

# The Sequitur

WESTDALE SECONDARY SCHOOL MARCH 2018

## International Women's Day

The history and significance of this annual tradition  
By: Sonya Pallapothu

Throughout history, women have struggled to be seen, heard, and respected by the world, and also to gain independence and equality in society. Women created history by fighting for their rights, and it was decided that International Women's Day will be celebrated on March 8 every year to commemorate women across the world.



Women's Day was not celebrated on March 8 the first time it was announced. Women's Day dates back to February 28, 1909, and was celebrated in New York. The day was saved for this special acknowledgment, because on February 28, 1908, women protested against inequality, poor working conditions, and low pay. A year later, that date was marked as Women's Day. . . (IWD History is continued on page 4)

## Locke St. Vandals

How should we respond to vandalism done in the name of anarchy?

By: Kate Folsetter

On Saturday March 3rd, at roughly 10:30 pm, a group of 30 people all dressed in black wearing white masks walked from Durand Park along Aberdeen to Locke Street South. The group of people were Anarchists and carried a banner that read "We Are The Ungovernable." Along the way, the group threw rocks at cars, broke mirrors, and then threw rocks at storefronts on Locke, as well as setting off fireworks and smoke bombs. . .

(Locke St. Vandals continues on page 8)

## In this issue . . .



. . . recap from the 2018 Olympic Games (page 12) . . .

. . . casting a critical lens on International Women's Day (page 6) . . .

*In North America people seemed to forsake the ideology that was behind International Women's Day all along, trading it instead for consumerism and complicity. . .*



. . . a girl power playlist (page 15) . . .

AND SO MUCH MORE!

# The Sequitur



## OUR TEAM

### In this issue:

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\*Shout-out to Theo for all your help with this one! <3



### GET IN TOUCH TO JOIN OUR TEAM!

Visit Ms. B in room 209 for information, or email us at [thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com](mailto:thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com)



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1) Cover page (IWD, Locke St. Vandals)
- 2) This page! ☺
- 3) Announcements, Model City Hall
- 4) International Women's Day continued
- 5) International Women's Day continued
- 6) Problems with International Women's Day
- 7) Problems with IWD continued
- 8) Locke St. Vandals continued
- 9) #MeToo – The Bigger Picture
- 10) Christian-Centric School Calendar
- 11) The "iGeneration"
- 12) Sports: The 2018 Olympic Games
- 13) Olympics continued
- 14) Sports: NBA All-Star Weekend
- 15) Music (Girl Power Playlist) & Ask A (Prom Edition)
- 16) Poetry
- 17) Insert: Photography, Visual Art



## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hey Westdale,

With spring coming, I've been thinking about the word *thawing*. You'll recognize this theme if you've already seen my Instagram – hit up [@morghenjael](https://www.instagram.com/morghenjael) if you haven't! ☺

Thawing, to me, is a word with depth and character. It can mean literal snow melting under the sun, or the burning-tingling feeling in your fingers as they warm up after wind-chill exposure . . . but I believe it also connotes a symbolic coming-back into your body, a brushing off of the figurative frost, and a settling into your groove. It means making way in your world for goodness, connection, and self-care. It means shaking off the icicles and striding forward – a spring cleaning for the soul.

Luckily for us, March Break is naturally conducive to thawing; it's a welcome pause, a breath, and an opportunity to finally read a novel (me!) or travel (decidedly not me!). I hope you enjoyed the time away, and I hope you can find ways to bring that mentality of softness and curiosity into your day-to-day existence, beyond March Break.

It sometimes seems like our thaw is at the whim of the sun, though – mid-March afternoon snowstorms seem to prove that nothing is predictable and the groundhog was right for once – but actually, you are largely in control of your own thawing. Keep thinking about that word. Keep spring-cleaning. Keep breathing. You've got this.

*Morghen Jael*



Our website is in the works! Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks about how you can get involved with Westdale's student newspaper going DIGITAL! <3



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**ESCAPE WESTDALE**  
*A Haunting Escape Room Experience*  
*Period 4 lunches*  
*Book your date now in Room 327!*



Only  
**\$2 per person**

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## Photography on School TVs!

Share your Westdale school life photos and selfies on our TVs. Class projects, your experiments, your artwork, you & your friends at lunch, on the team, in a club...all things Westdale.

Send your photos to [wmelnick@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:wmelnick@hwdsb.on.ca) (Ms. Melnick) as soon as you take them!




**MODEL  
 CITY HALL  
 HAMILTON**

## MODEL CITY HALL

Are you interested in politics? Want to make sure your voice is heard? Looking for something extra to add to your résumé? Model City Hall is coming to Hamilton! During this free one-day conference held in Hamilton City Hall, students from all across the Hamilton

area will have the opportunity to participate in committees, where they will take on the roles of City Councillors and City of Hamilton staff to debate local issues and craft resolutions. These will be submitted to City Hall officials, helping to start the long overdue discussion between the decision makers of today and tomorrow.

The conference will be held on Sunday, May 27th 2018 and registration opens in March. To apply, go to [modelcityhall.org](http://modelcityhall.org) or follow Model City Hall Hamilton on Facebook (Model City Hall Hamilton), Instagram (@modelcityhallhamilton) or Twitter (@MCHHamilton)! You can also contact Ruby Hye in person or at [rhye1990@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:rhye1990@hwdsb.on.ca) for more info.

