

HIGH SCHOOL STEREOTYPES REVEALED: GROUPS, CLIQUES NOT ALWAYS LIKE IN MOVIES

Stereotypes are the labels people are given when they act or look a certain way. The catch is that this school doesn't just have regular cliques! The "popular" group doesn't consist of cheerleaders; it's mostly sports players! "Nerds" don't study all the time and wear hipster glasses; they play Magic in the library in the morning and at lunch. The school is definitely not cliché!

Stereotypes say that the "jocks" are using self-enhancing drugs, normally stupid, soulless, and they bully other kids because they think it's fun. Is this stereotype correct? Are any of the jocks at Elmira like this?

"I do not consider myself a jock," said Bo Highburger, sr. Highburger believes that most stereotypes about jocks are true.

"Troublemaker" stereotypes include getting horrible grades, ditching school, and getting in a lot of trouble. Some people get called "troublemaker" for their past actions.

"Some people don't mean

to cause trouble; they are just trying to have fun. But others see their actions as making trouble, and they get labeled," said Adam Costello, soph.

The "populars" are self-absorbed, preppy snobs who

were true, then I couldn't consider myself one. Prissy, annoying, preppy and girly isn't me," said Francis Pardo, soph.

The "nerds" are stereotyped as kids who wear ugly glasses, fancy

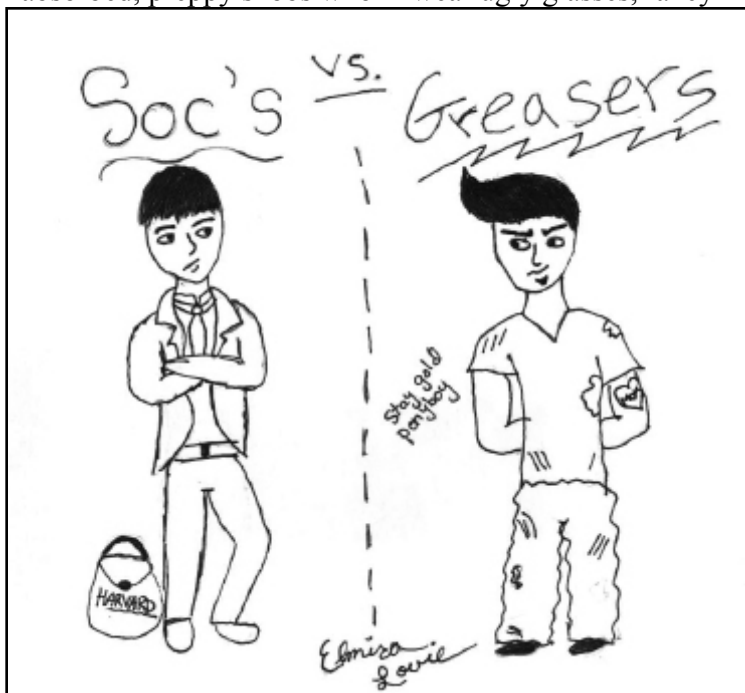
Rather untrue and offensive. The media has portrayed the way people see nerds, but that isn't how we are," said Justin Messenger, soph.

The last main label that's commonly seen is the "Goths/Outcasts." The goths are the kids in movies wearing spiked collars, dark lipstick, and brightly dyed Mohawks. In the movies they always wear leather. They are not from a different planet like some people think; they are just different.

"The stereotypes are inaccurate because it's not true. People fear what they can't understand. A lot of people don't understand me, so they define me as an outcast," said Alyssa Stevenson, fr.

All these examples are stereotypes. Nobody is the same, and they all have different opinions.

-By Celeste Dax and Fiona Carlin



only care about nail polish and their latest Facebook status. Elmira populars are mainly sports players.

"I would consider myself a 'popular' but if the stereotypes about them

shirts, khaki pants, and have a wide range of speech impediments. The nerds at our school, however, are completely different!

"Yes, I am a nerd. The stereotypes about nerds?

