

The Gold Tigers

(Hop)Persuader Journal

February 15, 2018

Our World, Our Words



A Note from the Teachers

The articles in this journal are our students' efforts to share their opinions and create change: both large and small. We hope that their writing inspires you to think. In this unit, students practiced using humor and facts to convince you, our readers, to see the world as they see it.

Some of their topics are about their daily lives. Some of their topics are about social change. They considered what is hurtful to people, animals, or our earth and thought critically about what suggestions they could make to heal those wounds.

Thank you for taking the time to read our journal!

Fondly,

Azureé Harrison and Danny Stock

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Identity-Based Perspectives

A Women's History Museum

by Sage Vogelstein

I think that there should be a Smithsonian National Women's museum. One reason is because we don't have as much women's history shown in the current museums--and we never did. That doesn't make any sense because, what's the problem?

Women can do anything they set their minds to and do anything just like men. Women are amazing just like men! They have done a lot of amazing thing in history just like men.

I believe in having a free world. We should celebrate Women's History month and the National Women's museum would help. Our free world should include all genders. I'd also like to have a woman president of the United States.

Stop Judging People by Their Hair

by Christian Jackson

I'm concerned about when people are judged by their hair. For example, someone has said, "You're a boy and you have short hair like you're supposed to! Just like girls have to have long hair." I said, "No!" That person said, "They HAVE to!"

I, and others, feel sad after we hear that. Or mad. Do you want this? Probably no. Stop judging people by their hair!

Please! Stop Gender Segregation

by Layla Squire

Gender segregation is BAD! For example (this you should never do), if someone whose identity is different sits next to you then you move away. How would you feel? You can help by: next recess play with someone who identifies differently than you. Mix it up! You can also be partners with someone who identifies as a different gender.

If you ever do it, you should apologize.

Women are Strong

by Isabel Finn

I am concerned about how people believe the stereotype that men and boys are stronger than girls and women. I know that is not true. When it happens, it can make girls and women think they can't be strong in the real world. I'd like to see women and girls stand tall against this stereotype.

Let's think about the Olympics. Women weight lift really heavy amounts. So we can see the stereotype is not true. I know you're thinking, "How can we heal?" My advice is to believe and say that men and women and girls and boys can all be strong. I hope you've learned what I've taught you and don't be afraid to stand tall.

Perspectives on Human Relations

DREAMERS

by Sadie Elleithee

I think that the law that immigrants who came to America as children and have to go back to the country they came from is wrong. What if you were a doctor, and you were sent back? You would have to find a totally different job. If you were still young, you would have to make all new friends in a new school. You would have to start a whole new life. You might even have to leave some of your family members behind. I think DREAMERS should not always be afraid that they could be sent away.

Let Refugees in Our Country

by Sage Vogelstein

I think we should let all refugees into our country. Because, what if something bad happened at their home and they would die if they stayed? Do you want them to die? Probably not! So, we should LET PEOPLE IN!

Don't Steal

by Malik Henderson

I think people shouldn't go in other people's car and steal things. We all know you need money, but you can get it in a different way. Please don't steal things from anywhere because it makes the owner feel sad, disappointed, and angry. For example, when someone stole my 3DS, it felt like my dad bought it for me for nothing because I didn't even get to use it. He felt super angry too because he had gotten it for me as a gift for Christmas. People should know that when they steal, it hurts other people.

Instead of the Wall

by Ella Maas

You should not build a wall between America and Mexico. All Americans are immigrants except for Native Americans. So if you include us, you should include everybody. If there was a war happening in your home in Mexico and you needed to escape and the closest place was America, you couldn't get in. The money you want to use to build the wall, is money you could use for charity. You could also give that money to people who can make the border safe. That way, the border will be safe and people will have jobs. That money can also be used to make it easier for people to come into the country legally. Don't forget, the Statue of Liberty means that all are welcome to. It doesn't seem like you are following that!

Missiles Are Not the Way

by Isaiah McDaniel

Dear Kim Jong Un,

If you realize that what you are doing is wrong, please stop. If you stop, we will be able to make peace. We can stop World War III from starting. It's better to make sure that you do not keep on firing missiles. It keeps killing animals. When you fire missiles, even though we have defense missiles, it still hurts the plants and animals, and it is scaring people. How would you feel if you were scared that somebody was trying to destroy your home and trying to get rid of everything you have ever know. I think you would feel pretty sad and scared, like we do. This world can be way more peaceful. So, what do you say? Please write back to me if this letter can even get to you.