Let's get the youth voice heard, Westdale! **APPLY NOW!**

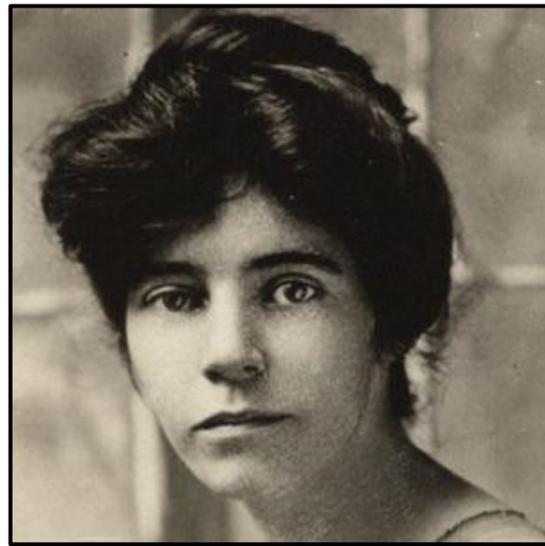


(IWD History continues from the front page):

Officially, the first Women's Day in the world was on March 19, 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland.

Not until 1913 was National Women's Day decided to be celebrated in the United States on the last Sunday of February, which turned out to be March 8 on the Gregorian calendar. On April 17, 1982, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms was signed by Queen Elizabeth II. The Charter states that all Canadians hold the same rights and freedoms and should be treated equally.

Many women's rights activists created an impact in history, such as Alice Paul (right), Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, to name a few suffragists. Alice Paul proposed the idea to the U.S. Constitution to sign the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) in 1923, which created the law of equality throughout America regardless of gender. The ERA was then signed in 1972. Susan B. Anthony was the female activist that allowed women the right to vote. After realizing that women could not be taken seriously in politics, she fought for women's voting rights. In 1869, Anthony joined with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and together they founded the National Women's Suffrage Association. In 1920, fourteen years after Anthony's death, the Nineteenth Amendment, which allowed all citizens of



4

Alice Paul

America to vote regardless of sex, was signed by the U.S. Constitution.

Without all these daring female figures, history would not have changed, and today's level of gender equality would not have existed. In the past, women were not given the same rights as they have today; women can now work in the same workplaces as men, theoretically receive the same pay, and are arguably treated just as respectfully as men. Although gender inequality still exists in some countries, our world has developed in terms of female rights, and this change is a result of the activists' hard work and determination. On March 8, we celebrate these important figures and show respect to all the women in our lives.

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## How the World Celebrated International Women's Day 2018

By: Rand Amer

It all started when 15,000 women marched through New York City in 1908, insisting shorter working hours, improved wages, and the right to vote. A year later, the Socialist Party of America declared the first National Women's Day.

Clara Zetkin, a 53-year-old German theorist, activist, and an advocate for women's rights, suggested the idea of making the special day international at an International Conference of Working Women in Copenhagen in 1910. All 100 women attending, from 17 different countries, agreed without hesitation. International Women's Day was first proclaimed in 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland. This year, the 107th International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8.



The United Nations officially recognized the event in 1975, and a theme was set every year. The first theme, in 1996, was "Celebrating the Past, Planning for the Future." 2018's theme was "Press for Progress," meant to encourage and motivate gender unity and equality. . . (IWD 2018 continues on page 5)

(IWD 2018 continues from the page 4):

In countries like Russia and China, International Women's Day is a holiday for many citizens. In England, the BBC named 100 powerful and distinguished women from the UK and around the world in their BBC 100 Women program. Documentaries, features, presentations, and interviews about the lives and stories of these women were showcased. Countless events and marches were held across Canada.

In the United States, the entire month of March is honoured as Women's History Month. A presidential announcement is released every year to recognize the achievements of American women. This year, tens of thousands of people in cities across America protested against President Donald Trump, and to encourage more women to vote. Around the globe, other nations also took part in strikes and protests. Spain's workers participated in their first "Feminist Strike," which is supported by 10 unions and some of the country's most influential female politicians. The Puerta del

Sol Plaza in Madrid was busy with hundreds of women banging pots and pans while hollering slogans.

International Women's Day seems to be one of the only days of the year where women can openly project their voices about mistreatment, abuse, and harassment. Thousands of students filed in front of hospitals in Milan, Italy, protesting against Italian doctors who refuse to perform abortions, even though the practice is legal. In Manila, Philippines, women alleged that their president was violating and degrading women's rights. Indian women demanded action for the ongoing discrimination, sexual assault, and domestic violence they face.

Every year, International Women's Day unites the world and celebrates the social, economic, political, and scientific milestones of women, while continuing to inspire and stimulate innovative ideas about gender equality for future generations.



