

The pains and pleasures of being an adolescent in your country



Adolescence is the conjugator of childhood and adulthood; indeed adolescence is a period of physical and psychological development from the start of puberty to maturity in a person. It is also one of the liveliest parts of our existence whereby in a certain way we write the first pages of our life. In Mauritius, adolescence is considered for people between the ages of 13 and 18 and comprises important factors such as education, in which adolescents are required to spend many years in school, studying, and secondly the one excluding them from labour force.

Besides, adolescents of all over the world have five main characteristics and steps that have to be worked out. These are biological growth and development, an undefined status, increased decision-making, increased pressures, and the search for self. Being adolescent in Mauritius is a pleasure course; however it involves a main drawback which is discrimination that is the way they are being seen by other people of different age groups. The discrimination of adolescents in our country has steadily increased over the years.

Adults and media of modern society discriminate all teenagers' behavior based on a small minority of teens who look up to bad role models and act inappropriately and ruin the reputation of adolescents as a whole. In order for the discrimination to come to an end, the perspective of the media and adults should change to give adolescents the benefit of the doubt and judge them with individualism. Another bad aspect of adolescence in Mauritius is that unlike when they were children, adolescents begin to move away from the family circle and try to be rebellious.

In Mauritius, adolescents are also given the opportunity to make the best of their lives. The government and many other organizations have organized and encourage teenagers to participate in several contests whereby they can express themselves and have fun. Adolescents in Mauritius are also very conscious of puberty and health problems and are encouraged not to smoke, consume alcohol as well as to practice sports activities.

Most of the teenagers in the country are assured of having a family, a house and a proper education at least till the age of 16. To bring a conclusion, I, being an adolescent in Mauritius, think that we, teenagers are given good chances to express ourselves freely. Adults shall change their ways of thinking and judge us individually, but not by deeds of others. Furthermore, adolescents should also need to change their behaviors and take responsibilities for their actions to prove to adults and the media that they are not just troublemakers.