KING'S DREAM BECOMES REALITY

On Monday, January 20, we honored the life of a man who has had a major impact on the world's view of racism. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a pastor, a civil rights activist, and an author; he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, he led many people in marches, and he spoke to crowds of thousands because of his deep conviction to put an end to racism and racial segregation.

King grew up in Atlanta, Georgia, on Jan. 15, 1929. He was one of three children, and as the middle child, King had a younger brother named Alfred and an older sister named Willie. His mother Alberta was a school teacher

while his father, Martin Luther King, Sr., was a Baptist minister.

Life would be more than likely be different today had it not been for King and many others like Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela, and Mahatma Gandhi. These and more have been a big part in ending racial segregation. Ending racial segregation opened the doors of equality for many people of color.

Jackie Robinson may never have hit a homerun; no one would have ever busted a gut laughing at Kevin Hart, Bill Cosby, and Chris Rock's killer comedy routines. The famous model Tyra Banks and the inspirational

Oprah Winfrey and Queen Latifah may never have graced the television screen.

Would stars have captured the attention of so many if racial segregation still existed?

For the first time in Wilcox County, Georgia, blacks and whites had an integrated prom in 2013 because of the determination of students yearning for old patterns of segregation to change. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, dream finally became a reality.

Forty-six years have passed since King's death, much has changed, and perhaps much is left to be done.

-By Moniqua Aubert

FUNDRAISING ENSURES SUCCESSFUL, FUN SEASON

Each year, sports teams get a certain amount of money from the school to use throughout the season. Between jersey replacements and supplies, there is not much room left for anything else. Teams are

left to rely on

fundraising to get the extra money that they need, whether it is to continue participating in annual tournaments or buying a completely new set of uniforms.

Sarah Schilling, English teacher and softball coach, said that many players and their parents help to fundraise year round.

"With things costing more these days, it's good to have a little more money in our

account," said Schilling. The softball team's biggest fundraiser is selling Christmas trees in December. The extra money that the softball team makes goes to the Varsity Medford trip for a tournament they participate in each year.

Softball isn't the only team that fundraises, though. The girls' soccer team holds many fundraisers throughout the summer and during the season. The fundraisers include car washes, bake sales, jog-a-thons, and sunglasses sales. The money is spent on a variety of things, including gear, water aerobics, and team campouts.

Another sport that does a great amount of fundraising is the football team. Their fundraisers bring in a great deal of money, but equipment isn't the only

thing they use it for. It is also used to help pay student fees for football camps, and sometimes the athletic fees. James Monegan, football coach and chemistry teacher, said that the amount of money given to them by the school isn't nearly enough to cover the cost of equipment.

"One pair of shoulder pads can cost \$200, so it can get expensive fast," said

Monegan.

The kinds of fundraisers that the football team holds are carwashes, selling discount cards, and helping clean Autzen Stadium after the Duck football games. Many people help out including parents, students, players, and various volunteers. They are always looking for more people to help.

-By Annalisa Linn

ATHLETE OF THE MONTH: LEVI HANSEN



Q: What is your favorite thing about wrestling?

A: "The feeling of winning after knowing how much I work for it."

Q: How long have you been involved in wrestling?

A: "Since elementary school."

Q: What is your goal for this year?

A: "To place at state."

Q: How do you feel being Athlete of the Month?

A: "I feel great that the hard work pays off."

World athletes gather in Sochi:

Winter Olympics begin tomorrow

The 2014 Winter Olympics will be held in Sochi, Russia, starting tomorrow, Feb. 7, and ending Feb. 23. The Olympics will air on NBC daily.



Winter sports teams work for success

Snow this year has affected many aspects of life at Elmira High School, and sports are no exception. "We lost a lot of time with the snow and winter break, and we're still working on coming back from it," said Scott Shannon, health teacher and wrestling coach.

Nevertheless, winter sports teams have been working and practicing daily as they always have. The men's basketball team currently holds a 3-7 record, but remains



The basketball team confers during a time-out.

Photo credit to Yearbook class

optimistic and is working toward its goal.