## Why International Women's Day has become a failure, and what we need to do about it.

By: Talar Stockton

On March 8th, women and allies all around the world took to the streets to commemorate International Women's Day. Protests varied in intention from place. Spain had a day-long walkout in which services stopped to "highlight sexual discrimination, domestic violence and the wage gap." In South Korea, protesters wore black and held #MeToo signs, drawing attention to sexual violence within South Korea. France held protests against the large wage gap between men and women: "Demonstrators called for supporters, including men, to put down tools in their workplaces at 15.40 in solidarity with their female colleagues." Pakistani women demonstrated against the practise of honor killings within Pakistan. In the Philippines, women called out against the misogynist President Rodrigo Duterte. And in North America, McDonalds turned its "M" upside down to make a "W" - and would be selling the merchandise in the following weeks. Mattel introduced its newest line of Barbies, all modelled - I'm using that term pretty loosely - after "empowering female role models in an effort to inspire more girls." Netflix released the second season of TV show "Jessica Jones", touting the fact that "every episode of Jessica Jones Season 2 was directed by a woman. All over Instagram, women and girls and allies posted pictures of "the inspiring, independent women"- be it their friends, their favorite authors, singers, models- and waited for the likes to pour in.

But, McDonald's still carries gender-role perpetrating Happy Meals toys. And all the Barbies Mattel released look more like Victoria's Secret Angels than actual humans (perpetrating objectification and impossible beauty standards for women), and Frida Kahlo's unibrow has been removed into two trimmed pretty brows. Not so empowering, after all. And I'm not exempt from blame. I liked many posts advertising "inspiring women"- I was even tagged in one.

International Women's Day, at least in North America, has handed itself over to the materialist, consumerist, and capitalist aspects of our society. All around the world, women and their allies risked their lives in the name of equality. In North America people seemed to forsake the ideology that was behind International Women's Day all along, rather trading it

for consumerism and complicity. Posting on Instagram, I can assure you, didn't make a difference in the least. But it was trendy. It was cool. This is feminism: the same people posting on Instagram about the "inspiring women" weren't into the movement until Emma Watson made it okay to think females were equal to males. How did March 8th go from a day only celebrated by radical, dangerous people, to a day to release new toy lines, TV shows, and fast food merchandise?

Unfortunately, this phenomenon of capitalism corrupting the meaning of a social movement is fairly routine. It's even got a name: "Pink capitalism".

"Pink capitalism", in Wikipedia's words, refers to the "incorporation of the LGBTIQ+ movement and sexual diversity to capitalism and the market economy; especially as this incorporation pertains to the gay, cisgender, western, white, and upper middle class communities and market." Basically, pink capitalism is capitalism pandering its products to people by using ads showing how progressive these corporations are. Also referred to as "Pinkwashing", the phenomenon is "somewhat of a Faustian pact" as it emphasizes tolerance at all, but in exchange for no questioning of the status quo and the concealing of troublesome elements of a movement, to paraphrase Shon Faye's five-minute video explaining the history and dangers of Pink Capitalism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4LP0z493oY>. Pink Capitalism is PR strategy - namely, one that asks the viewer to forget that the equality and equity they are fighting for is impossible under free-market capitalism.

Furthermore, this pandering often applies to able-bodied, able-minded (for lack of a better term), thin, white, straight, cisgendered, middle class Western women and allies. It asks intersectionality to shut up: after all, if we're progressing for these able-bodied, able-minded, thin, white straight cisgendered middle-class Western women, we're progressing, right? No discussion. . . (**Pink capitalism** continues on page 7)

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1. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/mar/08/international-womens-day-marked-by-protests-and-celebrations>

Of course, this isn't the truth - feminism is not a movement that will cease protesting until all misogyny, in all its various forms (intermingling with ableism, homophobia, racism, imperialism, classism and fatphobia), are completely eradicated. But in the eyes of Pink Capitalism wants us to see out of, feminism is a trend, like acid-wash jeans or matte lipstick.

So we've sold out. By posting those "#IWD" Instagram posts, we're not acting out. We're not asking questions. We've allowed women to be for sale and for profit, in North America, at least. We're using our phones and our social media to illicit the social approval of others in the form of Instagram likes. And then we forgot about misogyny and intersectional feminism and how we're still a long way from ending it.

These companies claim they love women and feminism for one day but that doesn't stop them perpetrating brutal, oppressive, policies and sentiments for the remaining 364 days of the year. As my mother (who grew up in the Armenian diaspora community) says: "In Armenia, every year on International Women's Day, they give women and girls single red roses. But that doesn't do a thing to prevent the same women and girls from being beaten by their husbands and boyfriends."

But like I said, we still have an entire year. There's not a limit on how much you can protest for gender equality. So I suggest you make this year the year you take feminist action. Get out there!

I have some suggestions that pertain issues in Canada as of right now:

- Call your Member of Parliament. Ask them what they will be doing to end the gender-based violence against First Nation women in Canada, which occurs at rate 2.7 times higher than the rate of gender-based violence against non-First Nations women.

- Vote in upcoming elections if you can, especially the provincial elections that are coming up this spring. Misogynist candidate Doug Ford is helping the Progressive Conservative Party, and if elected as Premier, he's considering implementing the following policies:

- Requiring that underage girls have parental consent before they receive abortions

- Repealing the current sexual education curriculum in Ontario public schools, and making it more conservative

- Speak out. Challenge the status quo. Question gender-biased curriculums in class, question misogynist comments made when you're hanging out with friends, keep an eye out for sexual violence at gatherings. Be an ally: when your friends, girlfriend, or sister, or any women who is vulnerable gets sexually harassed, confront the harasser!

