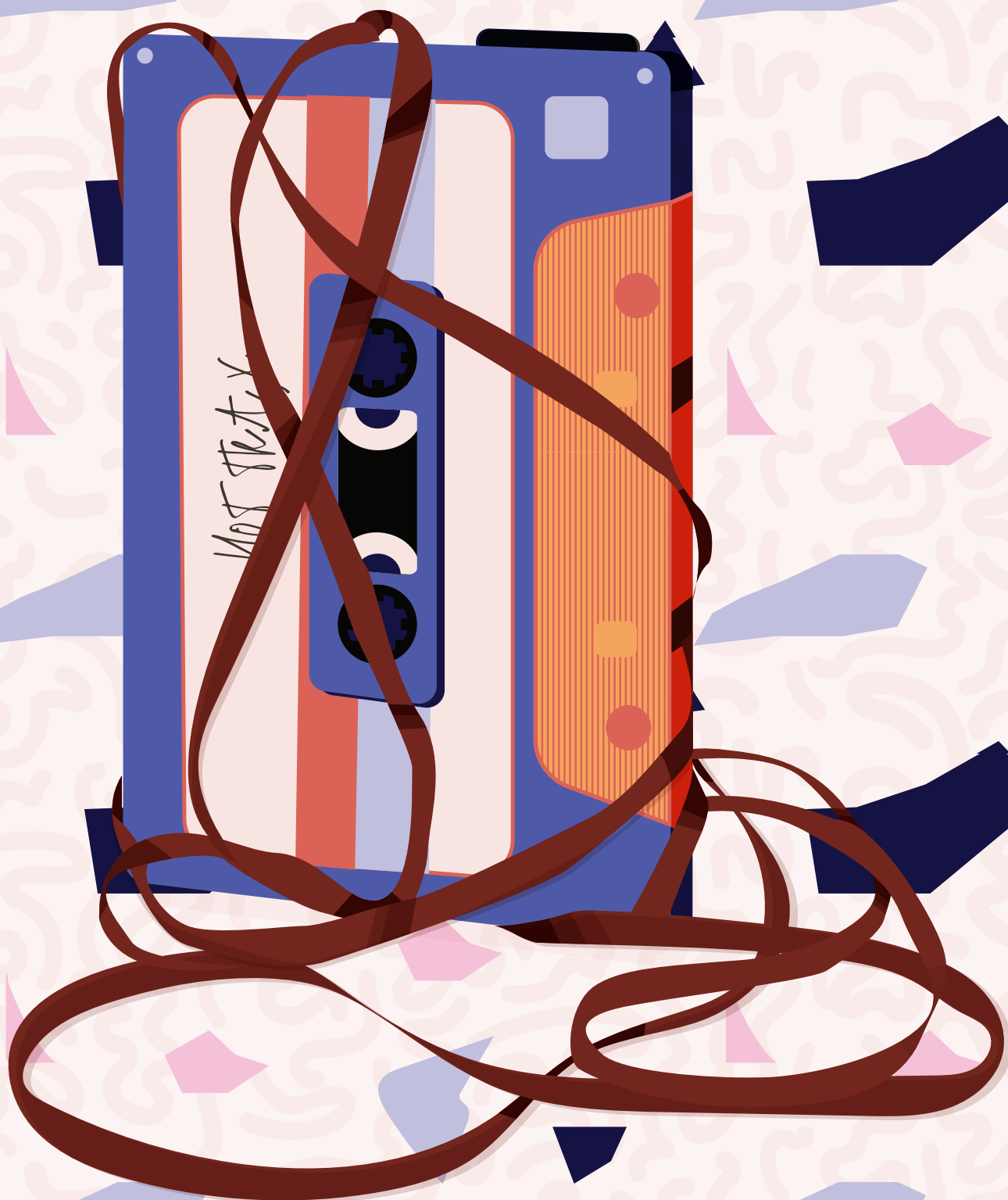


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Artwork by Gillian Young

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Have you ever felt like you were born in the wrong generation?

Insert eye roll here

Romanticizing the past can be a dangerous game, yet nostalgia is at the forefront of seemingly everything from pop culture to politics. With this issue, we wanted to explore the ups-and-downs of yearning for the past and examine how much (or how little) certain aspects of our culture have changed over the past several decades.

But perhaps most of all, we wanted to ask ourselves why we are so fixated on the past.

I'll be the first to admit it — I'm obsessed with the '90s revival that is happening right now. I'll gladly take any excuse to binge-watch shows like "Daria," buy an absurd amount of scrunchies and scour thrift stores in search of the perfect oversized flannel.

But why?

Not even the endless BuzzFeed listicles about all the things that made our childhoods great can explain this phenomenon, but the overwhelming popularity of nostalgia-driven content today shows that this isn't uncommon.

It would be easy to say that trends are cyclical and this phase will eventually fade away, but there seems to be more to this obsession with our pasts than meets the eye.

So let's throw it back to when people were eating tapeworms to reach their fitness goals, jokes on children's TV shows went way over our heads and it was still cool to wear UGG boots.

As antithetical as it is, I can already imagine just how rad a picture of this issue will look on a #TBT Instagram post 10 years from now. I'll spare you the sappy caption about how much I loved being a part of the Chronicle these last three years... for now.

Lexi Heinitz



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In praise of classic Hollywood

OPINION

Patrick Schaefer - Contributing Writer

Illustration by Gillian Young

It is exceedingly rare to find a young person with an interest in cinema from before their generation, a phenomenon that may be made worse by a social media-obsessed culture but is certainly not unique to millennials nor Generation Z. It is even more rare to find one who is willing to explore beyond the canon of classic movies and delve into the underappreciated and overlooked works of Golden Age Hollywood, which we will define as lasting roughly from the beginning of the sound era in 1927 through the first few years of the 1960s.

Contrary to popular belief, to immerse oneself in the rhythms and stylings of the films of this time period is an immensely rewarding undertaking for anyone with even a passing curiosity in cinema as an artform.

In order to begin praising classic movies, it is important to first address the elephant in the room. In terms of representation and nuanced depictions of other identities besides able-bodied, straight, white men, many of these films are of course highly problematic. These regressive tendencies are, in most cases, simply a result of the values of the time period.

This is not to excuse or trivialize any of the outdated attitudes found in old movies and they should never be

ignored, yet I contend that they do not have a significant effect on the artistic merit of a film, except in the more extreme cases. A film that features a 1940s notion of masculinity and femininity need not be faulted if it was made in the 1940s. The problem lies in the culture of the era that enabled those attitudes to become so prevalent.

To criticize the film for that is to waste one's time attacking a symptom rather than the disease, potentially neglecting what else the film has to offer. If those same attitudes were uncritically presented in films made today, that would of course be a worthy target of criticism because our culture is ostensibly more progressive and the filmmakers would actually be alive to hear it.

Naturally, everybody has a different threshold for the level of offense they can handle and perhaps simply being reminded of the existence of old-fashioned sexism or bigotry is enough to upset some and those feelings should be respected, but I would urge anyone else to see past these issues for the work underneath. Personally, I doubt I will ever seek out D.W. Griffith's KKK-glorifying "The Birth of a Nation" (1915) and I'm not eager to revisit the Confederacy-glorifying "Gone With the Wind" (1939) despite their respective cinematic achievements, although it is worth noting that both of

these films could have been considered racist even at the time of their release.

With that said, there are plenty of Classic Hollywood films that sought to challenge the cultural norms of the time in exciting and innovative ways. One could write several books on the amount of queer subtext coded into films of the era that went largely unnoticed by contemporary audiences, whether it's in the relationship between James Dean and Sal Mineo in "Rebel Without a Cause" (1955) or the phallic imagery that openly-gay director James Whale captures in "The Bride of Frankenstein" (1935) as two men, Dr. Frankenstein and Pretorious, create life together in the form of the titular bride. Nicholas Ray's "Johnny Guitar" (1954) is a feminist Western in which the climax sidelines the male protagonist and features a showdown between the butch Joan Crawford and Mercedes McCambridge.

Actors like Paul Robeson and Hattie McDaniel were often thanklessly cast as African-American stereotypes but were able to do remarkable things within their roles and pave the way for an actor like Sidney Poitier to take on more dignified roles in "Blackboard Jungle" (1955) and "The Defiant Ones" (1958). Charlie Chaplin's "Modern Times" (1936) is a funny and poignant film about injustice and the plight of the working class in an industrial society. To ignore an era of film based on the era's cultural values is to categorically misunderstand what was happening in cinema at the time.

The acting style is also commonly cited as a reason why viewers are hesitant to engage with Classic Hollywood, but why one would deprive themselves of the talents of the likes of Jimmy Stewart or Cary Grant or Bette Davis, I do not understand. It's true that the style of acting is largely different than it is today, but any assertions that it is inferior are misguided.

To categorize the acting of an entire era under a single style that one could simply like or dislike is itself foolish, as naturally there were different schools of acting much like today, but for now we will broadly consider the style that is most-commonly associated with old movies. It is less interested in a strict realism and more concerned with conveying an emotion, albeit while still maintaining a level of believability.

In 1971, Bette Davis said in an interview "I think that

one should know one is acting. I think we can sit on the street corner and see the real people. A terrible thing has happened today, it's all getting so real. Very little makeup, no hair, nothing — and I always believed that acting is larger than life."

The stars of the golden era possessed a screen presence such that one's eye is inherently drawn to them in a way that is unlike anything you are likely to see in film today. It does not matter if Davis doesn't behave in the way I or anyone I know would behave in a situation and therefore doesn't seem "real." I do not need to be convinced that Davis' feelings are real, because I am aware that movies are fake and no performance could make me think that "All About Eve" (1950) is a documentary. However, there is a theatrical reality to everything she does, wherein I am convinced her feelings are real to the character and that is all that matters.

She allows herself to appear fearlessly ugly in films like "Of Human Bondage" (1934) and "What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?" (1961), where every choice she makes is bold and could be viewed as "overdramatic," yet these are the moments that will leave a permanent imprint on the viewer's brain after the movie is over. She can alternate between projecting pure regal power and unbridled sorrow as Queen Elizabeth in "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" (1939).

The power of her eyes alone was even famously commemorated in song by Kim Carnes. There is plenty of merit to an understated, "realistic" performance, and the idea that one should get so lost in a film they forget they are watching it has its place, but watching movies is one of life's great pleasures. If it is a prerequisite for a film that you must forget you are watching it, perhaps you should reconsider whether you actually enjoy cinema in the first place.

Of course, not every star was Bette Davis. She might be the most representative example of old-school acting in all its virtues, but there are countless other incredible and fascinating performances of all stripes. Listen to the warmth and gentle charm drip off Jimmy Stewart's voice as he reads his anonymous love letters in "The Shop Around the Corner" (1940). James Mason projects an erudite terror as a loving father who turns into a menacing tyrant when he becomes addicted to an experimental prescription drug in Nicholas Ray's brilliant subversion of the patriarchal family unit, "Bigger Than Life" (1956).

In "Camille" (1936), Greta Garbo's every movement

and facial expression is utterly transfixing. Cary Grant's comedic timing in "His Girl Friday" (1940) has arguably never been matched, except perhaps by Cary Grant's comedic timing in "Bringing up Baby" (1938). If one simply adjusts the way they view performance, there is endless brilliance to be found in Old Hollywood acting. There are certainly plenty of instances of painful overacting or leading men who are absolute voids of charisma, but that is still the case today, except now it is presented with an aesthetic familiarity that renders it far less glaring to modern audiences.

The talent behind the camera could often have just as much personality as the talent in front. The studio system of the time and the censorship of the Hays Code would seem to dampen artistic freedom, but the way filmmakers sought to express themselves within these confines, as well as push against them, led to some of the greatest works of art ever produced in the United States. What the directors behind these great films have in common is an understanding of the power of the image itself, a quality sorely lacking in most commercial Hollywood filmmaking today.

This does not mean the images are necessarily as poetic as an Andrei Tarkovsky film, although they occasionally get close (Charles Laughton's "The Night of the Hunter" (1955), for instance). There is often, however, an emphasis on creating shot compositions that are complex and pleasing to the eye while serving a certain narrative efficiency.

The greatest exemplar of this skill is certainly Alfred Hitchcock, and the evidence lies in his 1956 film "The Wrong Man." Legendary French New Wave director and critic Jean-Luc Godard described it as a "lesson in mise-en-scène every foot of the way."

The way Hitchcock films a scene in which Henry Fonda's falsely-accused protagonist examines his new cell, characterized by perfectly-timed cuts between shots of his face and unembellished reverse shots of the

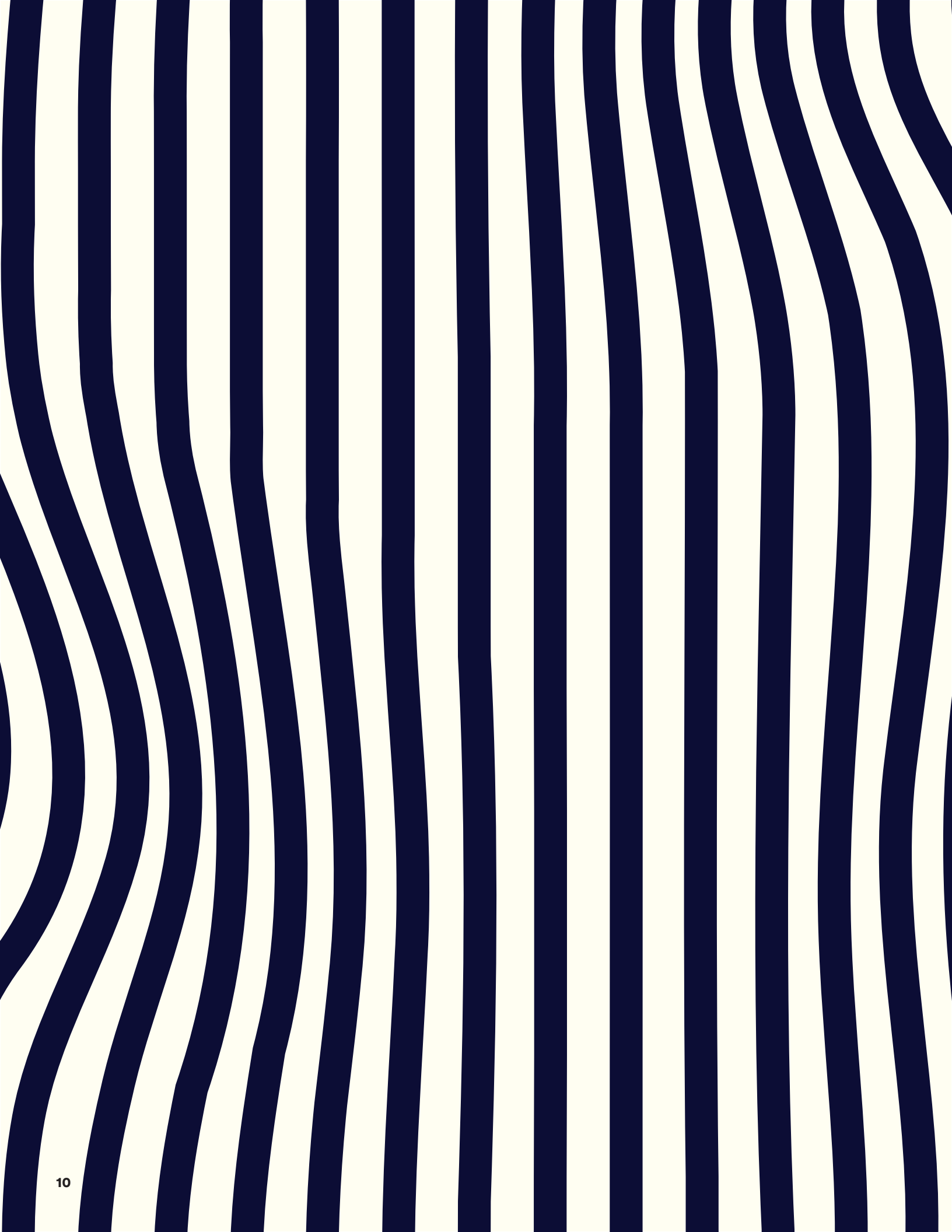
contents of the cell, led Godard to proclaim that "Hitchcock proves that the cinema today is better fitted than either philosophy or the novel to convey the basic data of consciousness."