From,
Isaiah

No Wall!

By Samuel Leveton

I think that President Trump should stop making the wall because people that live in the USA and want to go to Mexico couldn't. And people wouldn't be able to get from Mexico to the USA. If people had relatives in Mexico that they want to travel to visit, they could not go! And that would be sad.

Getting Rid of Drugs

by Asa Previna

I think that people should not take drugs that are not good for them. Some people could die from them. It is also important not to take them when you shouldn't take them even when you want them. We should keep the healing drugs on the Earth for when your doctor says you should have the drugs to help you. We should get rid of the harmful drugs that are never good for people. First, stop making these drugs. Then, we should get rid of them safely so that our animals won't die.

Don't Build the Wall by Teddy Sachse

I think that Donald Trump should not build a wall to keep immigrants out of the USA. We want to welcome people to the USA because we are all immigrants unless we are Native Americans.

Perspectives on Daily Life

School Should Start Later

by Sammy Chandra

Dear Denise,

I think school should start two hours later. First, because right now people are tired. More sleep would help students do better in school. People would also be more energetic and more ready for school. That is why school should start two hours later.

From,
Sammy Chandra

I Need to Watch More Soccer

by Rafa Westelius

Dear parents,

I think I should be able to watch more soccer games! Let's say I go somewhere to talk about soccer and someone says, "Did you see Chelsea's win?" And everybody watched it except for me!

I want (need) to watch Premier League, La Liga, Italian League, Bundesliga, and Liga 1! I'm tired of only watching the highlights! I'm done with watching highlights!

--I might be shouting, excuse me.

And that's why I want (need) to watch more soccer. If I were a master inventor, I would make a machine that you could watch any soccer game. For example, I would say to the machine, "Hey, can I watch blah vs. blah?"

Love,
Rafa

Michael Jackson-themed Dance Assembly

by **Christian Jackson**

I think Michael Jackson should be a dance assembly theme (maybe the next one?). One reason I think this is because he made awesome songs. He also had awesome dance moves! He can even go up on to his toes! How about we dance to Thriller?

Michael Jackson made up a lot of his own dance moves. He also designed his own clothes. I think he is the best singer and dancer in history. He might be the best forever!

Michael Jackson-themed Dance Assembly

by **Apollo Holder**

I think Michael Jackson should be the theme of the next Dance Assembly because he was awesome! I also think Michael Jackson would be good because he wrote amazing songs like Thriller. Another reason why I'm inspired to choose Michael Jackson is because he made up his own dance moves. For example, he can do the moonwalk.

Soccer is For Everyone

by **Isabel Finn**

I think everyone should play soccer because you get stronger in a fun way. You should play soccer for many reasons. The first reason you should play soccer is that it is fun and cool. You can become one of the best athletes like Lionel Messi and Alex Morgan. There are many leagues! Soccer is the best sport.

Here, I will give you a fact: Mexico's most popular sport is soccer.

Back to why you should play soccer. I got bumped up a league because my skills got better. I know a friend who got really good at soccer. That could happen for you too! I hope you play soccer.

A Dog for a Class Pet

by **Ellie Snyder**

This is about why my class should get a dog for a class pet. One reason is because if something goes bad the dog could protect us from harm or save people. I know people might argue about how to name it, but I think we could all agree by naming it after our class name. There can be a classroom job to pay with the dog and feed it. If it were my choice, I would name the dog Kirby.

More Video Game Time

by **Lucky Dodge**

I like more video game time. Thirty minutes is TOO SHORT. So, I think I should be allowed one hour instead. I could try or explore new games. Also, playing video games helps me to get rid of stress. And...anyone can play video games! It's a great way to make friends.

Elevator Check-ups

by **Eila Priestap**

I think you should make sure elevators are working properly. People who have a physical disability are likely to take an elevator. People can get stuck in elevators, and I do not want people to be stuck in an elevator. Every few years, you should change certain parts that need to be replaced so people don't get stuck. Elevators need to be safe for all people not just people who have disabilities. It is always a safe idea to go with an adult just in case.