Next year, don't just hand International Women's Day over to corporate capitalism and advertising. Don't receive a rose and accept a beating. Be loud. Protest. Bring a sign. Hold a rally. That's what will make a difference. That's what will reclaim International Women's Day.



(Locke St Vandals continues from front page):

As a person that lives in the Locke St. and Durand Neighbourhood, it makes me so upset to hear that these people thought that solving problems with rioting and vandalism is a good idea. The identities of the people in the Anarchist mob are not known because their faces were covered. It's estimated that the total cost of the vandalism and damages was over \$100K.

Earlier on Saturday, Westdale Secondary hosted an Anarchist book fair. Westdale has been hosting it annually for 5 years. In past years, this has been considered a peaceful event. However, it concerns me that hours after the book fair this devastating event happened on Locke St.

I live in this neighbourhood; it's my community, it's where I grew up. I love to frequent the shops. I love Locke Street. I feel sick trying to wrap my head around why people would think about destroying my neighbourhood. Why would they think that destroying property and buildings will solve any problems? Why on earth would they do this in the first place?

As a student that goes to Westdale I don't appreciate

that my school is associated with this terrible event. Our school should not stand for this. Is this really what schools are trying to teach youth? That if you have a problem with something, you can just destroy private property to get your point across? The Hamilton Police have found evidence linking the Anarchist book fair to the riot on Locke Street.

I understand that sometimes the school board rents out school spaces on the weekends to help provide funding for the schools. However, this event makes me think that the Anarchist book fair should not be welcomed back for a sixth year. The school board promotes a safe space where people should be included and respected without being judged. Although I think that it's important to respect people's political beliefs, I think that if your political beliefs hurt or affect people's lives in a negative way then that isn't okay. In the future I don't believe that we should allow groups like the Anarchist book fair to use our schools for their events. Is this really the image we want to project to the public? I think that the HWDSB should say no the next time they want to use our school for this event. Enough is enough!



Sign reading "We are the ungovernable"

Donut Monster storefront window broken



# #MeToo, The Bigger Picture

By: Jenny Park

# #me too

I was first cat-called when I was thirteen years old. I was heading home, walking by myself in the afternoon close to James St. South, when a middle-aged man hollered at me: “Hey sweetie, where are you headed?” I was terrified and I didn’t say a word; I just kept walking. He then followed me for a whole block yelling, “Why don’t you come over and we can have a drink?” I didn’t respond and walked two extra blocks to get home because I was scared of what he would do if he saw where I lived. He eventually went away. Since that day, I have been cat-called multiple times. I am sixteen years old; sixteen and I have been sexually objectified by middle-aged men who could have children around my age.

When I talked to people about this, I received supportive comments and comforts. But then there was one man who said, “It’s a compliment, you should be flattered. Why are you taking it so seriously? Don’t be sensitive.”

I shouldn’t be sensitive about a man who is three times my age, telling me to come over to his house for a drink?

I thought the person was crazy, but as I began to do research and started paying attention to social media and the news, I realized it was a cultural, historical, and societal result of misogyny that had generated the response.

I realized that many people - men and women both - believe sexual violence is ‘no big deal’. That it

is something women just need to deal with. This was not one person’s opinion; it was a common belief. This became clearer when I saw the allegations of sexual misconduct against Harvey Weinstein last fall. He allegedly raped, sexually assaulted, and sexually harassed several women in the film industry. This man has had such allegations in the past, yet it had gone unnoticed.

This was not surprising because I had heard of countless cases of sexual violence that had been ignored. Brushed under the table as if they were dust.

But recently, there has been an increase in sexual violence allegations that are being noticed. This is because of the “#MeToo” movement - a hashtag used on social media for those who have experienced sexual violence - that really took off when the Harvey Weinstein catastrophe came to light.

Finally, the stories of victimized women are being noticed. But does that mean we’ve solved the problem? Absolutely not. There are still many women in the world who are unable to say #MeToo because it is a luxury that they cannot afford.

That is why we need more women who will break the silence surrounding sexual violence by reporting it - they are helping the women who cannot. By doing this, we are recognizing that if a developed society like ours still condones sexual violence and misogyny, it is undeniable what all women are experiencing it on a larger spectrum all over the world.



me too.