The great Western director John Ford holds a similar mastery of the filmmaking form, employing what he once described as "invisible technique." He seems singularly preoccupied with how to compose shots to best communicate his ideas with the complete absence of pretension, trusting that beauty and emotion will naturally follow, as it does in the iconic last shot of "The Searchers" (1955). A lonely John Wayne standing in a doorway, clutching his arm, looking in on a happy family and eventually opting to turn and walk back into the desert as the door closes.

Directors like Anthony Mann and Budd Boetticher also tended to specialize in this kind of deceptively-simple Western, filled with nasty characters and beautiful shots. There were also the more-workmanlike directors, like Clarence Brown or Jack Conway, whose careers directing random projects assigned to them by the studio make them difficult to pin down as auteurs, yet their talent could turn even worthless studio dreck into watchable films.

The brilliance of Golden Age Hollywood too often goes unrecognized and it's a shame it has become irrelevant to most audiences. The beauty and nuance contained in the great films of the era can rival anything found in a theater today, which is not to disparage modern cinema. With all of this in mind, I would urge anyone who read to the end of this to turn on the channel Turner Classic Movies (TCM) at any time of day and odds are there will be something worth watching on your screen. The only downside of writing about classic movies, or doing anything for that matter, is it means there is less time in the day to watch TCM.





Drugged and dazed through the decades

Lexi Heinitz - Editor-in-Chief
Graphics by Gillian Young

Is that guy in your class using a flash drive or just charging his Juul? While it may be common to see students vaping or smoking cigarettes around campus, it's less likely that you'll see someone with a needle or a crack pipe. You're probably rolling your eyes and thinking 'well, obviously,' but various types of drugs have been in vogue through the decades. From psychedelics to synthetics, most drugs have peaked in popularity — even if only for a few years.

1950s: The Marlboro Man is born

Before substantial research was done to show the dangers of smoking, the tobacco industry was thriving. Stars like James Dean and Audrey Hepburn made smoking look cool, and even today knowing how dangerous it is, admittedly there is something glamorous about a black-and-white picture of a movie star with a cigarette dangling from their lips. The normalization didn't end in Hollywood, though. In 1954, Marlboro introduced a rugged cowboy as the face of their brand in an attempt to show how masculine their product was. From stars to cowboys to everyday Americans, everyone was inhaling nicotine.

1960s: Turn on, tune in, drop out

Tie-dye, peace signs and bong hits. While the sixties bring to mind hippie culture and a whole lot of pot, marijuana wasn't the only countercultural drug being used. Psychedelics like LSD and opioids like heroin were also popular among people looking to make a statement. Despite the belief that this decade was all about free love and reefer madness, drug treatment was relatively low given the commonness of its usage. Research from a 2002 Gallup poll even suggests that drug abuse was less pervasive than people believe, though drug use was one way people were rebelling against the Man.

1970s: The war on drugs

Following the free-for-all that was the 1960s, in 1971 then-President Richard Nixon declared that drug abuse was "public enemy number one." To combat this, the Nixon administration started the

"war on drugs" — a phrase still used today — by increasing funding toward targeting substance abuse, controlling drugs and introducing regulations, such as prison sentencing for drug-related crimes. In 1973, the Drug Enforcement Administration was founded to further fight this war. Despite the growing concerns about drug use, the 1970s saw an increased use of PCP.

1980s: Just say no

Freebasing crack cocaine may not sound as appealing as the often spiritual or political drug use in previous decades, but this drug became popular in them '80s. Sold on the streets as "ready rock," this form of cocaine is highly addictive. Following in the footsteps of the Nixon administration, then-President Ronald Reagan launched the Just Say No campaign in 1986 to combat drug use. However, celebrities like Richard Pryor, who infamously set himself on fire while using crack, were indulging in this drug, which normalized it for those outside of the limelight.

1990s: The panic in needle park

Even though the government tried to fight it, crack usage continued to spiral out of control in the '90s. Beyond drug abuse, other serious problems arose from the increasing popularity of crack. Drug users were sharing unclean needles, which led to massive HIV breakouts. New York City, for example, was hit hardest, with more than half of all drug users contracting HIV by the end of the decade.

2000s: The devil's lettuce strikes again

With the severity of freebasing in the '80s and '90s, the 2000s saw a significant decline in crack usage. Marijuana returned as the most widely used drug and this time with a generally new attitude. In 2001, according to the American Addiction Center, around 76% of drug users smoked pot, with 56% using this drug on its own. While these numbers may not reflect any change, the conversation around legalizing marijuana had shifted significantly over the years and is still ongoing today.

Required reading

OPINION

Grace Klooster - Social Media Editor
Illustrations by Jasmine Pomierski



Do you remember when you used to read for fun? Before the only things on your reading list were written by centuries-dead white men and assigned to you by professors? Your only responsibilities were picking out a chapter book and learning how to spell a few 10-letter words. While the afternoon sun shone through dusty plastic blinds, your whole body would stick to a vinyl beanbag in the humid elementary school library as you sat down with a dog-eared copy of “The Babysitter’s Club.”

Growing up, I was a certified bookworm. Given the chance, I would read more than I would sleep — which is why I’m qualified to single out the best books that were available to our generation roughly 15 years ago. Take a walk with me down memory lane, back to when the bookshelves were short but you were shorter, and think back on the best children’s books from the tail end of the millennium.

“The Magic Treehouse” by Mary Pope Osborne (1992)

One of the great appeals of the Magic Treehouse books was the freedom Jack and Annie had. They could spend hours upon hours in a foreign land and be back in time for dinner, their parents none the wiser. The formulaic nature of the books made them easy to understand, and the promise of magic hiding in the most mundane spots always left room for suspension of disbelief — maybe while walking through the

woods, you too could find a magic treehouse.

“Goosebumps” by R.L. Stine (1992)

R.L. Stine crafted a world of cartoonish horror that hit just the right level of thrill and comedy for a third grader to enjoy — that’s probably why it’s the second best-selling book series of all time. Classics like “Stay Out of the Basement,” “Night of the Living Dummy” and “Say Cheese and Die!” have had impacts on children’s fears well into adulthood. That being said, we loved being scared by these books.

“Captain Underpants” by Dave Pilkey (1997)

The adventures of Harold and George were incredibly popular among young readers, much to the displeasure of many traditional teachers. It was often challenged and even banned in schools due to offensive language, misbehavior, violence and, of course, partial nudity. On the other hand, these books have been commended for enticing even the most reluctant of readers to pick up a book and be swept away for a short while.

“Because of Winn-Dixie” by Kate DiCamillo (2000)

Kate DiCamillo’s bittersweet novel about found family tackles concepts that most adults try to avoid at the dinner table. Absent parents, alcoholism, death, incarceration through the eyes of 10-year-old Opal; we see the people behind the plights as they are: people. This heavy novel reminds us that even though life is

sometimes full of sorrow, there's always a little sweetness to find.

“A Series of Unfortunate Events” by Lemony Snicket (1999)

In his most famous series, Lemony Snicket gave young readers the credit they deserved by breaking the standard model of the children's book. Some of his more novel actions include introducing himself as a recurring (and important) character, filling entire pages with ink to emphasize the darkness of a room and giving many children their first introduction to gallows humor. Snicket's style was something you couldn't find anywhere else in your elementary school library.

“Matilda” by Roald Dahl (1988)

I don't think there's a young girl in the world who didn't once wish she was Matilda. Smart, resourceful, mature and magic, the titular character faced down villains and helped the meek triumph. Miss Honey, a personification of everything good and right in the world, insisting to Matilda that, yes, there is something special about her is exactly the message young people need to hear early on.

“The Lightning Thief” by Rick Riordan (2005)

For one reason, and one reason alone, fifth graders across the nation developed an encyclopedic knowledge of Greek Gods. Percy Jackson, who was notably dyslexic and had ADHD, something that's not commonly addressed in children's media, was relatable, funny as hell and a great role model for middle schoolers.

“Scary Stories to tell in the Dark” by Alviz Schwartz (1981)

This three-book series is responsible for spawning a generation of horror fanatics. Remarkably darker than the Goosebumps series of the '90s, this trifecta was accompanied by an array of beautifully unsettling illustrations that stuck in the mind long after you turned the page. Schwartz constructed tales that were easy for younger children to parse but still felt remarkably mature.

“Holes” by Louis Sachar (1998)

Weaving tales of injustice from two different eras together, Louis Sachar created an unforgettable story of triumph, friendship and loyalty in the desert. There's no shortage of iconic characters and moments in this novel and the near-perfect movie based on it: Sam's catchphrase “I can fix

that,” the actions of vigilante Kissin' Kate Barlow, Zero clocking Dr. Pedanski over the head with a shovel, Stanley carrying Zero up the mountain. Just thinking about it makes me want to run to my local library and pick up a copy.

“Junie B. Jones” by Barbara Park (1992)

Barbara Park had a gift like no other author. Her ability to capture the inner monologue of a 5-year-old girl alongside the exasperation of the adults who have to wrangle her simply cannot be duplicated. Junie B.'s voice is so universal, yet so distinct. Going back to these books will not disappoint you. Junie B. is the queen of children's literature, a bridge between adults and kids, a dearly needed respite from the heavy-handed moral lessons foisted upon second graders. Junie B. Jones is, hands down, the best series of children's books libraries have to offer.

Honorable mentions: Though we didn't have space for these great works on our list, they still deserve recognition for the joy they gave young readers.

“Warriors” by Erin Hunter (2007)

“The Boxcar Children” by Gertrude Chandler Warner (1924)

“Hoot” by Carl Hiassen (2002)

“Hatchet” by Gary Paulson (1987)

“Sideways Stories from Wayside School” by Louis Sachar (1978)

“The Very Hungry Caterpillar” by Eric Carle (1969)





From Lucky Strikes to protein shakes: 100 years of fad dieting

Molly Fraser - Contributing Writer
Illustration by Gillian Young

At best, the fad diets of the 20th century were laughable attempts for food industries to sell their products or for Hollywood stars to get back in the spotlight. At worst, these fad diets distorted people's body image and led to lasting negative health effects.

Some of the most harmful fad diets were those of the early 20th century, like the smoking diet, which recommended smoking cigarettes to suppress hunger. This diet was popularized during the 1920s by a Lucky Strikes marketing campaign with the infamous tagline, "reach for a Lucky instead of a sweet." Although nicotine is an appetite suppressant, it is now common knowledge that smoking cigarettes is one of the deadliest life choices one can make.

Another horrifying diet originating in the early 1900s was the tapeworm diet. According to BBC News, this diet suggested that its followers swallow pills containing beef tapeworm cysts, which would grow and absorb food inside the hosts' intestines. Although the tapeworm would absorb food, it could also cause side effects like headaches and vision problems or more serious diseases like meningitis. The dieters would then take more pills to rid themselves of the tapeworm, but these negative health effects would persist.

Even as nutritional knowledge has advanced, fad diets have not died down. The 1980s were a breeding ground for eccentric diets. Among

the most amusing diets of the '80s were the cabbage soup diet, which recommended its followers eat a diet consisting of primarily cabbage soup, the Beverly Hills diet, which suggested eating nothing but fruit for the first 10 days of the diet, and the 'diet pill' diet, which involved swallowing a 'magic pill' that would make extra weight disappear.

Alongside these niche diets, a larger societal trend toward low-fat foods emerged in the 1980s. This fad was based on studies connecting high-fat diets to high levels of LDL cholesterol. However, it turned out that many of these studies were inaccurate. As June Russell, professor of chemistry, explained, "we had been told for years that fat was really bad for us and now it turns out that a lot of studies that came out were paid for by the sugar industry."

In response to these studies, companies removed fat from their products and added sugar to make up for lost flavor, just as the sugar industry wanted.

This low-fat craze lasted well into the 1990s, but today, nutritionists know that a moderate amount of fat is an important part of a healthy diet. This new knowledge has led to a slew of new fad diets that wholly embrace fat, like the ketogenic diet. Russell warns that these new high-fat diets could be just as dangerous as the low-fat diets of the 1980s, saying "we don't really know the risks because nobody has ever lived for an extended period of time on those diets."

Russell is also skeptical of another current fad: the high-protein diet. As she stated, "we don't need that kind of protein. If you eat healthily, Americans get way more protein than they ever need."

Although many think that consuming protein shakes, protein bars and other high-protein food is necessary for health or muscle-gain goals, we could find out in the future that these high-protein foods are just as harmful as fad diets of the past.

