Facing Boredom

Teenage years are a time for change, growth, and most importantly finding one's self. The thing is, being a teenager can be downright terrifying. Everyone feels awkward in their own bodies and dealing with the plethora of hormones does not exactly ease the awkwardness. It seems like every day is a struggle. Teenagers are faced with all sorts of choices and pressures that can be pretty stressful to handle. Despite all of that, the teenage years can be extremely exuberant. By selecting the right choices any person can have a wonderful time in the prime of their youth. However, one issue that seems to deflect good decisions is boredom. Boredom in teenagers means that they will turn to unethical means of alcohol, sex, and drugs. This issue resides in York County.

Boredom can be a very powerful initiative to do something whether it be productive or not. Any teenager feeling a sense of boredom will try to abolish the feeling with whatever they can get their hands on. In York County the issue is there is nothing for teens to do. Sure, they can go the movies, go out to eat, or even go bowling, but all of these things can become tedious and repetitive after doing it for the fifth time in a row. Not to mention expensive. This issue makes teens result to other means of entertainment that might not be considered as tame when compared to going to the movies. Personally, I know people who grew up way too fast. Some participated in vandalizing, loitering, underage drinking and being under the influence of an illegal substance. These teens are trying to fill the bottomless pit of boredom by filling it to the brim with alcohol stolen from their parents' cabinet. Occasionally I wonder why on earth they would do something to destroy what remaining innocence they have left. So I asked those who participated in these activities, "Why did you do it?" What was their answer? Plain and simple. "I was bored." Boredom dragged them to do things that they may not have necessarily wanted

to do in the first place. One would be surprised to see how far boredom can push a person.

The real question is, "What can be done to prevent boredom for the teens of York County?" There are a variety of ways that can help stop the boredom that lies within the majority of the teenagers. First thing fist, York should introduce more activities. These activities will give the chance for them to socialize and get to know each other on a more personal level. Another great idea is if York County were to build a type of "Teen Center". The center would allow teens to get away from home and provide a chance for them to forget about any pressures. The teens would be given a chance to have fun while keeping occupied. This solution is perfect to keep teenagers out of trouble and on the right path to adulthood.

In conclusion, the time of being a teenager is short. These few years should be cherished and cared for. The time should be utilized and fulfilled to the fullest. Complaining, "There's nothing to do" should not be an option. If York County were to realize that there is not enough for teens to do then I believe that it would produce in a great impact. No longer would teenagers result to the temptations and consequences that come with consuming alcohol, doing drugs, and having sex. You are only a teenager once, why waste it on being bored or getting yourself in trouble? The world has so much to offer, York County just needs prove that.