Perspectives on the Environment

Stop Pollution

by Gavin Solomon

I think that no one should be driving cars. You should also not smoke cigarettes or litter. You shouldn't smoke because it can kill you - but that's not what I'm talking about here. Cigarette smoke pollutes the earth.

You should not pollute the earth because the temperatures will get hotter and hotter - then we won't be able to live on it! You can tell if the weather changes by A LOT or if it gets REALLY HOT.

Luckily, the too hotness will take a lot of time to happen. Be smart now and don't pollute the earth.

Say No to Bird Hunting

by Rafa Westelius

I think hunting birds is wrong. People use their feathers for stuff. For example, they use the feathers for necklaces and to stuff into soft stuff like pillows. But it's not okay. Imagine that you are a bird that's flying around and then you get hit by a bullet. How would you feel? People, stop hunting birds!

Don't Cut Down Trees

by Isabel Finn

Do not cut down trees! It is bad for the trees and it also impacts us humans too.

How does it impact us?

Trees provide the oxygen that we breathe. Okay, so trees also provide paper. Maybe humans should use some of the tree branches that have fallen in a storm or the parts that have died to make paper. We should do that instead of cutting the trees down.

Stop Hunting Whales!

By Apollo Holder

I'm concerned about hunting whales. For an example, people shoot harpoons at them to use their blubber for oil. And they also use whale meat for food. Do not eat shark fin soup! The soup is made out of whale meat and not shark meat. This is bad because it hurts the environment. Stop! Killing! Whales!

We are Polluting Our Earth

by Ellie Snyder

Polluting our earth can happen when people put trash in the water. The trash can pollute the fishes' environments, and dolphins too. Smoking also pollutes the earth. People can get sick from pollution. So how can we heal? Remember to put trash in the trash can and don't throw it outside. If you smoke cigarettes, every cigarette takes two minutes off of your life. And it is bad for the earth. If you agree with me, stop doing it.

Electric Saucers

by Tessa Lipman

I think we should not drive cars but we should ride flying saucers. Reason one? If we made electric saucers there would be no gas in the air to hurt the ozone layer. Reason two? If we rode saucers we could fly over traffic and we would be able to go as fast as we want. Reason three? Flying saucers would be new and exciting.

Stop Cutting Down Trees

by Tessa Lipman

I am worried that too many trees are getting cut down. If trees get cut down, animals will die. Do you want animals to die? As soon as you know it, animals will die out. We will have no more tree animals left! We should not cut down trees.

Stop Littering

by Justin Heffernan

Littering is putting trash somewhere that it is not meant to be. If you don't want litter, you should get things that you can reuse or recycle. Try to buy stuff that you won't need to throw away. That way, it will make less trash. People need to stop littering because it can cause pollution. If there is pollution it could start a domino train which could be very bad and we don't want that. Because the domino train could travel around the world killing a lot of things like plants, humans, animals, and more. If pollution kills plants, humans, and animals, cities, apartments, and houses could fall down. Don't litter!

Stop Cutting Down Trees

by Isabella Tang

I think that people should stop cutting down trees. If trees are being cut down, trees could go extinct. If trees go extinct, the animals that live in the trees, on the trees, or need the trees to live would go extinct, too. Animals that eat those animals would also go extinct because they would not have any food and on and on. If trees go extinct, we would not have paper or other things made of wood. For me, that would mean I wouldn't have a table or paper to draw or write on. Also, trees help hold the soil together so that soil doesn't go all over the place. Houses could fall down and that would cause a lot of damage. Finally, what we breathe out, trees "breathe" in, and what trees "breathe" out, humans breathe in. Without trees, no people. Please stop cutting down trees.

Polluting Cars are Terrible

by Stella Kaplan

I think that people should make fewer polluting cars and factories. The polluting gases can go right into the air and clouds. It will go into the rain and pollute the water, too. Plants could die and then the animals that eat the plants could die. Then the cars and factories have knocked down another domino in the destruction of the Earth. The first domino is polluting cars. We should make electric cars more affordable, and we should make more electric charging stations.