Despite the popularity of some fad diets, this approach to dieting is highly ineffective. Dieters jump from one extreme to another in search of better health or lower weight, but these extremes are just not sustainable. As Russell emphasized, any highly restrictive diet is bad for your health because it could prevent you from getting the essential nutrients you need, throw off your metabolism and encourage "yo-yo" dieting. Rather than dieting, Russell suggested, "you just have to change your lifestyle" in order to get healthy.

In hindsight, we know that achieving good health does not require swallowing tapeworms, eating pounds of cabbage every day or cutting out fat entirely. Rather than desperately searching for the perfect diet, we need to fuel our bodies with a wide variety of nutritious foods, while indulging in moderation, to enjoy health and happiness for years to come.

For the love of pixels: a retrospective on virtual pets

OPINION

Megan Fickert - Social Media Editor
Illustration by Jasmine Pomierski



Children of the '80s and '90s were the first to get a taste of growing up in a digitized era and were the first generation of kids to experience the phenomena of virtual pets. The introduction of the first popularized virtual pets came in 1995 with “Dogz” and “Catz,” eventually spawning the Petz franchise. The market only grew with Bandai’s Tamagotchi and Digimon establishing portability. By 1999, digital pets had grown beyond their beginnings in software and gained popularity online.

My earliest memories of being online are with sites like Neopets and Webkinz. In fact, the username I use on most sites today originated sometime in 2005 on my Neopets account. I adored that game despite never being very good at it and was devastated when I forgot the password to my original account.

By 2007, Webkinz exploded in popularity and I accumulated eight Webkinz by the time I stopped visiting the site around 2010. The only Webkinz I still own today is a bunny called Blinkie (my very first one) and Cluck, a chicken that once belonged to my younger brother. But as you get older, you start finding new things that interest you — more ‘grown-up’ things — and virtual pets become a distant memory.

Maybe it was the sense of my fleeting childhood, but around the time I entered high school I revisited my old passion for cyber companions. I discovered that since my original Neopets account had been purged from the site, I could create a new one with my original username. I was surprised to find that the site looked and functioned almost exactly how I remembered it.

Webkinz was a similar story, with the design and basic functionality of the site carrying me right back to the early 2000s. Although both sites did have more subscription-based content and restricted access than before, it mirrored the increase in microtransactions typical of online games today. I was disappointed to see that many of the functions of Webkinz that I remembered from childhood I now had no access to because I was not a deluxe member.

Nevertheless, I was recapturing some of the magic. I think of myself as a child at heart,

and there’s something about these little clumps of code on my screen in the shape of cute critters that still brings me joy as a 21-year-old in college. Is it the way you can dress them up or care for them like real pets? Is it the online communities built around these sites that gave me my first taste of internet culture? Is it just plain old nostalgia for simpler, easier times? I can’t quite put my finger on it.

In the 2010 article “Our undeniable bond with virtual pets” from The International Society of Presence Research, game production designer Jörg Neumann described the appeal saying that “When you give players direct responsibility over an entity, whether real or artificial, there is a sense of attachment you can’t help but experience. These games do a really good job in creating the sense that the virtual pet really needs the player and then create a sense of responsibility and positive companionship.”

Some of the earliest virtual pet creators have also weighed in. During a 2014 Reddit AMA, Neopets co-creator and former owner Donna Williams-Powell responded to sentiments about shifting player ages present on the site, mentioning that one “can’t have a site that prides itself on people playing for years without expecting to have adult players who do grown up stuff like marry and have kids,” and “the Neopets fanbase was so diverse and interesting. It’s just a shame that most corporate folks think Neopets was just a game for kids.”

Despite the rapid evolution of digital entertainment within the past decade or so, the age of virtual pets seems far from over. New sites continue to sprout up, bolstered by crowdfunding efforts like Kickstarter. Two sites I’ve become involved in are Flight Rising, a virtual dragon pet site launched in 2013, and Dappervolk. These new sites are still ‘kid-friendly,’ but give off a vibe that they were created by and targeted to people in their twenties. And why shouldn’t adults use sites like these? Is it so different from playing the Sims or any other simulation video game? It’s all playing pretend in the end. It seems like the consensus among adult virtual pet users is that growing up doesn’t mean growing out of fun.



Fashion through the ages

Gabriella Boyle - Lifestyle Editor
Maya Bryant - Vision Editor
Illustration by Gillian Young

**"Who wore visible
thongs with low-rise
jeans, fedoras, Juicy
Couture tracksuits and
UGGs? The answer:
people in the 2000s."**

1960s

The '60s were mad for mod fashion. Throughout this decade women dressed in oversized coats, bright colors and lots of patterns. Big lashes, bold earrings and pixie cuts were becoming staples to complete the look of women during the '60s. The mini skirt was also introduced to the world during this decade and could be found worn by just about anyone.

On the other spectrum the hippie movement was becoming a staple for those who were rejecting the social norm. This trend was mainly embraced by white, college students who rejected the Vietnam War. Sarah Pruitt of the History Channel wrote, "Ripped jeans, bell bottoms, tie-dyed clothing and flowers worn in the hair were all big parts of the typical hippie style."

The two main trends of the decade dominated the American fashion world and represented a mass majority of the people living in the states during the '60s.

1970s

Disco was all the rage during this era, and it shows. Bell bottoms, white suits and medallions were everywhere. One could walk down the street with their platform shoes like John Travolta in "Saturday Night Fever," bopping their head along to "Stayin' Alive" by the Bee Gees.

Because the counterculture hippie decade was drawing to a close, remnants of the style could also be found in the clothing. Maxi skirts and peasant blouses were still popular for the groovy cats headed to the roller rink.

However, let us not forget one of the staples of '70s fashion: mix-and-match knitwear. Match your favorite knitted tank top with a sweater or denim long-sleeve, and you have created an outfit for your next decade-themed party. For a perfect example of how to rock any of these looks, just type "The Brady Bunch" into a search engine.

1980s

Big hair, bright makeup and oversized shoulder pads can describe the fashion the was rocked throughout the '80s.

MTV gave everyday people the chance to see

their favorite musician's stylish choices and then replicated their style. Celebrities like Cyndi Lauper, Madonna and Joan Jett were known for their edgier senses of fashion throughout this decade. Their mix of neon and black, fingerless gloves and tulle skirts made their fashion choices stand out amongst the crowds.

Workout wear also graced the fashion world during the '80s. Women could be found sporting bodysuits, neon leg warmers and matching headbands while doing at home workouts or at the gym.

1990s

The '90s created the "bum" look that we often associate with hipsters today. Windbreakers, chunky sneakers and fanny packs are making a comeback in 2019, but they were even more popular in the early to mid-90s. Combining these items might make you look straight out of a scrapbook.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, punk and emo rock were on the rise. Mesh shirts and black everything could be seen on those who favored those genres. Crop tops and chokers are still around today, but they were a staple for young women in the '90s.

2000s

Who wore visible thongs with low-rise jeans, fedoras, Juicy Couture tracksuits and UGGs? The answer: people in the 2000s.

The '2000s were dominated with spray tans, fake nails, trucker hats and carrying tiny dogs inside purses as accessories.

Trends of the past were often brought back throughout this decade such as neon colors and animal print anything. The mini skirt was reinvented now made out of denim or being tiered. Jeans were sitting lower than ever on the waist, embraced the flared look from the '60s and were now turned into capris.

Teen stars such as Rihanna, Lindsay Lohan and Britney Spears ruled the covers of magazines such as J-14 and BOP. The outfits they made iconic could be found taped on bedroom walls of tweens across the country



Death of the sitcom

OPINION

Madeleine O'Connell - Arts Editor

Illustration by Gillian Young

It can be pretty easy to start a conversation with someone you don't know by talking about a TV show. Chances are, they are watching or have watched similar shows. Sitcoms, in particular, are something that people always seem to be able to bond over. Whether it's singing along to the catchiest theme songs for shows like "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" or debating about characters such as Ross and Rachel's relationship in "Friends," there's a lot to relate to in sitcoms.

Sitcoms, or situational comedies, have been on the air since the 1940s, beginning with "Pinwright's Progress." This show is not one that people mention very often, probably because it was only on the air for one season and the episodes are nearly impossible to find.

Since "Pinwright's Progress," sitcoms have certainly evolved and have waivered in terms of popularity. There are shows that have been watched through generations and are still being shown today. "Full House," "The Simpsons," "Will & Grace" and "That '70s Show" are some of the shows people continue to watch.

I still remember watching "Full House" on my DVD player in the car on every road trip. I would watch the

episodes on repeat because it was that good. Sadly, my DVD player doesn't work anymore, but because of the cable box, I am able to watch it anytime I want.

"Full House" was not airing new episodes while I was watching it, but there were several other shows that I would wait to watch every week. Now, I am less concerned about making sure I watch new episodes when they first come out because I can see them at pretty much any time. This is a change that has greatly affected sitcoms.

With the advancement of the DVR and online sources like Netflix and Hulu, the dreaded wait to watch new episodes every week doesn't exist too much anymore. Binge watching is a result of this, which means many shows are available online so people can watch as many episodes as they want in a day.

"Among adults under the age of 50, the number of viewers for network shows has tumbled an additional 10 percent this season," said John Koblin, New York Times reporter.

I am beginning to watch sitcoms less and less because I don't like most of the ones currently being made. Although, I will always be happy to clap along to the "Friends" song or rewatch the romance of Cory and Topanga on "Boy Meets World." There's

something about the nostalgia of the old shows that make them so good no matter how many times I see them.

Seeing as so many people love and continue to watch the sitcoms of the '90s, 2000s and even older, some of these shows are being remade. The idea is genius in my opinion — bring back the shows people loved but with new episodes. While the intention may be great, some people hold very high standards with the shows they loved and they expect the remakes to be even better.

Unfortunately, the execution of these reboots is usually disappointing. When shows that I once loved from years ago suddenly emerge with the same characters but in a totally different way, I get excited. I have hope that maybe the greatness will be restored since the first version was so wonderfully made.

Sadly, most of the cast members have hardly acted, if at all, since the final episode of the original show. Another downfall is that the shows seem to look like many of the new shows today, instead of the lower quality they once had. Even though the image quality may be better now, there is something about the older feel to the shows that made them so much better to watch.

Of course, I still watched every episode of some of the reboots and spinoffs like “Fuller House” and “The Conners,” but they didn’t produce episodes that I will choose to watch over and over again.

Perhaps it’s the themes present in the new shows that are keeping me away. While most shows today cover important issues, as many did in the past as well, comedy seems to be the main focus. Before, the issues seemed to be discussed more seriously and deeply. Is it because people are less likely to discriminate the show for sensitive issues if comedy is involved?

The '90s sitcom, “Ellen,” was on the air for four seasons until it got cancelled. In the show, the character Ellen Morgan had a serious “coming out” talk. According to Screen Rant, “the show suffered major backlash. Conservatives trashed her and

magazines scrutinized her decision to come out so loudly.”

Back then, subjects such as the one on “Ellen” were not accepted well. Now there are TV shows that have incorporated characters who are in the LGBTQ community and they seem to be doing pretty well. The TV shows that portray great diversity are talked about a lot. Not all opinions of these shows are good, but people are more open-minded now.

“Modern Family” is a great example of a show that has gone above and beyond in trying to show diversity. There are three families in the show, all very different from each other. One couple contains a Colombian wife and her husband. Another couple is two gay men with an adopted Vietnamese daughter. The third couple portrays a stereotypical suburban family.. This is a show truly centered on “modern life.”

Something else that has gradually been showing up in sitcoms for years is technology. In an article in the New York Times, Abraham Higginbotham, a writer on “Modern Family,” said, “We used to talk about how cellphones killed the sitcom because no one ever goes to anyone’s house anymore. You don’t have to walk into Rachel and Ross’s house, because you can call and say, ‘Hey, what’s up?’ We embrace technology so it’s part of the story.”

Many of the shows represent what was happening in the times in which they were written. Going back to the older sitcoms and seeing what life was like then is refreshing. I can see what families were like back then versus how they are now.

I am more likely to choose to watch a sitcom such as “Everybody Loves Raymond” or “The Nanny” over any of the current shows because I am most comfortable with the shows from my childhood.

So, would I say sitcoms are dead? No, but I certainly would say that they are not as good as they once were.



The blame game

OPINION

Maya Bryant - Vision Editor
Illustration by Gillian Young

Anyone who has a family member over the age of 40 knows about the division that exists between older generations and millennials. Millennials do something, older generations blame them; older generations do something, millennials blame them. This cycle keeps going further and further into hilarity.

We have reached a point in society where boomers are getting older, and their interest in millennials is piquing. From chain restaurants to divorce, millennials continue to be blamed for the way they operate. Simply typing “millennials ruin” into a search engine will open up an entire network of articles and editorials complaining about the state of the world and claims that “it’s the young people’s fault.”

One point of contention that continues to hold boomer’s obsession with the way we work is technology. Social media, smartphones, computers, apps; all of this is monitored and studied to insane degrees so that they can better understand how we behave in this ever-changing society.

For instance, the Pew Research Center found that in 2018, 95% of teenagers had access to a smartphone and approximately half of these teenagers said that they were online constantly. Furthermore, the average teen spends about nine hours a day interacting with media, according to a 2016 study by Common Sense Media.

All of this information raises questions for boomers and Gen X: Why are young adults and millennials using their phones and social media so much?

The answer seems quite simple to them — millennials are addicted to it.

But why are they?

This is the question older generations cannot seem to answer. Journalists, scholars and the average man have chalked it up to a lack of self-control and the inability to respect authority.

However, that is a complete oversimplification of the dilemma at hand. Indeed there are problems that stem from technological addiction like emotional detachment, short-term pleasure seeking and the inability to communicate effectively, as Sam Allcock from the Huffington

Post said. But these types of problems are not the only ones being discussed.

There is generational stereotyping occurring here. Older generations, as previously noted, are making a complex issue very simple to help themselves understand, and possibly avoid, what the real problem is.

The pressing issue of technology addiction among young people is not just the fault of the young. The people who provided that technology and placed it into the hands of the addicts are also to blame.

Older generations gave us access to the internet, smartphones, social media, the list goes on. Putting the blame entirely on the supposed ‘victims’ of the dilemma is counterproductive to solving the problem.

Matthew Hennessey, author of “Zero Hour for Gen X,” talks about the generalizations that occur when we try to understand a cross-generational culture. Hennessey notes that the problem should not be focused on blaming millennials for technological addiction, but blaming the technology for warping our minds.

In some ways, that is true.