# Neglecting Holy Days: Why our school calendar shouldn't cater only to Christians

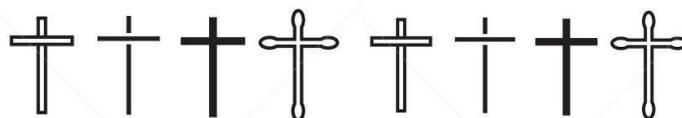
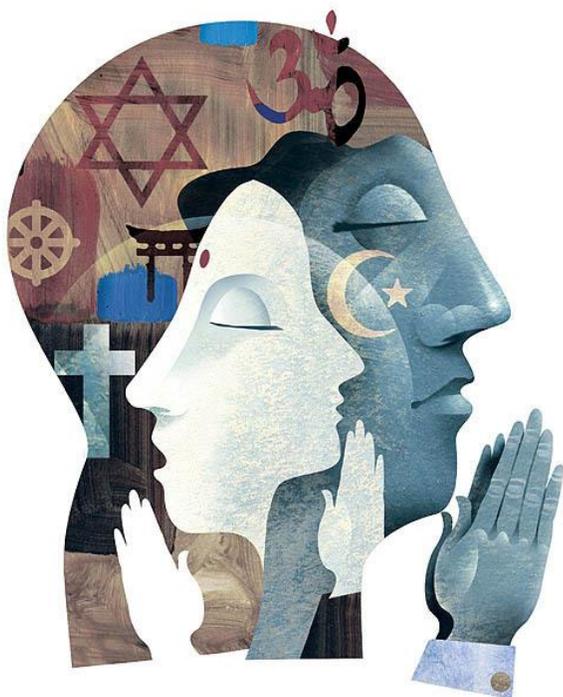
By: Lane O'Hara Cooke

With the Easter break coming up, it's easy to get caught up in the excitement of getting time off of school to spend time with family and friends. But I ask you to take a step back and consider what your life would be like if you did not get this break. If the Christian religion isn't a big part of your life, you might just be bummed you don't get school off. But what if you didn't get Christmas off? No time to go to your grandparents' house or the ability to stay up late and go to midnight mass. Well, this is the reality for many students who are non-Christian and do not get breaks to celebrate their religious holidays. In Canada, we are seeing an increase in diversity of religion and a decrease in the amount of people who identify as Christian, yet we are still modeling our public school schedule around Christianity and ignoring the faiths of others. Why do we ignore Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year), Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) and Eid al-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)? Why is that fair? How is that right? Are our schools truly public if we only cater to one kind of believer? When we

make these important religious celebrations regular school days, we diminish their value. It says that they aren't as valid or "normal" as Christian celebrations. It puts the onus on the student to reschedule tests and assignments, and risks having students miss out on field trips and in-class activities.

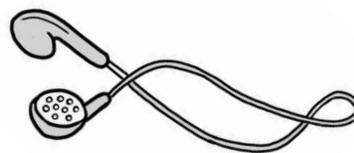
This must change. We cannot continue down this path of prioritizing Christianity in a system that is supposed to be religion-free yet accepting of all. There are two possible solutions. First, we could get rid of all breaks that are made for religious purposes. However, this presents some serious flaws. It would interrupt the traditions and practices of many families, and people hate change. So I propose a second solution: breaks for all major religious celebrations. You may think, "then students are missing so many days of school throughout the year, what will we do?" I answer by pointing to the fact that science suggests our summer break is too long. In the two-months-long break, students forget a lot of the information they learn the previous school year. We could take days from our summer and distribute them to these smaller breaks for the celebrations.

Non-Christians deserve time off of school just as much as Christians do. We need to make a change in our public school system to reflect these very basic beliefs surrounding equality. If you believe in kindness, community, caring, family, freedom of religion, and non-bias, non-exclusive education, you must raise your voice about this issue. It is happening right now, in our schools. Do something about it. Let's make this world a better place. Be on the right side of history. Let this soon become an injustice of the past.



# The iGeneration – our generation

Anonymous



Too often, today's teenagers are called millennials, usually in an exasperated tone at trending antics. However, they are actually those who have reached adulthood in the early 2000s. Instead, we are Generation Z — proudly born between the mid-1990s and 2010s.

Alternatively called the “iGeneration”, which... well, is a little accusing, isn't it?

The first thing that represents us would be our “dumb culture”. This is inclusive of: our love of memes, actually following up on these memes (see: tide pods), our self-deprecating humour, our love of (or addiction to) social media and the mindset of “spill everything about yourself to the internet and beyond”.

Should this be at the forefront of anyone's mind when they hear about our generation? Maybe — it certainly is a big influence for our current adolescent group. I'm sure if you ask almost anyone who didn't grow up surrounded by the same booming technology, they'll say something along the lines of how we're “wasting time”.

Aren't we beyond that?

Together, we are among the most progressive generations. Teenage pregnancy rates have gone down. Underage drug and alcohol addiction rates have diminished. Not to mention we are also the most open-minded generation — whether inclusive of religion, race, sexuality, or just general interests. We try to be knowledgeable about world affairs. We are curious and inclusive.

But most importantly, we have not been afraid to stand up for ourselves. Take the Florida shooting for example: many of the students directly affected have

given their say on the gun issue. Thousands more have taken action in support, whether going out on strikes/walks, or sharing comments, pictures, videos. And even if we aren't directly acting, we have at least built our own opinions. There isn't anyone I know who would not have anything to say or suggest about it.

And if you do a quick google search of “generation z”, you'll see teenagers starting businesses and inventing things; Ann Makosinski, creator of the hand-powered flashlight, is a prime example.

You see teenagers taking the helm over the internet — giving advice, spreading awareness, starting protests. You see teenagers standing up for themselves and their beliefs.

But don't necessarily pat yourself on the back just yet — I'm asking ‘what are the rest of us doing?’

We all know how much influence we have — our social reach, maybe — and sure, right now, it depends on how many people “like us” or follow us or whatever. And maybe you don't have anything you want to say just yet, or maybe you're scared to. But maybe it's worth it.

