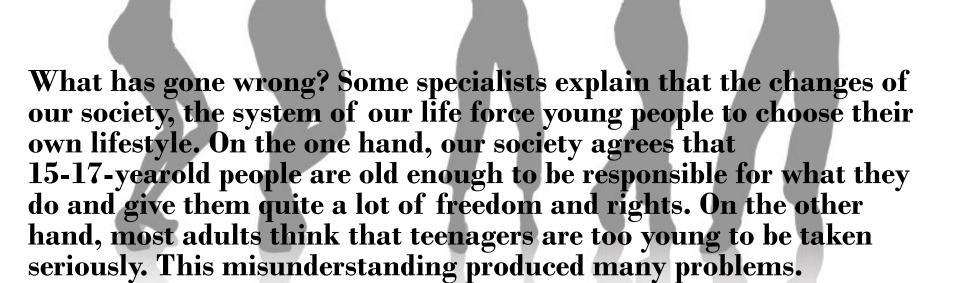


ГБОУ школа № 600 с углубленным изучением английского



Today it is fashionable to speak about teenage problems. A few years ago alcohol, fights, killings and other kinds of violence were more problems for adults than for young people. But now, as official report admits, violence, AIDS, drugs and alcohol are more and more associated with youngest. For many children from poor families violence, drinking problems and all that is associated with poverty becomes more real than reality.



What has gone wrong? Some specialists explain that the changes of our society, the system of our life force young people to choose their own lifestyle. On the one hand, our society agrees that 15-17-yearold people are old enough to be responsible for what they do and give them quite a lot of freedom and rights. On the other hand, most adults think that teenagers are too young to be taken seriously. This misunderstanding produced many problems.

Actually, a lot of teenagers say that their parents let them do anything they want and are quite indifferent to their problems. Many teenagers get upset or depressed when they can't solve their problems. As a result, it makes them believe that there is only one way out - to stop living and commit suicide.

No doubt, the teens' problems will increase. And young people should fell that they are cared for.



# Smoking

People who smoke regularly are more likely to develop certain illnesses when they get older. These include lung cancer, heart disease and emphysema. It can also reduce fertility.



## <u>Alcohol</u>

Alcoholism is different than alcohol abuse. Some teens will only drink occasionally and will be able to control their drinking. For some, alcohol can be very addictive. According to NIAAA (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism), "40% of those who start drinking before the age of 15 meet criteria for alcohol dependence at some point in their lives." 1 For those teens that become addicted, it is a battle they will have to face for the rest of their lives.

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# Drugs

More people are abusing drugs today than in any other time in history of mankind, and many of those people are youth.

Understanding what drugs are is fundamental for understanding their potential abuse. Drugs are a psychoactive substance.

A psychoactive substance is something that people take to change the way they feel, think or behave. Some of these substances are called drugs and others, like alcohol and tobacco, are considered dangerous, but are not called drugs. The term drug also covers a number of substances that must be used under medical supervision to treat illnesses.

#### ИСПОЛЬЗОВАННАЯ ЛИТЕРАТУРА

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