Technology is the direct cause of screen addiction among teens and young adults, but the indirect one is the people who enabled that technology, and then eventually required it, to be in their hands.

There is no denying that both older and younger generations hold blame for their problems with technology usage. The problem is deeper. We cannot continue to generalize, stereotype and scapegoat each other for our problems; we must work together to fix it.

And that starts with the acknowledgment that we all are the problem. Do we have that understood?

Now shut up about the avocados, shopping malls and social security and try working together, please.

1919



Goldspohn was once the College's science hall before the Kroehler Science Center was built. It even had a sundial as shown in this photo.

NOW AND THEN

Photos by Bailee Van Camp - Contributing Writer

1920

Carnegie Hall served as the College's library before it became the ITS headquarters.



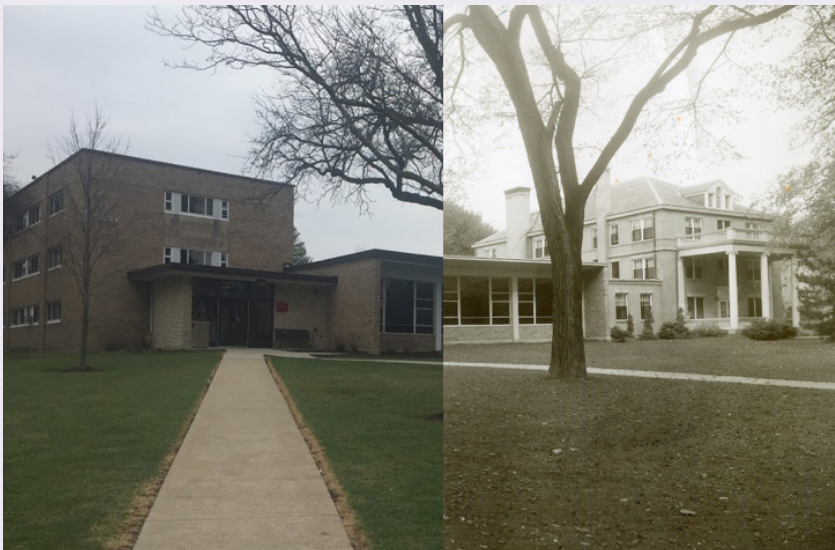
1960

Evangelical Theological Seminary was purchased in 1976 by NCC and converted to Kiekhofler Hall, complete with the Kotten Chapel.



1978

The exterior view of Oesterle Library hasn't changed much over the years.



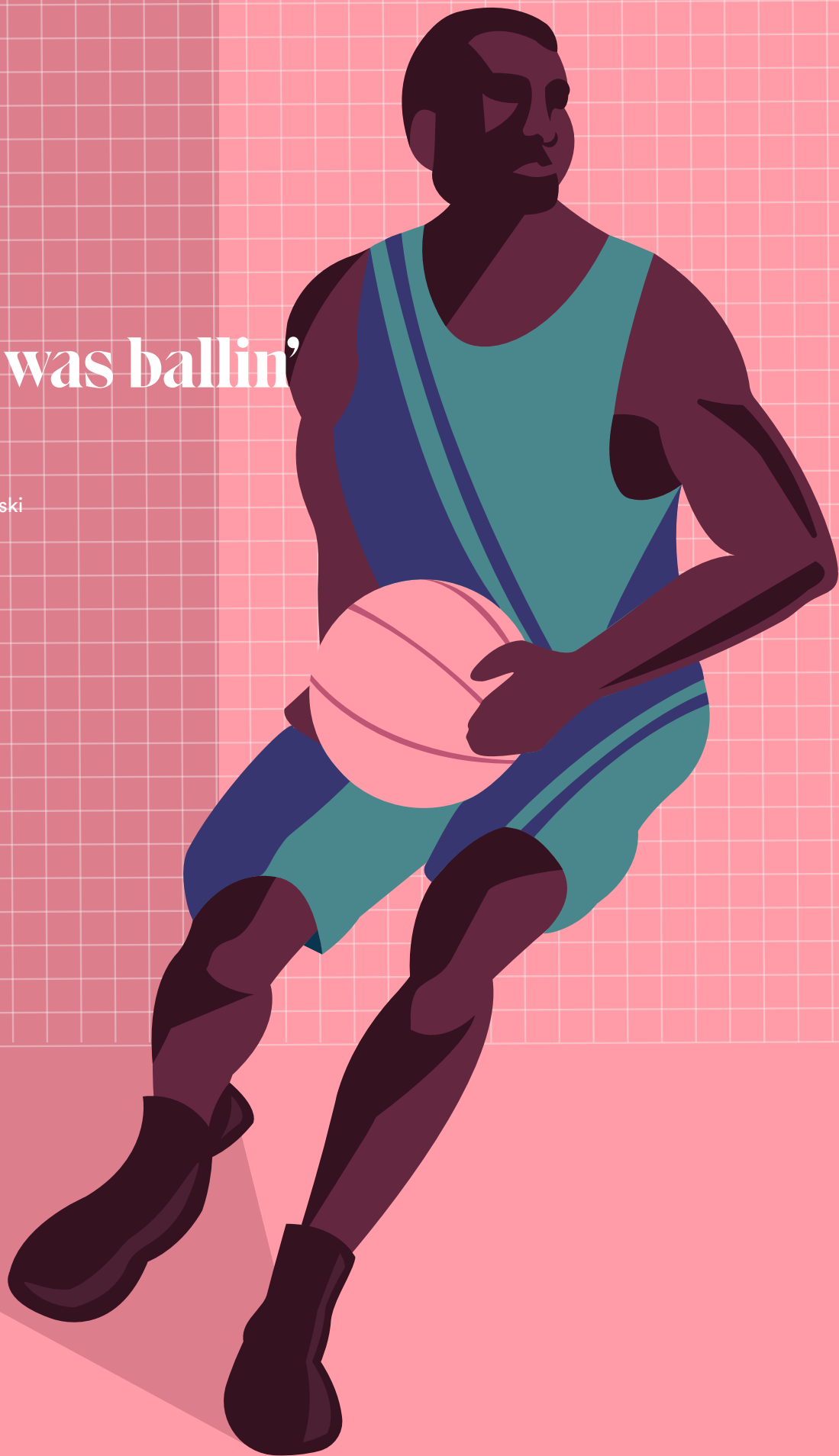
Before Kaufman Dining Hall was built, Geiger Hall was located next to Kaufman Hall, a dorm for students.

'90s NBA was ballin'

OPINION

Jordan Bradley - Sports Editor

Illustration by Jasmine Pomierski



Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls' dynasty, the physical play, the all-around flair on and off the court. This really reminds us why NBA the '90s was so damn special, and why we will never see a time so great in basketball again.

I grew up playing in the mid-2000s and 2010s, but having a family that is so in love with sports, especially the game of basketball, I heard all about the '90s, which my older brother called "the golden age of basketball."

My family might have a little bias since we are Bulls fans and always will be. It was definitely the heyday for Bulls fans and the heyday for my family's finances since they got tickets to every Bulls playoff game there was. Sorry for being late to the party.

The Bulls' wondrous six titles did not come easy, as they were hard-fought battles against some of the league's legends. This is a hot take, but the Warriors wouldn't fare so well back in the day. While we're on this topic, yeah I do think Jordan is better than LeBron James.

When I say every win was hard-fought, I really do mean it. The game was a cage match back then, other than the majestic prize fight we see today. Defense was huge. It was rare you saw a game with 200 points combined that wasn't the all star game. You had to work for every bucket instead of taking three's from the parking lot like we see today.

I'm not saying watching Stephen Curry shoot a basketball is not electric because it is, and as a former sharpshooter myself, I can say it's fun to do. However, the strength and creativity the players from the '90s had to get to the rim was a thing of beauty.

Think about the guys like Dikembe Mutombo, Patrick Ewing and Karl Malone. They were forces to be reckoned with inside the paint and by forces, I mean absolute tanks. Guys like Kyrie Irving, Chris Paul and other smaller, crafty guards would have trouble even seeing the rim let alone powering their way through for a lay-up. Even your best Euro step wouldn't get you around these guys without getting your feelings hurt and a mouthful of blood.

Speaking of bad blood, the rivalries in this era were incredible. We had the Bulls against Isaiah Thomas in the "bad boy" era of the Pistons where there was always a brawl expected. It was a rivalry that carried deep into the playoffs. Thomas hated the Bulls players so much he refused to join the

Olympic team.

Let's not forget the Pacers and Knicks rivalry as well. How could you not admire Spike Lee jawing with Reggie Miller from his courtside seat in a playoff game. You just don't see that type of iconic stuff anymore.

For the past 10 years or so, it just seems like it's been LeBron against the world. People became super fans of whoever he played against in the finals. It gets old and I'm so excited that we are finally getting a postseason where there are potentially multiple contenders instead of waiting for the annual Warriors-Cavs matchup in the finals, only to see a four-game sweep from the Warriors.

When it comes to culture, the '90s are unmatched as well. Air Jordan sneakers were the hottest item along with some Reebok pump shoe lines. Basketball shoes were starting to find their flair as everybody wanted to be "like Mike."

Meanwhile, you have Big Baller Brand asking \$700 for a shoe of Wal-Mart quality. There are Nike shoes that would literally explode if a prodigy like Zion Williamson made a simple cut to the basket. I really want to know how much money I've spent on basketball shoes because they got holes in them after just a few practices.

I also loved the baggy clothing style as well. You see players today walking off the bus in the most peculiar outfits. Back then you saw your favorite players walking in with the puffy Nike windbreakers. Yeah, you know those '90s style jackets you pick up at Goodwill? They couldn't keep those on the shelves because fans saw their favorite players wearing it pregame.

The old uniform designs were also beautiful. Look at the Raptors, the Jazz, the Suns — they all had awesome designs. Not that some of the uniforms don't look great now, but there was just so much more attention to detail. While we're on that, the trend with people tucking their shorts into their compression shorts underneath... as Michael Jordan would say, "Stop it. Get some help." Bring back the short shorts from the '90s to stop this mess.

So there's my take. Was I born in '98 and may not remember the bitter end of the '90s era of NBA basketball? Yes, but I know what it consisted of and I know good basketball when I see it. The '90s were a fun and beautiful time for the strategic game of basketball, while today is a fun and beautiful time for shootouts and high scoring affairs. I know what I like better.



Milkshakes and racism: romanticizing the past

Rudy Ruiz - Vision Editor
Illustration by Gillian Young

Life always seems much simpler in the past than it is now. Millennials and past generations can find common ground in the way that it always seems like nothing could ever top the way that things were when they were younger. The second half of the 20th century is often subjected to romanticization to the point where it seems we cannot see one aspect of our culture that has an element of nostalgia implemented in it. Whether it be through fashion or politics, many people want to regress back to the times when things were better.

The 1950s are one of the most talked about decades. This “golden era” was right after World War II when the American economy was thriving as many soldiers had the opportunity to have an education, work and live out the “American Dream.” This was a time marked by the picture-perfect landscape of suburbia complete with families living comfortably in their homes surrounded by white-picket fences and occasionally going out to the neon-lit diner for a burger and shake.

This was a decade marked by innocence, where nothing was crass and everything (and everyone) was kept under law and order. “Fifties nostalgia is very popular probably less with liberal groups than with more conservative groups,” said Dr. William Barnett, professor of history. “The fifties was a time when everything was peaceful and orderly before the sex, drugs and rock ‘n’ roll of the sixties.”

The prosperity of the 1950s was a result of the federal government intervening and giving aid to the soldiers coming home from war in order for them to ease back into society.

“It’s a great time if you’re one of those returning vets who gets an education, can buy a home, has a job in an expanding economy,” said Dr. Ann Keating, professor of history. “But there’s lots of people that are left out of that story as well.”

Minorities in America still faced a great deal of obstacles during the 1950s, namely black Americans. Jim Crow laws were still very much a normalized part of society and therefore reinforced white superiority. It was 1955 when Rosa Parks was arrested in Mobile, Alabama for refusing to give up her seat on a public transport bus. This event is referred to as significant when it comes to the beginning of the Civil Rights movement which really took shape in the 1960s, a sharp contrast from the quiet and conformity of the 1950s.

While maintaining certain elements of 1950s nostalgia early on, the 1960s were a time when hair grew longer and jeans became tattered. This was done as the 1960s was a time marked by protests and uproar for various causes. Draft cards were burned as the war in Vietnam was ongoing and thousands marched in Washington to hear Martin Luther King Jr. speak about his dream. According

to Barnett, it's important to look back at this decade as one where change was sought after. "For some people probably skewing more liberal, they feel the sixties were a time to remember because of all the optimism of the civil rights movement because of young people taking to the streets."

Barnett also mentioned how Pete Seeger, a singer-songwriter and activist performed "This Land is Your Land" at Barack Obama's presidential inauguration along with Woody Guthrie and Bruce Springsteen, which was seen as a nostalgic moment for that period of time when social change was on the minds of many Americans and therefore suggested an era of progressive politics during Obama's presidency.

It's common for politicians to utilize nostalgia as part of their campaign. Often times it can be quite effective, such as the 2016 presidential election. The mantra of making America great again contains undertones of a nostalgia for the 1950s when people of Trump's generation would have considered America to be great. "He's born in the 40s and he's a kid in the 50s and for him it's a golden time, it's his childhood," Barnett said.

It also helps that Trump had enjoyed an affluent upbringing as well as the privilege of being a white man. When his campaign began in 2015, his rhetoric made it clear he was trying to reach through to those who are of the same generation. "That might not have been a better era for everybody, but it was probably a better era for many of his voters," Barnett said.

Yet, as he points out, this strategy is not only utilized by Republicans. Senator Elizabeth Warren has been compared to Theodore Roosevelt in the way she goes after big businesses like Roosevelt went after trusts in the early 1900s. Despite being a Democrat, Warren had drawn inspiration from him which goes back to politicians incorporating nostalgia in an attempt to connect back to something that was good in the past.

The debate on whether things really were

better in the past is one that is ongoing and may not ever have a clear answer. Maybe things were better when technology did not exist and community was formed around face-to-face interaction. Yet this was not the reality for minorities at the time. Maybe music was better before the lewdness of rock 'n' roll took off, but conversations about diversity and representation were not happening at the time.

Barnett also brought up the struggle of the college student. "College students have a harder time now than they did in the sixties. Tuition is much more difficult for college students to pay for than it had been."