"I want to make it to

Gill Coliseum, where the state playoffs are held," said Chandler Sawyer, sr..

Both teams are working double time to make up for lost practices, and are hopeful for their seasons.

"If we are going to have a successful season, we are going to have to overcome those mistakes, but if we make progress this season like we did last season, I am very hopeful," said Shannon.

-By Tucker Barnes

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Katelyn Lowery, fr., wants to know who knows her best! Her sister, Jessica Lowery, sr., or her best friend, Sarah May, fr.



Katelyn Lowery, fr.

What is your favorite sport?	Who is your favorite superhero?	What do you want to be when you grow up?	What is your favorite holiday?
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Soccer	Batman	Teacher	Halloween
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Jessica Lowery, sr.

Soccer 1 pt!	Spiderman	Professional soccer player	Halloween 1 pt!
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Winner!



Sarah May, fr.

Soccer 1 pt!	Superman	Soccer player	St. Patrick's Day
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Superbowl commercials run sales

Super bowl commercials are more expensive than any other commercials. Fox is reporting that this year's commercials are going to be around \$4 million per 30 seconds. In 2013, the price was \$3.8 million dollars, and the price is just getting more expensive every year.

There are some companies that are not supporting the Super Bowl this year because they think that it is too much money to spend per second. A spot per 30 seconds in 1970 was only \$42,000 dollars. Of course back then that was a lot of money compared to now.

"There are a lot of adver-

tisings for beer. The Super Bowl commercials make a lot more money than regular commercials," said Lacey Reed, sr. Reed also says that the commercials during the Super Bowl are more interesting than other commercials.

"They are way funnier," said David Atkinson, jr. He says the reason that the Super Bowl commercials are much more effective is because they are interesting and catch the viewer's attention and don't bore them. They make the viewer want to go and buy beer or wings or antacid pills after the game.

-By Nick Cayton

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Be better in class, lazy people



Okay, why would you sign up for a class if you don't want to work? There's no point to being in the classroom if you want to sit around and play on the computer and smell like pot. All you're doing is wasting space and air in the classroom, and slowing it down for the rest of the people who are there to work and learn.

Take this class for example, journalism. For those who don't know, journalism requires all students to write at least one story per issue, take photos, sell ads to local businesses, talk with one teacher per month about News Flashes and Congrats, pass out the paper on circulation day, and obey all deadlines. If you have an extra job, that's almost always your own choice. But if you are unwilling to do the bare minimum (and it really isn't much) then you're a useless part of the class. Utterly useless and we don't want you.

If you want an easy class, take one that sounds interesting to you; the work will come easy that way. Don't

sign up for something if you don't want to do the work involved, because you will just aggravate your fellow students and waste their precious time.

Well, that's my passive aggressive rant for the month. Don't join a class unless you're going to do the work required of you. If you think you can get by on playing the computer and smelling like pot, I'm sorry, but life is going to smack you in the face—HARD.

And another thing: why would you possibly want to be rude to your teachers? They are here every day, and most of the days we aren't here; they deal with six classes of people just like

you; even at home, they use their time and energy to grade your papers and plan your education. So treat them with respect, 'cause they sure as hell deserve it. If you don't like the class, shut up and quit whining, and certainly don't take it out on them. They're working impossibly hard to help you, so be a little bit decent and appreciate their work. And thank them, as often as you can, for doing their jobs.

Teachers, we do appreciate you! A lot! Just because there are disrespectful jerks in class doesn't mean most of us don't see your hard work. Thank you so much for everything!

-By Cheyenne Cox

Ask Freddy the Falcon

Dear Freddy,
What is some advice for when you have too much stress in your life and you can't deal?

From,
Found-a-bald-spot

Dear Found-a-bald-spot,
Avoid caffeine, alcohol, and nicotine, indulge in physical activity, get more sleep, talk to someone, learn to say no, and... just stop. Figure out somewhere you can go to escape. Maybe a funny farm, middle earth or something. Everyone needs a break occasionally. Just remember that juggling too many things can end bad and result in nothing. Know moderation, and only do things that are truly important to you.

