**A Voice**

 This paper you are reading now is not a class assignment, this is not one teenager speaking but one speaking for many of those who cant speak cause there to scared or know no one will listen. What you are about to read is going to give you the reader most likely a parent, teacher, or any adult or person with kids. An insight it to what goes on in our lives the things we deal with, the daily things we have to go through. The struggles we as teenagers try to overcome and sometimes for the less unfortunate cant. This is our story this is the true us.

The problem with a lot of parents is we as kids feel like they don’t listen sure this sounds like something any teenager would say. But most parents blow it off as nothing more than hormones, a phase or just teenage angst sometimes they think cause were young we don’t have enough experience in life to understand why things happen the way they do. Others listen but don’t truly understand what were saying cause were to afraid to truly let them know how we feel cause we fear of how those parents may react to what we have to say.

 Some may try and help us others may not or tell us to deal with it or quit being so over dramatic. I am one of many kids who fell that the only people they have to love and feel like a real family to them is there closest friends our friends are the only ones we feel comfortable talking to about anything they are the ones we have to confide in. The reason we feel this way is because we can trust our friends, they understand what we are talking about, what we are feeling, what we go through. Parents don’t understand that but the truth is there the only ones who can do anything to help us so we are presented with an ironic yet somewhat challenging problem tell our parents and face there true reactions or do nothing? And a lot of the times the case is we do nothing because we feel as there is nothing that can be done for use. So we go into denial and pretend like nothing is wrong almost like wearing a mask that we fear we can not live without. Some of us try to make our problems go away by hoping for something better others resort to more self destructive methods weather it be drugs, alcohol, or bottling up our feelings. Most parents know that kids experiment with drugs or go to parties have sex etc.

But do they really know the true us the true destruction we are capable of inflicting on ourselves but also others? The sad part is they truly don’t know what we do or what we can do when there backs are turned or when they don’t listen. If I wanted during school I could easily get high no trouble at all, I constantly see kids on a daily bases high out of there minds. It’s a regular thing at this school I’m not saying the school stands idly by and does nothing they try there best. But as some parents say your best just isn’t enough, I’ll be walking to class seeing kids outside smoking cigarettes or snorting all sorts of pills hell these kids are practically pharmacists we could get Adderal, Zanex, Hydrocodone, Oxyconten and just about any other pain killer mood relaxer or sedative you can think of. You parents wonder why we do this you think we want to fit in be part of a group? No we do this because it helps us cope with all the shit we have deal with. I know numerous kids who are unhappy with there home life and to others some of there home lives look amazing to others it’s a sanding thing to see.

 There are kids who are physically abused by there parents and say nothing about it, I know of kids who makes straight A’s and have parents who love them and treat them so well yet they are so unhappy why is this? Some of them may feel pressured to succeed and do what they want but there parents wont let them because they push them to do what they want them to do. Then there are the ones who have no one to push them in the right direction the ones who feel so alone, they feel as if there is no one that loves them they feel like nothing more than a fuck up. So who do they turn to? not there parents not some school counselor but the ones who get them the ones who listen and understand, there friends. It’s not uncommon for me to see kids depressed or who feel like they want nothing more than to be set free and the only way they can do that is suicide. Some end up doing it others can not because there scared but not scared of what it could do to there parents but there friends the ones they love so much so close to there hearts the ones that help them through the hardest of times.

 Lots of parents are quick to judge about the friends we have they say “oh I don’t like so & so cause they drink or there pore or make bad grades or the way they dress” parents are so quick to make assumptions about what we do who we hangout with or even how we behave. Every kid knows they act different in front of there parents then how they do at school it’s a fact any kid that tells you differently is a lying. At school we act like we haven’t a care in the world that were all so happy but deep down were not it’s the way it is. Were filled with anxiety, fear, & sadness and parents think there’s something wrong when we tell them this so what do they do? They send us of to someone who specializes in this area a therapist, psychiatrist whatever it may be but there job applies to children & adults which is useless for someone like us. If anything our friends are the ones who are the real therapists the real psychiatrists. So parents wonder why we act and do all the shit we do its not cause we want to it’s because we feel as if it’s the only thing we can do and they don’t understand that.

Lots of us say to ourselves that we will never end up like that kid or become that kind of person we will do nothing but strive and make something of ourselves. But over time we change as people and soon we come to the realization that we are becoming what we feared most. As if it was our fate, we try to stop it from happening but we at one point or another we realize that it is inevitable we can’t stop it from happening. Others have this chance to do something but before they know it they’ve already sealed there fate. And a lot of times we can’t handle this unbelievable truth about our selves some end up following the path that have been presented to them others try and resist it at all cost and those costs can be severe. And other times we don’t know what has brought this change in use some fear it, it races through there head everyday or something will set it off so they keep telling themselves why, why me? But they don’t understand why and no explanation in the world can answer that vital question that they are presented with. There parents solution sure as hell cant help and as for there friends the only thing they can do is reassure them that everything will be fine and that they will always be there for them in the highest of high’s and there most lowest of lows. Someone who will be there right by there side maybe even holding there hand in there most darkest of times.

 If you have read this it is because we want you to know the truth about who we are as kids, and most importantly who we are as people.