Of course, tuition is a massive obstacle for students considering college and post-graduation. It is almost unheard of for today's college student to work for a few months and be able to pay all of it off.

"It was pretty easy in the 1960s to work a simple summer job just painting houses or flipping burgers and to save enough money during the summer to pay for the full tuition at state university the next year," Barnett said. "The grandparents and parents of college students today have to realize that young people today face different challenges. They face a more difficult economy in some ways and they definitely face a more expensive task of paying for college."

Keating recalled how a simple vision helped Americans reach that level of prosperity. "There is a vision that we want to educate people, we want to help more people become homeowners ... we as a public have the right to make things better for the average person. That ethos was absolutely there, was it flawed? It was flawed big time."

The sensation of nostalgia is natural and will always make its way into our society in some way.

INNUENDOS YOU MISSED AS A KID THAT WILL RUIN YOUR CHILDHOOD

Peter Hunt Szpytek - Contributing Writer

Rewatching your favorite childhood cartoons can be a dangerous game. When trying to find that child-like wonder we all once had, we often run into explicit jokes that went way over our innocent brains. It's clear that the creators of our favorite shows were just having some fun by including adult jokes that a child wouldn't understand. However, in revisiting those shows and seeing the innuendos we start to see that maybe our childhood wasn't so pure after all.

Spongebob Squarepants watches "Adult Swim"

Apparently, Spongebob is no stranger to adult programming. The episode "Your Shoe's Untied" starts with everyone's favorite yellow sea sponge intently watching a sea anemone flailing about on the screen of his TV. When his snail, Gary, slides over, he quickly changes the channel and nervously says that he was looking for the sports channel. It's clear that he's watching something explicit, but, as I am not a sea sponge, I can't make sense of what exactly it is and maybe that's for the best. Since he's a sponge, you'd think that his browser history would be clean, but if you ask Gary, he might disagree.

The Flash finishes first

The conversations between superheroes during their time off must be wild. In the "Justice League" episode "Injustice for All," the Flash is put on blast by Hawkgirl when he proudly declares that he's the "fastest man alive." Without missing a beat, Hawkgirl responds "which explains why you can't get a date." Hawkgirl, why are we talking about how long it takes the Flash to finish? If he's been fast his entire life, wouldn't he have built up a good stamina to this by now?

Helga's girlhood...trembles?

Arnold from "Hey Arnold!" is not what most would consider sexy (he's a child after all), but to Helga, he's the epitome of manliness. In the episode "Helga's Parrot," Helga writes one of her famous, or maybe infamous, poems about him. She grabs an effigy she made of Arnold and recites the line "Arnold, you make my girlhood tremble," to which her parrot echoes over and over. "You make my girlhood tremble?" C'mon, Nickelodeon, you're better than that.

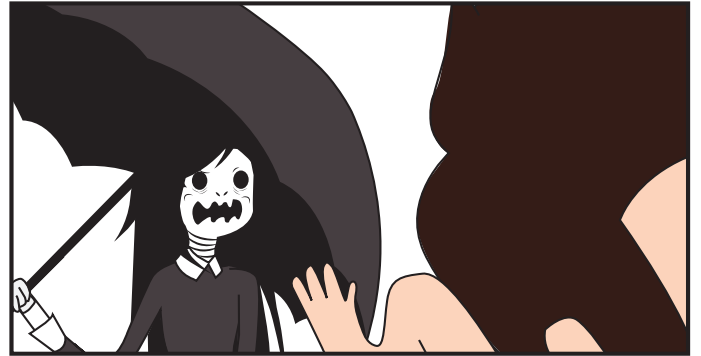
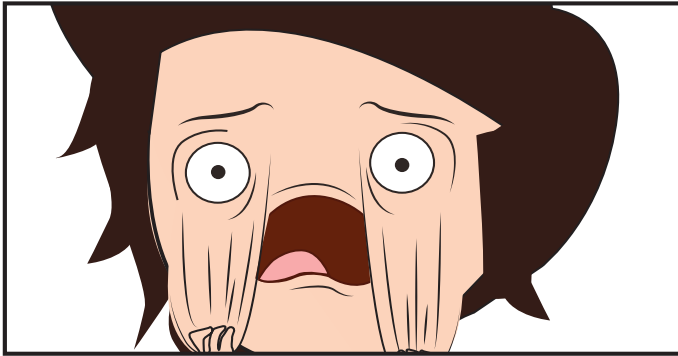
The Powerpuff Girls' new, unplanned neighbor

When Professor Utonium welcomes his daughter's friends into his house in the "Powerpuff Girls" episode "Superfriends," he probably wasn't expecting to be thinking about unplanned pregnancies. Bubbles introduces the supergroup's new friend, Robin, to their father and tells her that, as any "Powerpuff Girls" fan knows, he made them by accident in his lab. Robin looks at the Professor and tells him, "don't worry, Professor, I was an accident too!" He makes a face that mirrored mine when revisiting this episode.

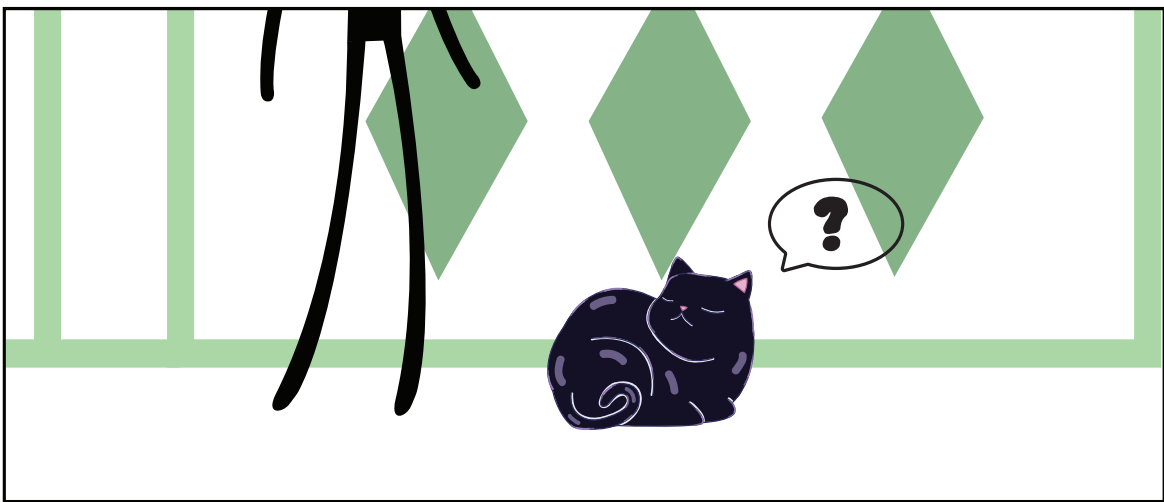
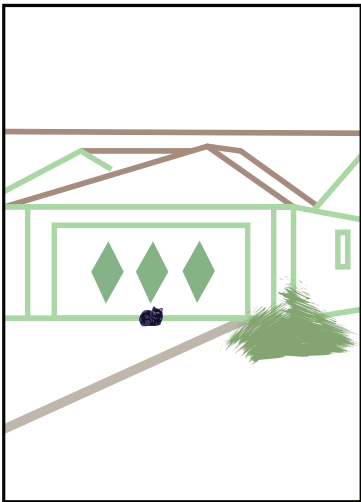
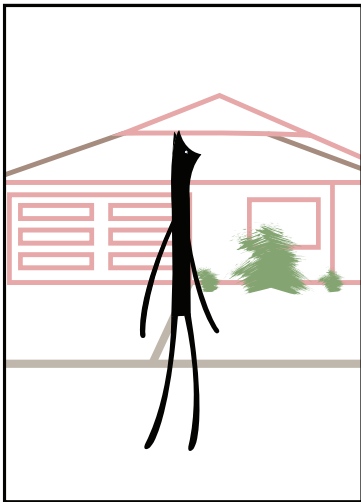
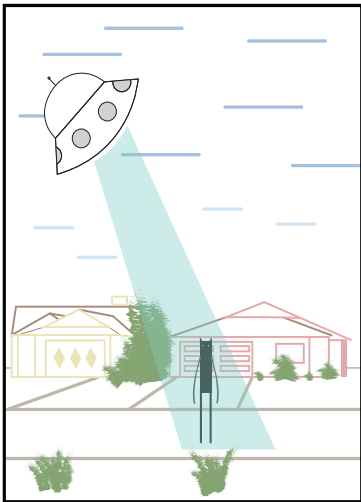
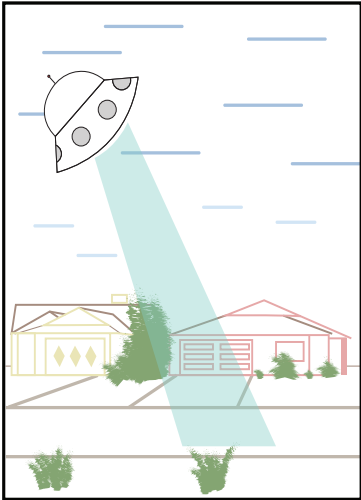
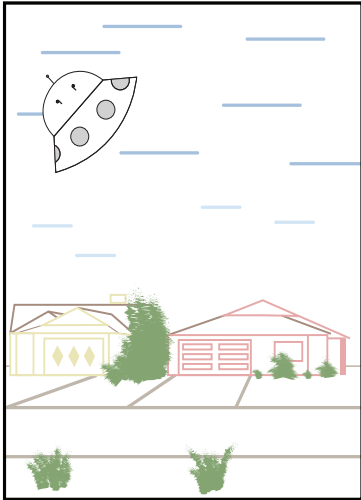
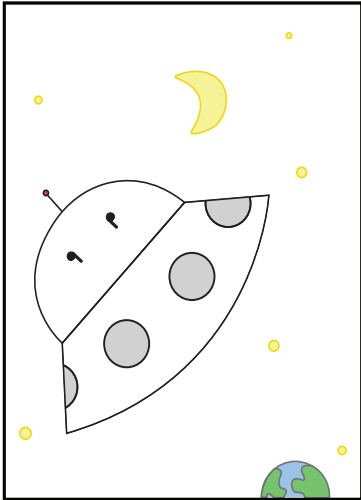
The Animaniacs fingerblast Prince

No list of inappropriate references in children's shows would be complete without mentioning the "Animaniacs" episode "Hercule Yakko." In the episode, the Warners agree to help the Hip Hippos find a necklace that was stolen from them. Yakko tells Dot to look for prints, which she takes to mean look for Prince, the late-musician. Dot finds him and brings him to Yakko who corrects her by saying "finger prints." After exchanging an uncomfortable look between her and Prince, Dot says "I don't think so."

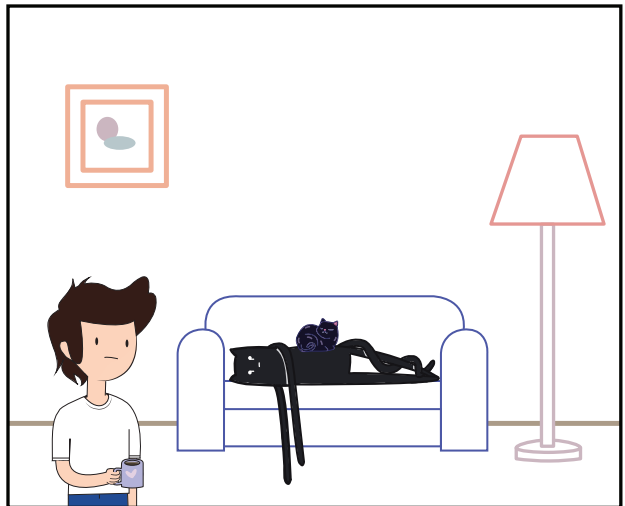
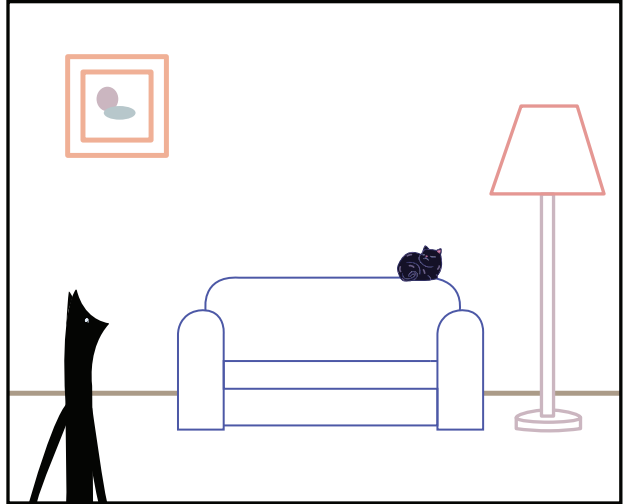
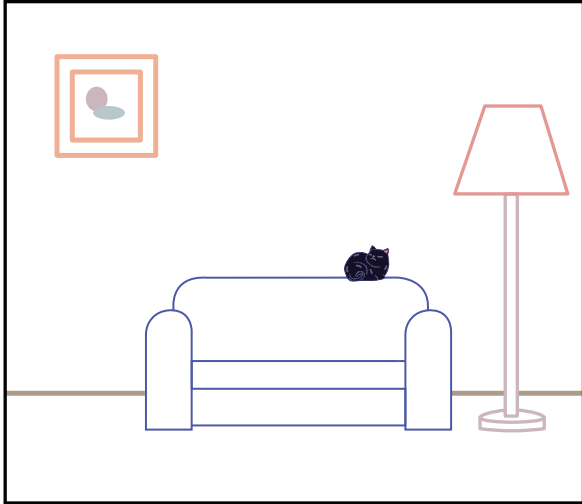
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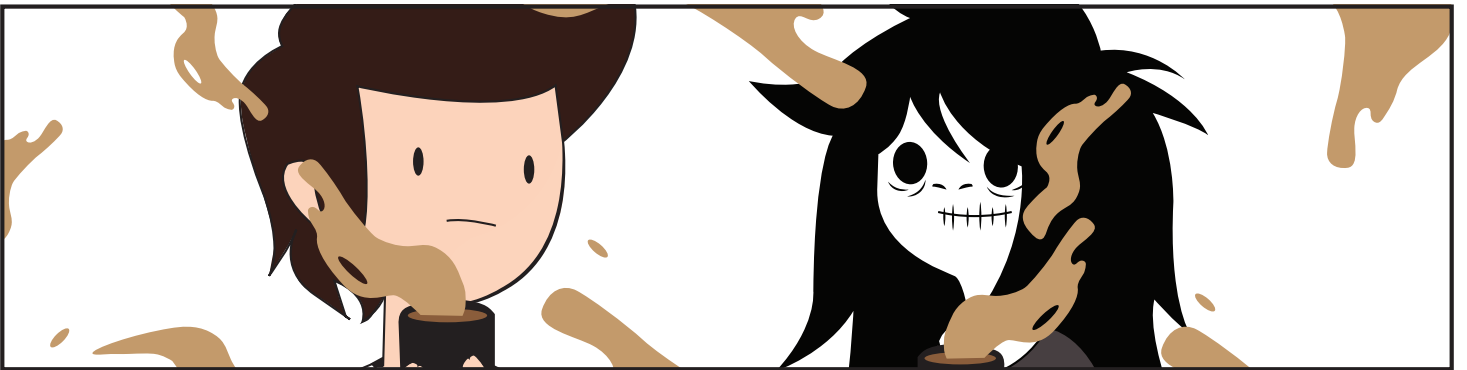
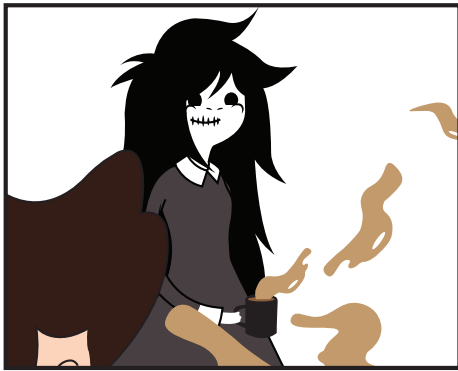
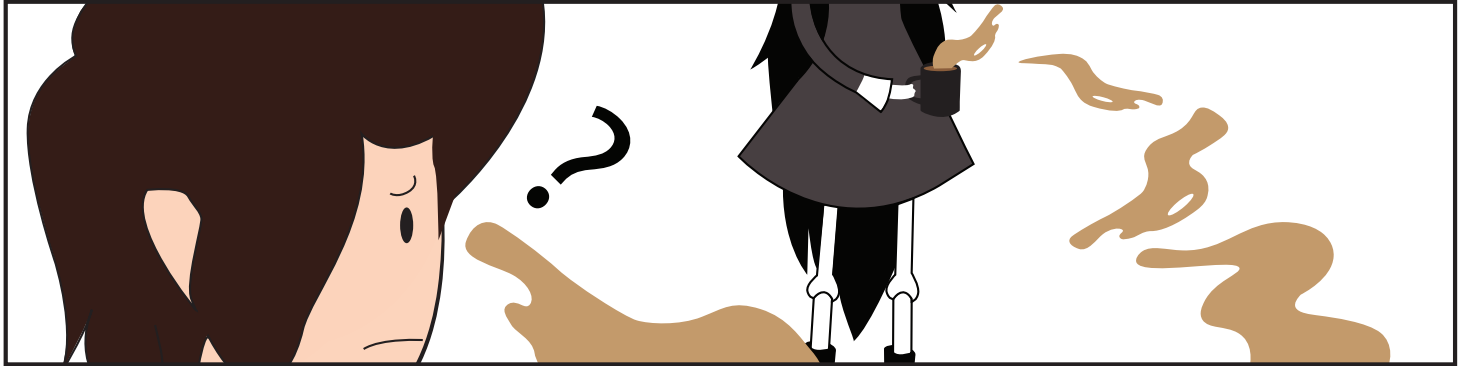
Cartoon by Celina Rossi