Dear Freddy,
I have a friend who's starting to make really bad decisions in her life. What should I say to her?

From,
Friend Issues

Dear Friend Issues,
Be there for her, but don't get dragged in. You don't want to board a sinking ship. Just offer your opinion and advice, and honestly that's the best you can do. If it's serious and life threatening make sure to tell an adult, but for the most part try not to get involved. You trying to push your way in may make her alienate herself from you and not want to be open. Just be a good friend by being there if she wants to talk.

Dear Freddy,
I have a hard time staying concentrated in class because its not exciting! How can I stay interested/ concentrated in class?

From,
I'd rather be home

Dear IRBHome,
Sometimes there is absolutely nothing you can do about how exciting your class is. It's school, not a friend's house. But if you eat a good breakfast, participate in class discussions, join in on class activities, smile, and don't look at the clock every few minutes, it'll seem like time is moving slowly. Don't complain about assignments in class. Your teacher might get mad at you, and sometimes complaining about the assignment excessively will take more effort than actually doing it. Those are a couple

ways to at least improve your mood a little, and make class seem a little better.



Do you have a problem?

Ask Freddy by dropping your letter in the Letters to the Editor box in the library.

GUN FREE ZONES MAKE PERFECT TARGET FOR SPREE SHOOTERS

School shootings are a terrible crime. Many school shootings could be avoided if the schools had professional security or allowed trained staff members to carry weapons. At the same time, mental health must become more of a priority so that our society can stop maniacs from attacking children.

People who commit these crimes are often mentally deranged and have no purpose other than to kill as many people as possible. These people often have no goals or targets; the only way to stop them is to physically subdue them. Many school shootings have also been committed by students of the schools themselves. These students are often victims of bullying; like other violently mentally ill attackers though, they seem to have no regard to whom they kill.

For people like this, a reason exists why schools are a popular target. Schools are considered "gun free zones" and therefore are guaranteed to have no means of defending the people inside. If these schools had professional security or allowed trained staff members to carry weapons, they would be able to put an early stop to these horrible massacres.

Gun control advocates believe that the answer is to put more restrictions on the second amendment rights of average citizens. While certain restrictions could have positive effects, these advocates are missing a more important part of the equation. Mental health issues and bullying should be the focus if we hope to put an end to these terrible crimes.

America's mental health institutions are in disrepair. People who commit mass shootings at schools and other gun free areas are often mentally ill and not receiving the treatment they need. These people will usually stop at nothing to commit these crimes, and heavier regulations will not deter them from killing large numbers of people.

Bullying is the most common factor in school related shootings. However, the perpetrators of these crimes typically already have some type of mental illness, and bullying is simply the trigger which drives them to commit acts of extreme and random violence. These bullied victims feel trapped and lash out, usually with weapons of opportunity. They premeditate their crime, then commit it with whatever they have lying around, usually firearms owned by their parents.

FBI's report on school shootings concludes that perpetrators are most likely motivated as a result of their mental health issues, narcissistic and psychopathic behavior, as well as school and home social dynamics. Basically, warning signs and patterns of behavior can be identified that cause people to become spree shooters. These behaviors and the factors that cause them are often found in a high school environment. All of the elements are already there; the perfect storm is just waiting.

While it is nice to suppose that all of these problems can be solved before they combine to create a violent psychopath, the truth is even the most blatant warning signs are often subtle and masked beneath a tranquil surface. Most of these people will never let anyone else know what is going on until it is too late. When that happens, the only thing to stop them from killing children in schools may be a security guard or a trained staff member with a gun.

-By Steven Parker

TEACHERS SHOULD LEAVE GUNS AT HOME

Arming teachers should not be an option. If we allow teachers to have guns in school, kids who become very angry could possibly get the gun when the teacher leaves the room and take the class hostage. What would we do then? Try to negotiate and calm the kid down? What if that only made them angrier? That could lead to a possible death and then the shooter's life would be destroyed along with the security of students.