Every single one of us has an incredible potential to become something, to do something. I'm saying take the opportunity, I'm saying try. It doesn't even have to be under your name; you can always be anonymous, that's the beauty.

It's commonly seen that our generations' fault is our addiction to the internet, our addiction to technology. And while I won't deny the fact that we probably are too attached, there are benefits as well. Think of it this way: our defining feature of “iGeneration” was given to us by the parent generations — be it the technology or the situational humour. So why should we be criticized for this?

My point here is maybe don't just indulge in selfies and likes and memes, but also consider the conditions in which we live. Is there anything you care about that you think should be changed? Is there anything you're interested in? Even if your act doesn't directly change anything, it could reach someone who can. It's what the web is here for — we have so much chance to get something done, even if it's outside our curriculum. Especially if it's outside the curriculum.

We are an incredible movement of our own: being teenagers across the world. And here, in Canada? We have been given access to so much — technology, resources, money, free speech. It's just our job to make use of it.



## 2018 Winter Olympics - PyeongChang's Turn in the Global Spotlight

By: Zeynep Berra Yilmaz

After two weeks of athleticism and national pride during the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, the closing ceremony was held with a fireworks show in a stadium holding more than 35,000 spectators. The 23rd Winter Olympics was officially over on Sunday, February 25 after the last Olympic events resolved each country's final medal count. Norway ruled, dominating the rest of the world in the medal count. Canada was in third place after Germany. Norway, with 39 medals, and Germany, with 31, both broke the record of most medals in the Winter Olympics, previously held by Canada from the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Canadian athletes had strong showings in every field and produced plenty of thrills. Canada walked away with 11 Gold, 8 Silver and 10 Bronze medals which is the most successful count in Canada's history.

As you could have guessed, there were no scarcity of highlights on the snow and ice. The craziest things that happened at the celebration of athletic excellence included:

- The Tongan Olympian flagbearer competing at cross-country skiing, who went globally famous while marching shirtless and covered in oil at the Rio Olympics in 2016, stuck again.

- The North Korean cheering squad consisting of 229 women in identical red snowsuits bounced from event to event, singing in unison and performing choreographed routines.

- The photo of jealousy was taken. Dutch speed skater Sjinkie Knegt won Silver and did an obscene gesture at the winner from South Korea that was ridiculed by the World. He was also disqualified.

- Finnish athletes knitted scarfs for stress-relief. A different pre-game warmup...

- There was a guy with a tutu skirt trying to do ballet on the ice.

- 2 Russians in curling, a Slovak and a Japanese speed skater were charged with doping offense.

- 3 Nigerian women made history by being the first ever African bobsled team to race at the Olympics.

- America earned its first cross-country skiing gold medal in history when most people thought the winner would be Norway or Sweden. No American

woman had ever won a medal in cross-country – let alone gold – until Kikkan Randall, a five-time Olympian and the only mom on Team USA, and Jessie Diggins (pictured below), who had finished in the top six in each of her first four events. Diggins even carried the U.S. flag for the closing ceremony. She had earned it.

- Billy Morgan partied hard and was driven around the Olympic Village on a trolley to celebrate his bronze medal. He thought he would get in trouble but instead was selected as the flagbearer for Britain.

- Ester Ledecka, the 22-year-old Czech, entered ski and snowboard competitions – a decision that made Winter Olympics history. Incredibly, she won gold in the Super-G ski and parallel giant slalom. It made Ledecka the first woman to win in two different sports at the same Olympics.

- The 17-year-old slopestyle snowboarder, Redmond Gerard, won gold during the second day of Olympic competition and became the youngest male athlete to win in snowboard.

- A horrible accident shocked millions. Australian snowboarder Markus Schairer broke his neck during the race but crossed the finish line anyway.

- Swedish Charlotte Kalla, competing at cross-country skiing, earned the first gold medal.

- On the last, 16th day, the last medal went to Marit Björgen who is the athlete to win most medals in the history of Winter Olympics. The Norwegian finished another Olympics with 15 medals in total. . . (Olympics continues on page 13)



Jessie Diggins

(Olympics continues from page 12):

There is a lot to say about how Team Canada brought home glory and made everyone proud! All athletes punctuated their brilliant careers but here are a few that stand out:

-Short-track speed skater Kim Boutin was selected as Team Canada's flag bearer during the closing ceremonies. The 23-year-old from Quebec carried on Canada's strong tradition in short-track speed skating, earning three medals - 2 silver, 1 bronze - in Pyeongchang.

-Canada's Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir not only captured a second Olympic gold medal in ice dance and shattered their own Olympic record, but also captured the hearts of viewers in Canada and around the world. This was their record fifth medal overall. It is no surprise they were the flagbearers during the opening ceremony.

-Canadian snowboarder Mark McMorris (right) won a bronze medal. What's really interesting about his story is that he was fighting for his life 8 months ago when he went through an accident during practice. He was highly injured after crashing into a tree and was taken to the hospital. After the near-fatal crash, he had several injuries. He has had lots of injuries before other important big air events as well but he managed to earn his way back every single time. He is living proof that nothing is impossible.