Cartoon by Kelly Romero



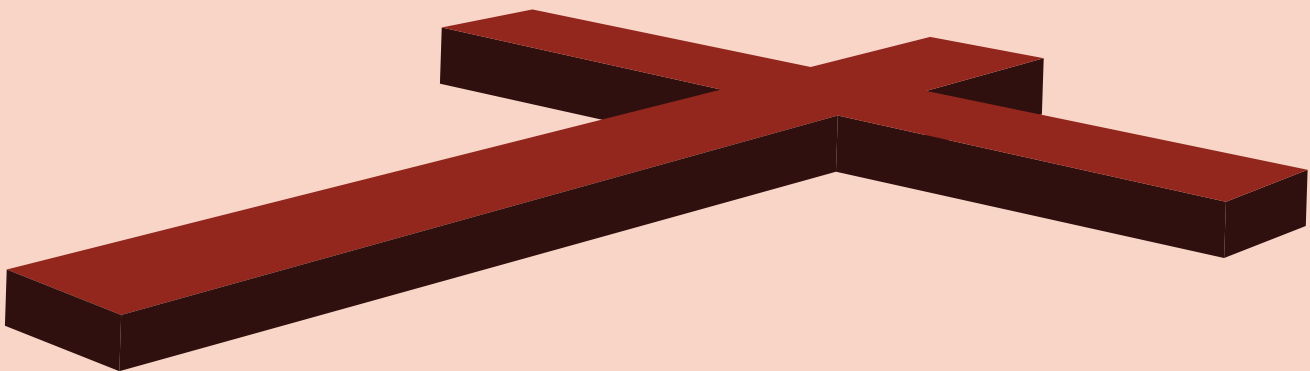
Cartoon by Kelly Romero



Cartoon by Celina Rossi

The Catholic Church

Jack Plewa - News Editor
Illustration by Gillian Young



The Catholic Church has gone through changes. Many of the changes have been good and have steered away from traditional, outdated practices. However, there are current issues that need to be addressed.

A large advancement in the church was the creation of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) in 1962 by Pope John XXIII. According to “Why is Vatican II so Important?” by NPR, “there hadn’t been an ecumenical council — an assembly of Roman Catholic religious leaders meant to settle doctrinal issues — in nearly 100 years.”

To start, the creation of this council allowed Catholics to listen to Mass in their native language instead of Latin.

“On the downside, people stopped learning anything about their Catholic faith,” said Leslie Stopka, Catholic campus minister at the Office of Faith and Action. “No more Baltimore Catechism, just a lot of ineffective religious education.”

The Catechism is a summary of Christian principles used for religious education.

It wasn’t until 1992 that Pope John Paul II published the new Catechism of the Church. This new Catechism helps people of the Catholic Church better understand the belief system.

As the church grows over time, certain practices disappear and new practices emerge.

“Sometimes our understanding of things change, therefore how we do things change, (whether that be) the doctrine or our actions as a church,” said Stopka.

According to Stopka, an example of this is our current understanding of people who commit suicide.

“For centuries, people who committed suicide were not allowed to be buried inside the churchyard, as they have sinned against God,” said Stopka.

With advances in medicine, it is now understood that people who commit suicide are mentally ill, which allows them to be buried beneath holy ground.

Moving forward, another practice that is no longer required is for women to cover their heads during Mass. According to the 1917 Code of Canon Law, “women ... shall have a covered head and be modestly dressed, especially when they approach the table of the Lord.”

These and other changes have shown that the Catholic Church is willing to change and has grown from its past. While practices have changed over

the centuries and over even the past few decades, dogma does not change.

Dogma is the belief that Catholics have a set of principles that they follow, and will follow, forever. It is the foundation of religion.

In 2008, Pope Benedict XVI and Dr. Mahdi Mostafavi, president of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization, agreed on a declaration.

“Faith and reason are intrinsically non-violent. Neither reason nor faith should be used for violence,” according to the Vatican.

Last year, Pope Francis declared the death penalty as unacceptable because it is “an attack on human dignity,” according to the New York Times article “Pope Francis Declares Death Penalty Unacceptable in All Cases.”

This may cause some issues with Catholic politicians in the U.S. because many Catholics support the death penalty.

The topic of pedophilia within the Catholic Church has been increasingly prominent in the media.

“If the 1950s were a ‘normal’ level (of pedophile cases), then it increased in 1960s, peaked in the 1970s, decreased in the 1980s and was ‘normal’ again in the 90s,” said Stopka. “This shows true through the data collected via diocesan records that were reviewed by Bishops and it also shows true in other large organizations, schools, Boy Scouts, etc.”

Every Catholic Diocese in the country has investigated sexual abuse allegations. All the ones that have been validated are kept track of on BishopAccountability.org.

While there are many sexual abuse cases in the Catholic Church, the church is starting to recognize and report cases. According to NBC news, “Pope Francis issues a new Vatican City law for reporting sexual abuse allegations,” Pope Francis “issued a new law that for the first time requires Vatican personnel and diplomats of Vatican City to immediately report allegations of sexual abuse to authorities.”

If there are any allegations that are not immediately reported, then the Vatican personnel can be fined or face jail time.

“I think it’s important to understand (pedophilia) so we can truly seek healing and justice,” said Stopka. “What do we do now? We tell the truth, we dig for the truth. We tell our children the truth so they can tell their children. Only truth and time can heal this wound.”

CULT CLASSICS

Madison Miller - News Editor
Illustration by Gillian Young

It seems like the '60s and '70s weren't just a period of hippie love, peace and an 'I can smoke that' attitude. Some of the most famous cults in history were cultivated during this time.

However, cults remain a serious issue and will continue to be one as people continue to foster some 'out there' moral beliefs. The introduction of the internet made information manipulation far more difficult for cult leaders. Nevertheless, cults are around (we don't call them cult classics for no reason, right).

The Peoples Temple (1950s to 1970s)

Jim Jones founded the Peoples Temple to advocate for civil rights and to create a utopian community. Ending up in Guyana under the name “Jonestown,” 900 people had escaped the U.S. media. After a congressman and journalists discovered their location, traveled there and were murdered, the group was convinced to drink a cyanide-laced drink. They all died.

The Manson Family (1960s)

This group was started in 1967 in San Francisco, California. After becoming obsessed with the Beatles song “Helter Skelter,” Charles Manson sent a group of his “hippies” to Benedict Canyon. Young women committed crimes after being induced by this self-proclaimed messiah. Whether it was his helter-skelter concept (apocalyptic race war) or a copycat murder attempt to get a friend out of jail, people are still unsure. Victims included Sharon Tate, Jay Sebring and Rosemary and Leno LaBianca.

Children of God (1960s to present day)

Christian minister David Berg moved to Huntington Beach, California to recruit vulnerable hippies to his movement. He recruited all over the country and eventually internationally. Later known as “The Family” they encouraged child sex abuse and an overly progressive attitude toward sex. The group is still active today, despite an intense run-in with sexually transmitted diseases, but is now called “The Family International.”

Heaven’s Gate (1970s to 1990s)

The “Kingdom of Heaven” was waiting to escort this group’s members. Founders Marshall Applewhite and Bonnie Nettles believed that aliens would give them a free ride to heaven in their extraterrestrial spacecraft. In 1997, the group timed their deaths with the Hale-Bopp comet which they thought was concealing the aircraft. Wearing black tunics and some Nikes, the group took a sedative, covered their heads in plastic bags and died. They were happy and willing to die to move to the next “level.”

The Ant Hill Kids (1970s and 1980s)

This is a doomsday cult that was run by Roch Thériault in Canada. He had control over a dozen adults as well as 26 kids, whom he’d been the father to thanks the concubines. He created his following by saying he had an intense detox program for those who wanted to stop smoking or drinking. They all joined him in the wilderness for what ended up being years of torture (breaking their own legs, nailing children to trees, making people eat their own feces, pluck hairs out one-by-one and so on). After one person escaped and told authorities of the torturous cult, Thériault was convicted of a life sentence.

Order of the Solar Temple (1980s)

Joseph Di Mambro and Luc Jouret started the Order of the Solar Temple in 1984. This doomsday cult ended up having 53 members commit suicide or get murdered. The goal was to bring back authority and power through what they deemed original methods like murder, rituals and hoods. Di Mambro believed he was a Christ-like figure and went as far as hosting a Last Supper before the murders. The cult was a complex mixture of Evangelical Christian doctrine and concepts from Golden Dawn and the Knights Templar. This is perhaps one of the largest cults that is rumored to still have followers today.

The Vampire King (2000s)

Marcus Wesson believed in a mixture of Christianity and vampirism. To him, Jesus Christ was a vampire and he considered himself to be God. The results of his beliefs were controlling his incestuous family through physical abuse. He started marrying his daughters, but not before years of sexually abusing them in hopes that they would bear him even more children (he had about 18). The cult ended with Wesson emerging bloodied from his house surrounded by police, leaving behind the bodies of nine kids and grandkids.

The Russian Cave Cult (2008)

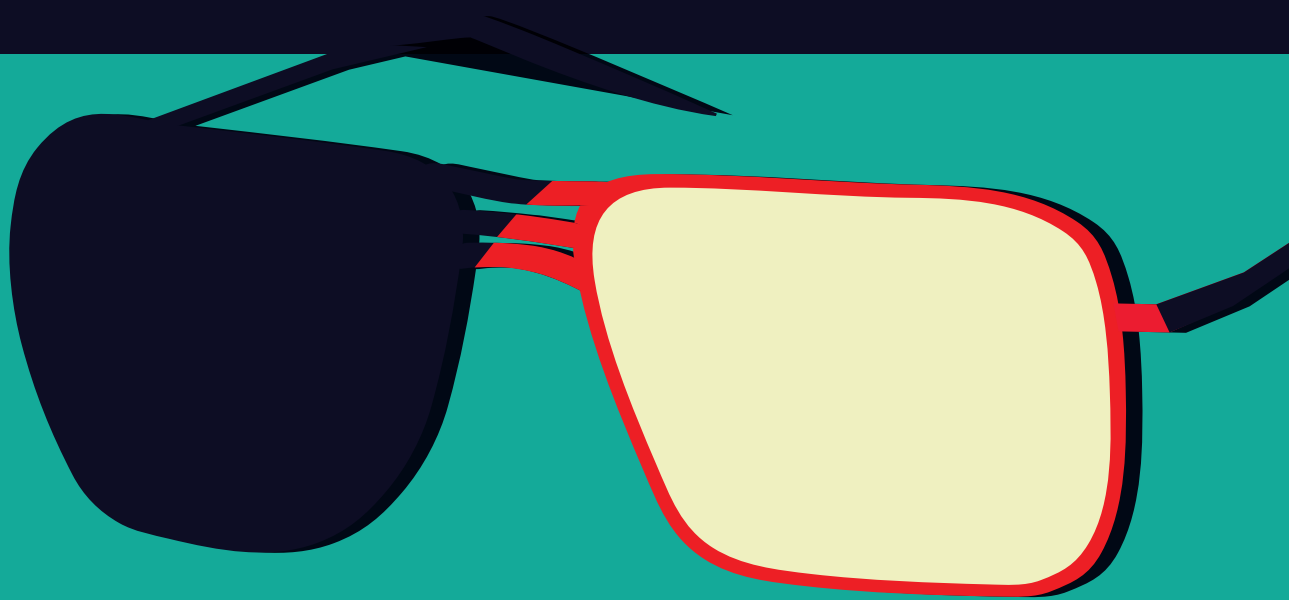
Pyotr Kuznetsov (self-proclaimed prophet, ex-engineer, sleeps in a coffin on purpose) convinced a group to sleep underground for six months in a cave because God would be ending the world sometime in May of 2008. They refer to themselves as the True Russian Orthodox Church. While hiding from what they deemed the greatest threats to humanity — supermarkets (he viewed barcodes as satanic) and cannibalism — some left due to death or worry from the toxic fumes of decaying corpses. Many left to avoid the spring thaw, which caused part of the roof to cave in on them.

