

Scholarship Essay

Three, two, one...thirteen. Thirteen years old. I'm finally a teenager. Most kids like me just can't wait for the freedom and partying as a teen. They forget this is the beginning to the most confusing times of our lives. This is the transition out of childhood and into adulthood. We are expected to begin to think like adults, making the smart choices.

As we enter our teenage years, we are faced with many problems that involve making good choices. One major problem in the teenage society is peer pressure. Peer pressure is when a friend convinces you to do something harmful to yourself or people around you. Before I learned more about this, I thought that only sixteen, seventeen, and eighteen year olds go through this. I didn't know even people my age convince their friends to smoke, drink or do something that hurts the body. I think people give into the temptation because they don't want to look wimpy or weak in front of their friends. They want to maintain their reputation as "hero," not "zero." In order to become a real hero, we have to make good decisions that not only protect ourselves but protect others. Imagine someone making the wrong decision by driving drunk. Imagine people were with him in the car. Imagine the drunk driver hitting something on the side of the road that he thought wasn't there but was. Imagine everyone in that car losing their lives because of one careless mistake by one naïve person.

As we progress in our teenage years, we get closer and closer to adulthood. By the time we get to it, we should be able to make smart decisions on our own. During our teenage times, we need to learn how to make these good choices. Decisions come from thoroughly thinking and choosing. We need to think of the before-and-after effect. We need to think of the situation before the issue and after the decision is made. A lot of things are preventing us from making the correct decision. I think the biggest thing holding us back from making the right choice is

the people around us. They influence us to do something and not to do something. We try to impress. It's human nature, but we end up caring so much about what other people think that we forget about what we think. We let so many other people's opinions clog up our brains that we lose our opinion. Us teens have to realize that we need to do the right thing because it's the right thing to do regardless of whether you become looked down upon or come off as insecure. If a teenager makes good decisions now, imagine the kinds of choices being made about financial and political issues down the road. When one good decision is made, another and another is made. It creates a domino effect of all good decisions, one leading to another. They all lead to success later in life. One little idea called a choice can make a large difference in someone life whether it's a good or bad choice. We need to think as adults because we are transitioning. We are no longer kids. We are teenagers.