-The captivating Olympic women's hockey final game between USA and Canada (right) had everything you wanted in a rivalry showdown, but after Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson's maneuver during penalty, the game ended with a heartbreaking defeat. After Shannon Szabados, goalkeeper for Canada, fell backwards, she finished the trick and Team USA won 3-2 over Canada in the gold medal game, receiving their first Olympic gold medal in 20 years, leaving Canada with silver.

- Defenseman Jocelyne Larocque got bad press for immediately yanking off her silver medal.

- Scott Moir was the real MVP at the Women's gold medal game as he was losing his mind with beer in his hand shouting "Are you kidding me? Wake up!" at the refs.

The next Winter Olympics will take place in 2022 in Beijing, China and the Summer Olympics will be in 2020, Tokyo, Japan. Prepare yourselves for the next breathtaking and brilliant events!



**Mark McMorris**



**Women's hockey team**



## The Truly Terrific 2018 NBA All-Star Weekend

By: Zeynep Berra Yilmaz

This year Los Angeles hosted the 2018 NBA All-Star Weekend. LA is known for being the best pick-up basketball spot for NBA players since many of the NBA's biggest stars have come from there. From February 16 to 18, the Staples Centre, home to the Clippers and the legendary Lakers and Sparks, witnessed the clashing of the best and brightest NBA players as they try to prove themselves once again, as well as the newest hotshots and basketball-loving celebrities.

The weekend was full of entertainment programs for sports fans. The list included the "NBA Crossover" event that offered a pop culture experience of art, fashion and music and "The American Express Experience" that displayed unbelievable interactive exhibits in a 30,000-square-foot space. Adidas celebrated basketball and music in "747 Warehouse". An all-rapper, Hip-Hop All-Star game took place. Team Snoop Dogg beat Team 2 Chainz and even though Wale, Lil Dicky and Chris Brown were the highlight players, it was Snoop who walked away with the MVP trophy. "UA HOVR HOUSE" and "OG Slick x '47 Launch Party" were all about showcasing the new products they launched accompanied by entertaining activities. "Lyft" offered a special "#FlyWhip mode". The selected people cruised in one of three Snoop Dogg-approved rides, the 1965 Chevy Impala, the 2013 Rolls-Royce Ghost, or a 'swagged out' Lincoln Town car while "The House of Rémy Martin Locker Room" invited guests to its private luxury grooming suite to freshen up their look for the weekend. For those who could not make it to the events but still wanted to witness the acts and concerts, "NBA on TNT American Express Road Show" provided live broadcasts of pre and post-game shows featuring Lil Uzi Vert, The Killers, and Kendrick Lamar.

At Verizon Up Arena, Mtn Dew Kickstart Rising Stars Practice, which is for the league's best first- and second-year players, opened to the public for the first time ever. The game most commonly known as "U.S.A. vs. The World" featured The NBA's top young athletes playing a bold, fast-moving game. The World team beat U.S.A by 155-124. Bogdan Bogdanovic who came to Sacramento Kings this year from Turkish team Fenerbahce was awarded the MVP due to his outstanding performance. There was also the NBA G-League International Challenge. For the first time, top players from the NBA's minor league squads faced off against the national basketball team of Mexico. USA team proved their growth with a win 88-67.

NBA fans had been looking forward especially to the last event, and it was worth the wait. During the intense 67th NBA All-Star Game, the top basketballers who were selected by fans and media took the court together for a

show-down. Fans were invited to the All-Star Practice where they caught a special glimpse of a warm-up session featuring the NBA All-Star teams. Team LeBron led by Toronto Raptors coach Dwane Casey included Kevin Durant, Anthony Davis, Kyrie Irving, and Russell Westbrook while DeMar DeRozan, James Harden, Giannis Antetokounmpo, and Joel Embiid played alongside Curry coached by Houston's Mike D'Antoni. The result was Team LeBron beating Team Steph by three points, 148-145, after Stephen Curry tried to get a shot up at the buzzer but could not due to the length of Kevin Durant and James Harden's double-team. The memorable highlights of the game included Victor Oladipo and LeBron treating the game like a Dunk Contest with eye catching dunks, LeBron doing a reverse dunk with the pass from Russell Westbrook, Kyrie Irving making a behind-the-back-in-and-out move. Another highlight was Anthony Davis wearing DeMarcus Cousins' All-Star jersey since he was sidelined due to an injury. What made this game even better is that both sides played for a charity. Team LeBron played for After-School All-Stars Los Angeles, while Team Curry represented Brotherhood Crusade. Like most games, there were moments that made their way into memes like Steph eating handfuls of popcorn on the bench and his impressed look when LeBron went up then switched hands for a flashy layup-Michael Jordan style. But the faces of some players, Draymond in particular, as Fergie sang the much-ridiculed NBA All-Star anthem rendition was among the top meme materials. Also, LeBron made a statement with his shoes for the night. They read "More than an athlete," which was a reference to the FOX News host who suggested he "shut up and dribble."

The Celebrity Game and State Farm All-Star Saturday Night with Taco Bell Skills Challenge, JBL Three-Point Contest, and Verizon Slam Dunk were again electrifying and phenomenal as always. There really is a certain glamour and glory that gets added to any sports event occurring in LA. The home of Hollywood, again, lived up to expectations with the 2018 NBA All-Star Weekend.