NXIVM (2018)

This organization brainwashed women into being sex slaves. This cult has recently been in the media after Allison Mack, who starred on the show “Smallville” was found to be a part of this group. This group is led by Keith Raniere whose initials would be branded on women prior to being forced to have sex with him. Mack would send out emails using her Hollywood connections claiming it was for joining a “women’s group” when in reality, sexual partners were being groomed for Raniere. He claimed the group was a self-help organization.

Twelve Tribes (Current)

Twelve Tribes is a commune and religious sect. According to different accounts from members of the group, they are not racist but deem slavery is necessary. The group promotes a mixture of Christianity, Hebrew and Messianic Judaism. While this group continues to deny cult-like accusations (sounds like something a cult would do), there have been accusations of child abuse and slavery. They operate around the world in businesses like The Yellow Deli, Blue Blinds, a construction business, and Maté Factor Café. One of these locations is in Manitou Springs, Colorado where I have ordered coffee from several times.



MOVIE REMAKES: WHO NEEDS 'EM? US, APPARENTLY

Peter Hunt Szpytek - Contributing Writer
Illustration by Jasmine Pomierski

Movie theaters today are no stranger to remakes and reboots; however, in recent years it's felt like they've become more and more common. By the end of 2019, theaters will have played over ten remakes and reboots throughout the course of the entire year, ranging from "Aladdin" to "Hellboy." Do we really need so many big studio remakes every year? Is this something that audiences really want?

Studios keep cranking out remakes to, often, average critical responses. Why? The answer is simple: because they make a lot of money. The "Ghostbusters" reboot that came out in 2016 currently holds a 60% on Metacritic, a middling score, but still made 229.1 million USD globally according to BoxOfficeMojo.com. The remake for "The Mummy" that was released in 2017 made even more, 410 million USD, with a considerably lower score on Metacritic: 34%.

If these movies are critical failures, why do so many people spend so much money seeing them? A major component to it is nostalgia. Film professor Dr. Chelsey Crawford, said, "We think about (nostalgia) as a return to something that is impossible — something to which we can never return."

The reason there is such a big audience for remakes is because audiences want to feel the same way that they did when they first saw a movie. This explains why name recognition alone can sell a ticket. No one who went to

see the remake of "The Mummy" walked away feeling the same sense of swashbuckling adventure that they did when they first saw the original. The remake shares essentially nothing with the original other than the title which is a key factor in selling tickets.

Walking out of the theater after seeing a failed reboot or remake audiences tend to feel disappointed. They were hoping to return to those same happy feelings of seeing a good movie for the first time but didn't. They saw the "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" remake from 2014 in an attempt to return to feeling the way they did when they saw the original, but as Crawford said, it's "something to which we can never return."

Clearly, there are a lot of bad film remakes, however, that's not to say that all remakes are bad. Remakes that receive more critical success tend to be ones that take the original film and spin it in a different direction in an attempt to update it with the times or produce it from a different angle. Crawford spoke on this idea by discussing "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" remake from 2011. "I love 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo' remake and I like the original 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo' series, but Fincher's directing on that film kills me. The choices he made, the sort of style, the way he lets the story unroll is fantastic."

She argues that a remake is worth it when a director is trying to say something unique through a story that

has been done before because it gives a brand-new take to what might be a played out idea.

If remakes are good when a director makes them with a vision, then why are there so many bad ones being made? The answer to that has a lot to do with the part that nostalgia plays discussed above, but Crawford also added that “Hollywood doesn’t typically invest in them because they think they’re good, but because they think they’re going to be a quick buck.”

When looking at films that have been remade more than once, we have to ask: how far does something like name recognition and nostalgia go?

The 2018 version of “A Star is Born” is the fourth time that a movie with that exact title has been released. Each rendition has roughly 20 to 30 years between them, however, showing that each remake has updated the story with the times as things have changed in our society. But now this makes us wonder how many more remakes of that story audiences will want to see and whether it will remain a relevant narrative as time goes on.

A slightly different version of this phenomenon is found when examining the Spider-Man movies. In 2002, director Sam Raimi gave his take on the classic comic book character with a movie simply titled “Spider-Man.” The film saw great success both critically and

financially allowing two sequels to be made with both doing well at the box office in 2004 and 2007. In 2012, a rebooted Spider-Man series was created under the name “The Amazing Spider-Man.” Although the movie and its sequel received poor critical responses, each film made roughly the same as the original at the box office. Again in 2017, a new reboot of the film series was launched that also made a similar amount in ticket sales.

When looking at the frequency of remakes in the Spider-Man series, it’s surprising to see that all the movies made so much money with varying levels of quality. Similarly to “A Star is Born,” each Spider-Man film attempted to update the character for audiences and, if box office numbers count for anything, it clearly worked to get people in the door. Crawford explains, “with even minor changes, (Hollywood) can tap into an even slightly aged or new audience.”

While it’s hard to say whether movie remakes as a whole are a good or bad thing, it’s clear that there is a huge demand for them and that they will continue to be made. For now, all we can do is grab a bag of popcorn, a nice, comfy seat and wait for someone else to make another Spider-Man movie.



PEACE, LOVE AND SELFIES: WOULD WOODSTOCK WORK IN 2019?

Rudy Ruiz - Vision Editor
Graphic by Gillian Young

The history of music festivals is often traced back to the late 1960s. Within the midst of American counterculture, young hippies were seeking to find themselves through the arts or... more alternative methods. The Woodstock Music Festival was seen as a culmination of the counterculture era, promising three days of peace and music. Honestly, what more do you need?

Historians look back at this event as a snapshot of a time when thousands of people gathered on a farm in upstate New York to watch the most prolific artists of the time perform in the name of peace and unity. The stage and venue might have been put together last minute, but that was part of the experience. Those three days in August 1969 were an escape from the ongoing tension and materialism that consumed American society.

With the 50th anniversary approaching this year, the announcement was made in January that the festival would return with the same promise of three days of music and peace. Michael Lang, one of the original promoters, made the announcement intending to recapture the feeling that was present 50 years ago. It's

an ambitious endeavour, and will undoubtedly be a challenge to regenerate that feeling of nostalgia that is much older than the typical festival-goer.

Part of what made Woodstock special was how distinctive it was. It was more of a gathering for the so-called hippies of the time on a dairy farm in New York that was isolated from the rest of the country and the world. It was also one of the first music festivals. There might have been jazz festivals in the 1950s, but they weren't to the extent of Woodstock. It was also the first of its kind; you were either there or you weren't.

Now, of course, music festivals are annual events that take place all over the country and attract a massive amount of people. The closest we could possibly come is Coachella which promotes a similar vibe (as long as you have a spare \$500+ lying around). Taking place in mid-August, Woodstock fits right in rather than sticking out and taking away some of its charm.

Social media has overcome the entire live music-listening experience. It is not uncommon to see a crowd full of cellphones pointed toward an artist on

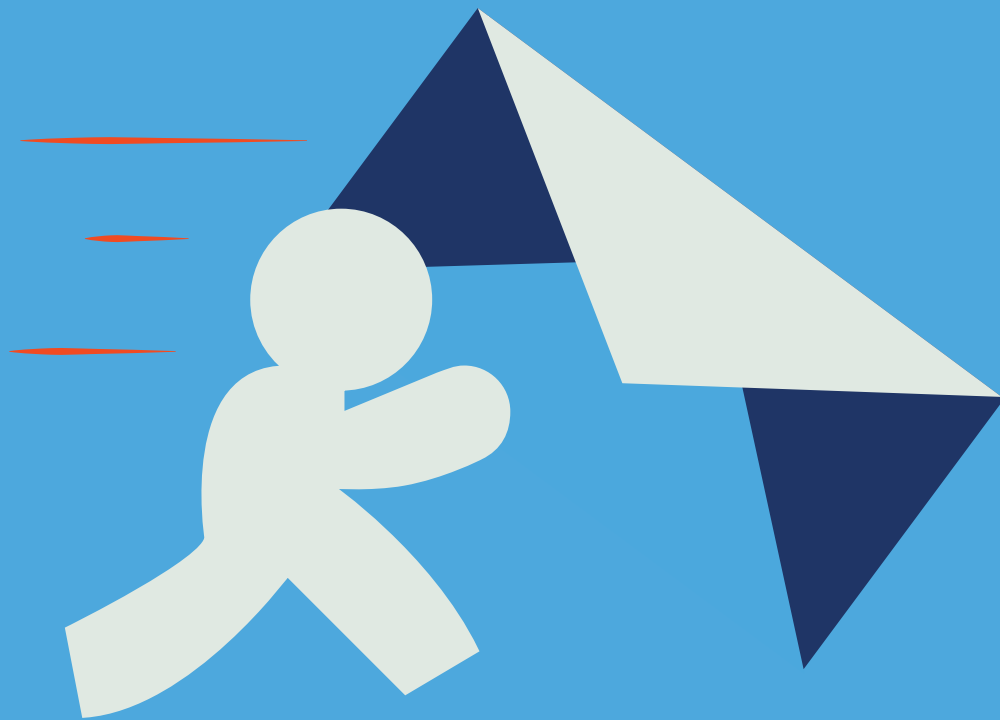
stage and recording a 10-second video to share on their Snapchat. Obviously social media did not exist back then so it was already a more immersive experience to watch an artist perform. Now, it's much more about sharing pictures of what you are wearing on Instagram and getting likes from strangers.

While Woodstock had already been revived many times before, they could never quite capture the same feeling. The festival had taken on many forms, from an indoor concert to a three-month tour. Woodstock in the '90s was a riot to say the least. People threw mud at the stage, mosh pits frequently broke out and the American flag was set on fire while Rage Against the Machine played. This was not exactly the time for peace and love.

With a return to focus on activism through music, Woodstock 50 attempts to promote a similar feeling to the original festival. It was announced that the headliners would include the Killers, Miley Cyrus, Chance the Rapper, Jay-Z, Halsey and Cage the Elephant. Will this be the peaceful weekend it sets itself up to be or yet another corporate-funded festival?

Technology killed the convo

Madeleine O'Connell - Arts Editor
Illustrations by Gillian Young



chances are, there is some group chat talking about the same topic. On social media, people may become friends without ever speaking or meeting each other in real life, with the entire relationship is via messaging.

The danger with this sort of relationship is that it can be hard to know whether the person is who they really say they are. Technology has made many people careful about who and what they trust on the internet.

With all the access available online, people don't have to leave their house nearly as much as they would have in the past. Almost everything can be delivered to the house. This means that people lose interactions they once had in malls, restaurants, grocery stores and for some, school.

"Identity exists when we are pulled into it by other people. Someone in person is not the same as over phone," said Berkland. "Physically the same person, cognitively the same person but I don't have the luxury of talking the same, acting the same, sitting the same, being the same."

For those who have grown up always having technology around, it can seem impossible to imagine a world without it. Technology feels so natural and normal to the younger generations that they may not even think twice about using their phones for the simplest tasks.

According to "The Fate of Online Trust in the Next Decade" by the Pew Research Center, "the internet will be so ubiquitous that it will be like the air we breathe: Bad some days, good others, but not something we consciously interrogate anymore."

Apart from verbal communication being disturbed by technology, writing skills have also been affected. A whole new medium of writing has been created with computers and phones. Many schools are giving the option to have iPads and laptops in class for students to take notes on.

The same issue arises with spelling and grammar. We get out of the practice of writing out words and having to know from memory how they are spelled. When typing, there are programs that can instantly detect

when a word is spelled wrong or a comma is misplaced. People get so used to using these tools that they forget how to do it themselves.

A new type of language has even been established. To make life more simple, words have been abbreviated so that texting is even faster. With students bringing these new types of words into the classrooms, teachers may have to re-examine the definition of "standard writing."

"I think it's because the majority of writing they do is on Twitter or is in the form of text messages or internet relay chat messages, where what matters is what you're saying not so much the actual grammatical rules," said Dr. Steve Macek, professor of communication.

The typewriter was the start of being able to write at a much faster pace. When typewriters were in use, mistakes couldn't be easily erased. Now, people can go back and fix typos or change the original writing. With all the help that comes from technology, a high standard is held to have correct and accurate information written. The word abbreviations that have been created are a way to increase the speed of typing even more.

There are both positive and negative aspects to technology's affect on communication. It can be a distraction but also such a norm to be constantly checking our phones. When in the same room as someone else it can be almost impossible to not glance at your phone at some point. Because we have this access to anything and everything at any moment, it can be difficult to not be updated instantly about something.

"In many ways, this device or media which should open up the world to us, has absolutely closed the world to us because of how it is we use it to keep ourselves from feeling any level of discomfort," said Berkland.



Throwback to the future

Madison Miller - News Editor

Illustrations by Jasmine Pomierski

A #TBT post a day keeps the loneliness at bay.

Scrolling through social media is a tirade of #TBT posts from childhood to high school. In 2019, the 10-Year Challenge became popular where people posted an image of themselves from 2009 next to a current photo.

Millennials always seem to be at the tail end of some kind of critical conversation. They're broke, depressed, addicted to the internet, addicted to nicotine, deathly afraid to talk on the phone and the list goes on.

More recently, our generation is seen as one that is stuck in the past or unable to live in the present. The increase in old photos and memories being shared on platforms like Instagram and Timehop suggest an obsession with rehashing old memories. From BuzzFeed posts talking about our favorite childhood memories, to remake culture, to fashion, there's no doubting this generation enjoys throwing it back.

