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### JANET YU

**Opinions Editor** I'm sure everyone is familiar with

the type of people who walk around campus, act and talk to high schoolers, but aren't actually students. No I'm not talking about teachers or the campus supervisors, I'm talking about the students who graduated but still come back to visit a little too much.

Don't get me wrong, it's not bad to revisit high school or to have friends that are still in high school. However, it is undeniably strange when a college student comes back to visit the campus every single day and even befriends high school freshmen. Those graduates even sit around Third Street despite school being in session.

It's even worse when a college student decides to harass high schoolers on social media. For instance, recently some Alhambra graduates have been targeting high schoolers and even bullying them online. It's bad enough that they're wasting their time harassing others, but high schoolers? That's another level of low there.

Newsflash: high school's over already, it's time to move on with life!

## **OPINIONS** TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019 ISSUE 18 VOL. 109

# Vaping on the Rise Among American Youth

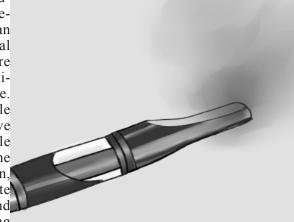
#### RUBY LA MAX TRAN Staff Writers

According to U.S. News more than a third of high school seniors in America reportedly vaped at least once in 2018. Most people believe that vaping is healthier than traditional smoking, however numerous studies over the decade show that vaping can be as unhealthy as traditional cigarettes, due to the nature of e-cigarettes and chemicals such as Formaldehyde.

The vapor, that many people have taken a liking to, can have many health defects for people who vape. As stated by the American Heart Association, the nicotine used in e-cigarette vapors is highly addictive and can cause harm to the developing brains of children who do vape and in fetuses if a pregnant woman

also participates in these activities.

The substances in the vapors are also found to cause cancers in the lungs, as well as bronchiolitis obliterans, otherwise known as popcorn lung. Similar to traditional cigarettes, someone who vapes can also give these negative effects to others since the chemicals are exhaled by users and inhaled by people nearby. There have also been cases where people have been poisoned by swallowing, breathing or absorbing the liquid through their eyes and skin. In the past, the use of tobacco was extremely prominent and many people used it as a way to calm down



in stressful situations. However, in recent years cigarette usage has started to die down among youth and has begun to be replaced by e-cigs.

Other than the direct health risks, the new rise in popularity of ecigs can lead to the renormalization of nicotine usage. Smoking is still the leading most preventable cause of death in the United States, with 480,000 lives being lost each year. With the renormalization of nicotine usage, the number of lives lost due to smoking or vaping will gradually increase. Vaping is the most common

form of tobacco usage among children and teens, so the risk of

becoming addicted to nicotine can start at a young age. This may lead to health defects or possible death which stems from their need to vape. In fact, this has lead to an entire campaign against the idea that vaping is safer than traditional cigarettes. The Real Cost Campaign, which is funded by the Food and Drug Administration, has launched multiple advertisements in an attempt to spread awareness on this issue. One of these advertisements involved two different puppets,

with a trumpet playing every time the orange puppet tries to say that vaping is safer than smoking. In another advertisement, vaping is called an "epidemic." The simple existence of the campaign illustrates the significance of the problem, since this misunderstanding would only continue the cycle of absorbing harmful chemicals that damages the body.

### Insecure Implants SERENA LIN Staff Writer

Most drivers' education classes were scuttled after increasing competition among students for AP classes. Drivers' ed classes should be brought back so students can get their licenses sooner.

Drivers' ed classes cover subjects such as how a driver must handle dangerous road emergencies or navigate through risky driving conditions. In fact, drivers' ed classes can be used to teach the importance of driving without distractions or influence. Many instructors of these classes bring in guest speakers who have experienced the consequences of drunk-driving to help their students grasp the gravity of the issue. By taking drivers' ed classes, inexperienced drivers would have the ability to practice more.

These classes also have the benefit of lowering insurance costs for teens taking them. Many young drivers can stumble upon accidents due to their lack of practice or inexperience. However, costs for insurance for young drivers can be too high to afford. Some of these drivers might opt to skip on insurance in hopes of saving money, only to suffer dangerous consequences that will harm them. Drivers' education classes have many benefits and can help young drivers learn imporskills to keep themselves tant others safe when traveling. and Moor GRAPHICS BY JENNIFER SU

# With Allowance Comes Responsibility

#### CURTIS LEE Staff Writer

Money has been the most important system of exchanging since trading itself. It has been referenced in almost every modern civilization discovered and continues to dominate many of the decisions that are made today. Food, insurance, safety, transportation and other items, both wants and needs, can all be bought with money. Family allowances from the federal government date back to the 1700's and 1800's and are partially responsible for the modern day allowance that many adolescents receive from their parents. Allowance should be given to children over the age of 10. It teaches the importance of saving and responsible spending.

Saving is vital to good financial planning for the future. Allowance is a hands-on learning tool for kids to practice how to save money. Spending stimulates the current economy and even increases tax revenue; however, saving Immediate consequences can also be seen in the lack of saving. As many refer to it, a "rainy day" may strike and individuals may find themselves unable to pay for a hefty unforeseen medical bill for a family member or the loss of a job. Savings allow for flexibility in future scenarios when money is needed. A portion of the



allocated allowance should be taught to be saved for future use, even if it is for a fun toy. This is a start to help kids understand the importance of saving money. The other benefit of receiving an allowance is for kids to learn how to spend responsibly. Spending money is quick and easy, especially on items that are desirable, but the ability to exercise self control is important.

When parents give money to their kids only upon pre-approval, parents are not allowing their kids to exercise their ability to make the right choices. At some point kids need to learn how to use the \$10 that they have for the week. Whether that would be for sodas, a new book, a Lego set or to save for a more expensive investment, all of these choices have benefits and drawbacks that kids should be able to analyze and learn themselves. They not learn the consequences of not having enough money if they are overspending without actual repercussions to credit scores or assets. As kids turn into teenagers, often responsibilities and freedoms are increased and so should their allowance. Allowance is just one of the ways that parents can test and mentor their children to be wise with the cash that they receive.

Money is necessary for surviving in the modern world. There are many ways to earn and spend money depending on each individual. Through allowance, parents give their kids the advantages of learning how to save money as well as how to spend it responsibly. The success of a business or personal finances are dependant on saving and spending responsibly.

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is equally as important. When the elderly are no longer able to work and do not have enough money saved up, they become dependant on government aid which is unsustainable in the long run.