# Girl Power Playlist - International Women's Day

By: Kate Folsetter



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. "Run The World" - Beyoncé                    | 7. "Fight Song" - Rachel Platten                            |
| 2. "Wannabe" - The Spice Girls                  | 8. "Confident" - Demi Lovato                                |
| 3. "Respect" - Aretha Franklin                  | 9. "Brave" - Sara Bareilles                                 |
| 4. "I Will Survive" - Gloria Gaynor             | 10. "****Flawless" - Beyonce (ft. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie) |
| 5. "Control" - Halsey                           | 11. "I'm Coming Out" - Diana Ross                           |
| 6. "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" - Cyndi Lauper | 12. "Born this way" - Lady Gaga                             |



Have a song suggestion? Email us at [thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com](mailto:thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com) to let us know!



# DEAR A . . .

Advice from the best



Dear A,  
 Convince me that someone else having a prom dress that looks super similar to mine is not that big of a deal.  
 Sincerely,  
 #FirstWorldProblems

Dear #FWP,  
 Does it suck that you might show up on prom night in a dress that someone else also loves? Sure. But here's a list of reasons in no particular order detailing why this is not something worth potentially getting stress acne about:

1. Your superior sense of style has been acknowledged.
2. It is unlikely that you photographed with the other person since the number one reason why they got the exact. same. dress. as you is probably because y'all aren't close enough for them to have known/remembered what your dress looks like.
3. There are people within our community who don't have the luxury of choosing what dress they wear to prom. Perhaps we should consider those with less fortunate financial situations before condemning.
4. There are hundreds of people going to Westdale's prom this year. It's impossible for every single person to be completely unique when there are a limited number of stores, styles, trends, and prices available.
5. You're not the only person feeling less than stellar in this situation. Can you imagine finally finding a dress you feel confident in but accidentally forgetting that someone else has a similar dress? Can you imagine how bad the other girl would feel if you were to publicly drag her on a platform visible to the entirety of her school community because of that?

When Kim Kardashian lost her 75K diamond earring in the ocean, Kourtney Kardashian replied with, "There's people that are dying, Kim." To translate that into non-Kardashian speak, there are bigger problems out there. You and another girl both pulling up in the same bomb donkey dress both looking fly as hecc? Nothing to stress over.  
 Sincerely,  
 -A

Dear A,  
 What should I do if another girl got the same prom dress as me?  
 Sincerely,  
 square up

Dear square up,  
 fight them, film it, upload it onto world star, become the next cash me outside girl....  
 ....is exactly the opposite of what you should do.  
 You could make a (genuine) compliment when you inevitably see her in the washroom at some point during the night. You could take a photo with her to celebrate and commemorate your stellar taste. You could wink from across the dance floor at her, realize that you've never interacted with her for all 4 years of high school, part the crowds to make your way towards her, shoot her your signature finger guns, and next thing you know you're buying mini succulents together.  
 Cheers to building up other women and not succumbing to the societal pressure of comparison.  
 Sincerely,  
 A

I don't care much for my smile  
And I'm working on loving myself--  
But I already do  
I just don't like people looking at me  
My smile is weird  
But someone said it's a very singular  
And very vivid one

I don't think about myself the way others do  
And I love people, just not being around them

People remember me in all kinds of ways

Floofy hair  
A comfortable presence  
Patient  
Innocent in so many ways and yet not  
A goofball  
And I'm not sure what to make of anything  
But that I'm uncomfortable made comfy

After all I don't know how people see me  
I have the inside view  
But what I assume (is always corrected)

I'm klutzy (but poised at the same time)  
I'm a pushover (though this just means I'm patient)  
I'm easily swept away with the crowd (or I'm adaptable)  
I'm a mess (by the best definitions of the word)

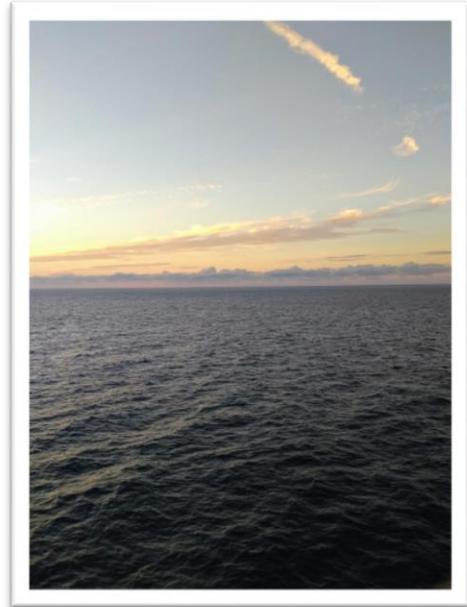
But what a mess of a human being I am  
A carefully organized disaster  
A frankenstein of ideas  
A collage of things I love  
Represented by how I feel about them

I'm made of my love

# Student Photography Gallery

Welcome to The Sequitur's gallery of student photography! Photos are IN COLOUR on a limited number of copies! Enjoy!

Gallery: Kofi Donaldson



Are you an aspiring photographer? Got some photos to share? Send them to [thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com](mailto:thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com) and we'll publish them next issue!



Visual Arts

"Gaze" - Anonymous