If a student is the one that is shooting at the school then he/she

is not going to be able to be successful in life having that on their record. That wouldn't allow them to have a good job, plus they might go to jail and/or counseling.

Guns are a big problem in the world already; why would we allow them to be a problem in our school? Allowing guns in school is taking the Second Amendment way out of proportion. If there is a person on school grounds with a gun then someone then could call the police and everyone should go into lock down. It would be like the time that we had Operation Falcon Defender for practice and the swat team came and took care of the problem.

If they started putting guns in schools there are many possibilities that something could go wrong, harming a staff member or student. Schools should not allow fire arms on school property.

-By Nick Cayton



OPINIONS

Bird's Eye View

What do you think is the root cause of school shootings?



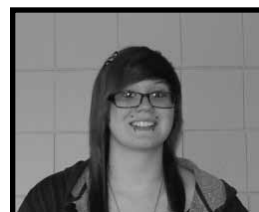
Logan Schmidt, Jr.,
"Suppressed childhood problems."



Tierra Sanders, Jr.,
"Psychotic people."



Daniel Phillips, soph.,
"People without the right minds."



Melinda Whitley, sr.,
"Grand Theft Auto."

A & E

Teacherisms: What do some of our teachers like to say?

Jeanie May, English teacher—"I've called my freshmen 'my little chickadees' before."

Sarah Schilling, English teacher—"Less gabbing and more working. That, and 'Never settle.'"

Kathy Langley, history teacher—"I love my job! Teenagers are never boring!"

Krin Hunt, math teacher—"Don't steal their thunder!"

Brad Bellingham, history teacher—"Ding ding ding ding ding!"

Carrie Brumbach, English teacher—"We all good?"

Shannon Hart, English teacher—"I used to say 'Stay

out of trouble,' and now I say 'Did you know or do you care...'"

Jennifer Snider, Spanish teacher—"Bueno suerte!" and "Se amable!"

Doncella Marquess, art teacher—"Do the best that you can!"

Terri Moen, special education teacher—"You're killing me Smalls! Or Talls, because most people are taller than me!"

Scott Shannon, health teacher, declined to comment.

Forrest Cooper, calculus teacher—"Cream always floats to the top."

Recovering lost Beatles songs provides flashbacks, nostalgia

Ever since the 60's, the Beatles have been heard all around the world. From "Please Please Me," their first hit album to "Abbey Road," grandparents, middle aged folks, and parents have listened and have had their fair share of a "Beatles" phase. Even some teen-

Jasmine Garcia, soph.

Even though some may not be Beatles fans, the prospect of hearing new music is unusual.

"I don't know a lot about the Beatles personally, but I think that them coming out with this bootleg album seems to be unexpected,



agers today listen to the Beatles, but who knew they would have missing songs?

Itunes recently released a boot-leg Beatles album. It means there are never heard songs and outtakes of songs from the band.

"I think it's awesome and cool that you get to hear things that no one has ever heard before," said

but an awesome surprise," said Cassie Hoffman, jr.

The Telegraph said the album has over two hours of demos, outtakes, and live BBC versions of songs including "I Saw Her Standing There", "Misery", "Love Me Do", and "I Want to Hold Her Hand."

-By Kaylee Wolgamott

Videogame popularity places harm, provides entertainment

It doesn't need to be said how popular videogames are. However, many of the most popular games have two key elements in it that concern parents; addictiveness and violence. Some students will stay up late at night and forget to do their homework, whether purposefully or not.

"A few of my students will stay up late and skip doing their homework so that they can play a game. It's not an excuse for why they are falling asleep in class or didn't do their homework," said Nicole Anderson, German teacher. "They need to learn how to balance both schoolwork and having fun."

A similar sentiment is echoed by other students.

"As long as you get your priorities (such as homework,

etc.) done first it shouldn't bother schooling and grades," said Tierra Sanders, jr..

