its purest and most evil form."

The UN has established a tribunal to try the Hutus responsible for the occurrences. Because of the huge multitude of defendants, trials are scheduled to go on for years. Often, uncoopera-

tive perpetrators are forced to return to the site of the killing to confess the crimes they committed. The UN has ruled that the most severe sentence possible is incarceration for life.

But some Tutsis feel that this is not enough. The bitter wounds of the killings are still not healed; the ethnic war is still not over. There are now reports of Tutsis within the new government rounding up those

they wish to be executed. It is described as a "methodical extermination." There are rumors of starvation camps.

So the madness continues. Attack and retaliation, attack and retaliation, the stampede of senseless deaths is never ceasing. This genocide has been repeated over and over throughout time, the same story only with different faces. And over and over we utter "Never again."

Simply Absurd

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