

# Hidden intellect? essay

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In the article "Hidden Intellectuals" written by Gerald Graff, he suggests through a persuasive argument specifically how street smarts can very well be more intellectual than book smarts. And how that knowledge goes far beyond academic learning and is continued into the everyday world is not considered intellect because of a different background. He argues that by being involved in non-academic subjects; like sports, fashion and music; can help the students develop an academic way of thinking. The same idea is also stated in "Brain Candy", an article found in The New Yorker by Malcolm Gladwell. He clearly explains how pop culture has affected the smarts of the people all over the world. And that how it is helping us to "become smarter because television shows and video games are more complex and engaging.

"Both writers argue about the many kinds of knowledge and their value of usefulness. Graff uses his own life experiences to show how non-intellectual subjects can be turned into intellectualism. He states that "...schools and colleges might be at fault for missing the opportunity to tap into such street smarts and channel them into good academic work. What would you think when you read his opinion on intellectualism? Are schools and colleges really the blame for lacking to tap into such street smarts? Or is it wise to separate these two forms of learning?" To support his argument, Graff tells us his own story of transformation from a 'street smart' boy to an intellectual. One may agree with Graff that "there are forms of hidden intellectualism that does not express itself through the established scholarly ways but rather hides under the mask of an ordinary talk about sports, fashion, pop-stars, etc. He believes that arguing about non-academic things requires just as much intellectual ability as debates about theoretical issues do, and that

every street smart student has the potential to become intellect. In his essay, " Hidden Intellectuals," Gerald Graff strongly persuades the reader with the argument, specifically how street smarts can very well be more intellectuals than book smarts.

I agree with Gerald Graff that its necessary to look at topics unrelated to school, " through academic eyes. " In his essay, he critiques on how schools are missing out on " a valuable opportunity to encourage students to learn more academically. "