It has even been added to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders V, (DSM V) under "Internet Gaming Disorder", in the section for possible disorders that require more study. There are many articles and studies that say videogames may be or are addictive, citing the dopamine response for completing tasks in games. However, the topic is heavily biased by groups on either side, many parent groups making the argument that they are harmful, and gaming communities citing benefits like hand-eye coordination and the social skills developed by relationships with other gamers.

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Customized car plates make money

The movie “Bad Teacher” starts out with complimentary license plates “His” and “Hers” with her soon to be ex-husband. Customized license plates are clever, but how much would they cost? Minimum pricing starts

and wanted symbols on a plate, costs would go up to \$145.00.

Travis Killian, sr., says that “PntyDrpr” would be his vanity license plate choice. He and his friends thought up the name together.



at just \$30.00 for a simple background change on the plate. That includes things such as Crater Lake, the sunset, wine country, or old fashioned yellow. But if someone was a die-hard fan of the Ducks or the Beavers

Customized license plates are great for families, businesses, or simply just for fun. Make sure you are going to like it because a lot of money is involved in personalizing license plates.

-By Tyler Miller

COOK'S CORNER: BETTER THAN "ANYTHING" CAKE

Yield: 10 to 12 servings
Prep time: 1 hour
Cook time: 30 min
Total time: 1 hour 30 min

Ingredients:

1 box devil's food cake mix
1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
1 (12-ounce) jar caramel ice cream topping
8 ounces Cool Whip
½-1 cup Heath toffee bits

Directions:

1. Bake the cake according to the directions on the box. Pour the batter into a 13" x 9" baking pan.
2. Remove the cake from the oven and immediately poke holes all over the top using either the bottom of a wooden spoon, a skewer or a fork.
3. In a medium bowl, stir together

the sweetened condensed milk and caramel sauce, then slowly drizzle the mixture all over the cake. Allow



the cake to cool completely at room temperature, then refrigerate for at least 1 hour.

4. Spread the Cool Whip over the top of the cake, top with the Heath toffee bits and refrigerate again for 1 hour. Serve cold and refrigerate any leftovers.

Video games remain popular

-Continued from previous page-

A study conducted by Dr. Vincent Matthews and several of his colleagues used MRI's to scan the brains of 28 random college students while completing a psychological test that measures the emotional reaction and reaction time identifying the color of violent words, similar to a test called the Stroop effect that tests the reaction time when identifying that the word green is actually colored red, and so on. Participants who played the violent games had less activation of emotional centers of the brain after one week of playing the games, whereas the group playing non-violent games had more emotional reactions.

Another test was conducted on the same group to test attention and concentration, which asked participants to name the number of times a number appeared during the test. Violent-game players had decreased brain activity in areas controlling attention and concentration. However, the study also showed that the change appears to not be permanent.

Other studies have pointed to different conclusions. One done by researchers at Yale University suggests that the majority of teens who play games are unaffected, with a small minority showing addictive behaviors. This time using an anonymous survey of 4,000 high school students in Connecticut done by another team at Yale, the team analyzed the data. Some are even benefited by it: boys reported higher grade averages, had a significantly

lower likelihood to smoke and a lower likelihood to say they had never used alcohol or marijuana. According to Rani Desai, the author of the study, this means that for boys it's normal to play video games.

However, girl gamers showed a correlation between gaming and serious fighting or carrying weapons to school.

"This finding may suggest not that gaming leads to aggression but that more aggressive girls are attracted to gaming," says Desai. This doesn't mean only aggressive girls play videogames, the study merely found a correlation between the two.

Gamers were more likely to drink caffeinated drinks, girl gamers more so. Five percent of gamers reported the three symptoms that the study identified as problem gaming: trying and failing to stop gaming, having an irresistible impulse to game, and tension relieved only by gaming. In the minority, boys were more likely to show these symptoms, 5.8 percent versus 3 percent in girls. This group also showed a higher risk of substance abuse, depression and fighting.

Being a topic heavily biased on both sides, nobody can be completely certain of the harm of videogames. The methods and sample sizes of studies supporting either position can be questioned no matter how strong the study is. In the end the decision lies in the hands of students and their parents.

-By Aidan Ohnemus

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