Why are people obsessed with throwback posts? Well, a lot of this happens to be psychologically driven.

According to Heather Mangelsdorf, visiting assistant professor of psychology, traditional nostalgia was actually viewed as a disease or a psychological disorder. It

was a negative thing to always be thinking about the past. Now, however, it is viewed as a really useful psychological tool that helps with mental health.

"It offers us a sense of security and concrete realness at a time that we are bombarded with data and articles and social media and even fake news," said Mangelsdorf. "People are on the edge about what's real and what evidence can we test versus what we remember like those Nickelodeon TV shows that no one can give us evidence against. It is a concrete part of our past experience."

So, sharing old memories or past interests keeps us mentally positive and socially connected. There's something pure and undamaged about the happiness of the past. Nostalgic memories give social support and make the individual into the center of the show.

But is it a problem to be too stuck in the past and does it tell us something about the present?

"Looking into the past too much makes you less connected to your current social experience. It can keep you from making new friends and creating even more positive experiences for the future," said Mangelsdorf.

An article from Fortune titled "Throwback Thursday: The psychology behind its

success," said that more than 228 million photos are tagged with #ThrowbackThursday. The continued increase in shareable platforms such as blogs, Facebook and Twitter has created a platform that on its own makes people yearn for the past.

The past is a symbol of happiness and for many, the only tool to counteracting loneliness. And millennials might be the loneliest group of all.

According to the 2018 U.S. Loneliness Index, those in Generation Z scored a loneliness rate of 48.3 out of 80 and millennials 45.3 out of 80. This makes them the loneliest age groups. Part of this has to do with wanting real-life connections and an overall solution to poor mental health amongst younger generations.

College means starting an independent and fresh slate where the comfort of high school friends and concrete schedules are extinct. Nostalgia at this point becomes more than a post on Facebook — it becomes a connection.

"(Nostalgic posts) can counteract loneliness. There's lots of science on what it means to be lonely," said

AT&T

12:36 PM

89%

Instagram



jenny1998



120 likes

jenny1998

#tbt #memories #mood #goodtimes
#throwbackthursday





Mangelsdorf. “It’s not objectively how many people you interact with but it’s a perception of feeling lonely ... by using nostalgia and thinking back when they did have this support it can help reduce loneliness.”

On top of being lonely and depressed, millennials seem to have seen it all. A 2008 financial crisis that made getting jobs difficult, a transition to more technology and experiences in political divisiveness that is all vastly unfamiliar.

Often times it seems like the present and the future are too unsure.

“It feels like we are in a state of turmoil, especially these last couple of years. I don’t think I’m alone in that perception. We are in a time that feels more insecure and more of that existential threat idea ... if we are more nostalgic than other generations in the past then maybe that’s why. We need that positive boost from nostalgia, that sense of groundedness,” said Mangelsdorf.

Whether nostalgic social media usage is viewed as a psychological release or a failure to live in the moment, it often seems unavoidable.

Discussions around social media often suggest that it makes people less grounded in the present conversation. Despite the link between nostalgia and social media being a mostly positive one, it is still a tool with a lot of negative connotations.

A study that was published in the *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology* from 2018 measured the link between time spent on social media and the participants’ overall fear of missing out, anxiety, depression and loneliness.

Social media makes people compare themselves to each other and this can increase the risk of developing symptoms of depression or anxiety,

especially if low self-esteem is already a factor.

So, while #TBT posts are seen as a positive tool for psychological well-being, social media is a victim of increasingly fake portrayals of day to day life. A nostalgic post, while beneficial for one person, could cause the person viewing it to experience unhappy and lonely thoughts.

While social media is flooded with “friends,” a celebrity throwback posts, the media and entertainment groups continue to poke us with the nostalgia stick.

According to, “Why nostalgia marketing works so well with millennials, and how your brand can benefit” published in *Forbes*, nostalgia is a powerful emotional marketing strategy.

Nostalgic marketing involves tapping into cultural memories from previous decades in a way that helps with modern campaigns, especially targeted at millennials. The obsession with #TBT is partially forced upon millennials.

“Associating brand messaging with positive references from the ’90s, ’80s —and even the ’70s —humanizes brands, forging meaningful connections between the past and present,” said Friedman.

From classic TV reboots like “Full House” and “Gilmore Girls,” to Lucky Charms, new Nintendo consoles, Legos, Converse, Coca-Cola, nearly every product or media has one foot in the past and one in the present.

As brands continue to showcase their history and target the past to move forward, it brings up the question of whether or not it’s a healthy pattern or if it’s a failure for people to move on and accept society as it is.

In many ways, #ThrowbackThursday has become an everyday habit.

Xiaoye Chen, associate professor of marketing, said that while it seems like older people would be more nostalgic, that may not be the case. Younger generations have a different pace of development they’ve had to experience.

“We all tend to romanticize the good times. At the time you probably don’t remember feeling that happy. But at the same time, you didn’t have the same amount of stress because one of the largest issues with the younger generation is anxiety and depression ... we tend to rely on the past to comfort ourselves,” said Chen.

This generation’s obsession with nostalgically-driven social media has a lot to do with the creation of social media itself. People crave what’s comfortable, and even more so, what’s familiar.

Chen said that a company like Patagonia urges people to use social media to show the durability of their past products by creating a side-by-side comparison. It shows that the product is still serving the user well and forces people to see the importance of connecting the past and the present. Nostalgic marketing is a really intense emotional appeal that will continue to be embraced by marketers with the hopes it won’t permanently drag people back, but only from time to time.

“Our technology development and our cultural movement has all moved so fast, we want to go back to when we were young and things were stable,” said Chen.

Can consumers and the everyday person ever move on from the past if it’s integrated into every part of the future?

From Fireside Chats to Twitter rants

Gabriella Boyle - Lifestyle Editor
Illustration by Jasmine Pomierski

Can you picture George Washington tweeting out official White House communication?

Over the years, the way presidents communicate with the citizens of the United States has changed drastically. That change goes hand-in-hand with the technological advancements that have been made throughout history.

According to the White House's official site, former President George Washington wrote to James Madison, "As the first of everything, in our situation will serve to establish a Precedent, it is devoutly wished on my part, that these precedents may be fixed on true principles."

Washington took his oath of office in 1789, at Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York. Washington's way of communication was through handwritten letters which several other presidents used to communicate with the nation during a time period that did not have a more developed way to communicate amongst each other.

Seventy-four years after Washington was sworn into office, former President Abraham Lincoln, gave the Gettysburg Address in 1863 to a small audience in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. His speech was then printed in newspapers throughout the states allowing citizens across the nation to read what Lincoln said. While not the fastest form of communicating what Lincoln had said in Pennsylvania, the message was able to reach a wider audience within the states.

As technology developed, presidents used it to their advantage in order to get their message across to the people. Another 70 years go by and that's when former President Franklin D. Roosevelt utilized the accessibility of the radio in the U.S. to reach the homes American families.

Dr. Suzanne Chod, professor of political science, said "That was him telling the people 'here's what needs to happen in this country' and then assuming people would put their pressures on their members of Congress to enact his agenda."

FDR used more than 30 Fireside Chats from 1933 to 1944 to address the nation during his four consecutive terms to give his speeches via radio. The use of radio to communicate with the nation appears to be successful since he is the only president to ever be elected to four consecutive terms.

After FDR, the advancement in technology developed on a more rapid level taking on more of a role in the president's ability to reach their constituents.

For the 1960 election, the first ever presidential debate was broadcast on television. The outcome of this election was one of the first to experience a heavy influence of the capabilities of the media. Those who heard the debate over the radio felt that Nixon had won and those who saw the debate felt that Kennedy had won. In the end, Kennedy defeated Nixon in the 1960 election.

Television continued to grow with the coverage of the Watergate scandal involving former President Richard Nixon. It then continued to grow even more when the 24/7 news cycle became relevant involving former President Bill Clinton and his administration during the 1990s.

With television becoming more of a staple within American households, citizens gained coverage on both Nixon's resignation from office as well as Clinton's impeachment from office. The 24/7 news cycle allowed for citizens to find out more about the office holder and showed citizens more than what had ever been known before.

The access to the president during these times is what made Clinton look guilty to the people when he addressed his the Monica Lewinsky scandal to the nation. People across the country were able to see his body language when his infamous words "I did not have sexual relations with that woman" were said on television. The usage of technology was not just for the presidents' benefit but also for their downfalls.

"These different iterations of technology get the people closer to the president and the president has more access to the people," Chod said.

As social media has grown over time, former President Barack Obama and current President Donald Trump have used the role of social media in order to reach not only citizens in the United States but also to reach those across the world with access to the internet.

Obama didn't use social media in the way that it is currently being used by Trump, whereas he started to use social media and its technological advancements to his benefit.

"The use of social media isn't new but what is new is President Trump using social media as official White House communication, that's definitely new," said Chod. "Sort

of the lack of professionalism in that communication, that is very new, but it is also what helped him get elected."

The usage of Twitter on Trump's personal account to provide official presidential communication has crossed over onto territory that hasn't been done before. The way of communicating with the public in which it feels less like a president speaking to you and more like any regular person is how some believe that Trump was able to win the election.

The idea of open communication between the president and the citizens is a newer idea that has been brought forward since Trump has been in office. With Trump writing what he wants and putting information out to the public without having anyone filter what he is going to say is something that hasn't been done before.

"We have always felt that, especially if that communication is formal, even if it is through social media, that there is still a wall because it feels that it's this stuffy president or candidate that is talking to us but Trump, candidate Trump, it felt like you were having a conversation with somebody or reading what anybody on your Twitter feed would write. So that wall gets broken down a little bit more," Chod said.

From 1789 when George Washington took the Oath of Office to be the first president of the United States to 2019 when Trump is sharing memes on Twitter, the communication between a president and his people has evolved drastically over time.

With the help of social media, the 45 different presidents have experienced new ways to get their presidential messages across whether that be sending a letter, a radio conversation, being seen on television or on the internet.

faces of ncc

Grace Klooster - Social Media Editor
Lauren Kainrath - Contributing Photographer
Graphics by Jasmine Pomierski

Did you go through any phases when you were younger?



Grace Burmahl, '21

“In high school, I went through a huge lipstick phase, where every day I wore a different shade of lipstick and I bought so many that every time I came home with another lipstick my mom made me throw out three. That was how many I had.”



Davin Allen, '20

“MTV always played music videos in the morning, so I would wake up in the morning and watch the Linkin Park music videos that were on. Then, the songs were featured in a movie, 'Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen,' and I saw that movie nine times in theaters. I learned all the lines in the movie.”



Sam Miller, '19

“Orlando Bloom. I used to have a pillow with him on it, and I used to kiss it every night before I went to sleep.”



Brandon Wallace, '20

“Dressing up like a skateboarder — cool, kind of rock culture. I didn't listen to rock music, at that point I was listening to *NSYNC and Katy Perry.”



Robert Lehe, professor of philosophy

“I was in a rock band. I played guitar — it was called Licorice Philosophy. I came up with that even before I knew what philosophy was, or that I would go into it. In February 1964, the Beatles were on 'The Ed Sullivan Show,' and the next week I bought a guitar and started playing. By the summer after that February I had started a band.”



Merrick Ramza, '21

“I had an emo phase. I feel like we all have an angry, 'I hate everything but I still want to be artful' phase. The hair sucked but the discography was great.”



Elise Deremer, '21

“I had an indie phase. Like, let's listen to music and just feel together. Like, be in the grass and wear crocheted Coachella shirts. Everything about a hippie besides smoking. I probably felt high, if I knew what it was like.”



Joey Kyle-Di Pietropaolo, '20

“Everything that I did when I was younger I still do today.”



Adam Thomas, '20

“When I was younger I went through what you might call a silent phase. Cause, I just I didn't have a lot a friends, I didn't talk to anybody. People dragged me out of it eventually.”



A breath of fresh smoke

Madison Miller - News Editor

Illustrations by Gillian Young

There was something about watching the world smoke.

Icons like James Dean made it look cool, Audrey Hepburn made it look sensual, Ronald Reagan made it look sophisticated and Bob Dylan made it look artistic.

For the rock age through the '60s and the '70s, smoking was a staple of being on stage. Lead musicians went as far as to rest their cigarettes between the strings of their guitars between drags.

Actors smoking cigars and cigarettes in old black and white shows and movies was a classy statement for the age period.

Smoking has continued to evolve. In some form, people will always be smoking something. The world isn't quitting anytime soon.

Starting as a harmless hobby, it became a health issue as research started to come out suggesting it wasn't just harmful to your health, but was a sure way toward death. Those who continued to smoke grasped onto flimsy safety measures like cigarette filters which dominated the market by 1960. They were a failed belief that people could avoid lung cancer through a small filter between their lips and the cigarette.

According to The Guardian article, "When smoking was cool, cheap, legal and socially acceptable," by 1995 smoking was banned in most enclosed places of employment. Then by 2005, less than a quarter of the population smoked cigarettes, which continues to fall.

The number of people who smoke cigarettes

is dropping, but the number of people smoking may be increasing.

The first commercial electronic cigarette was created in 2003 and would become the stepping stone to vapes, hookahs, e-cigars, Juuls and disposable e-cigarettes. The clouds of flavors like strawberry, cucumber and mint are commercially a lot more enticing than tar.

This brings up the question of what direction smoking attitudes are going with the continuing age of anti-cigarette ideals and amongst e-cigarettes reaching an all-time high.

Calli Bicknese, '19, a self-described frequent vaper, said that she vapes all day so she uses the three mg of nicotine option so it doesn't overwhelm her. Her start in vaping was a transition from a habit she had when she was younger.

"I used to smoke cigarettes, I smoked American Spirit Yellows for a long time. I started smoking probably when I was a freshman in high school," said Bicknese. "My dad owned a body shop and the guys would leave their cigarette packs out so I would steal one out of the pack."

For a lot of people, the introduction of vaping, e-cigarettes and Juuls helped them transition away from the harmful effects of cigarettes. While vaping still involves inhaling things into your lungs, it doesn't contain the chemicals and tar that are known to do significant damage to an individual's health.

However, the attitude toward vaping seems pretty mixed.

“One part of me says it’s more acceptable to smoke cigarettes because there’s a lot of stigma against vaping. A lot of people make fun of it or say that you’re vaping just because you think it’s cool,” said Bicknese. “I think that in a sense it’s more acceptable to smoke cigarettes. That’s what people have been doing for so long, so if you’re going to smoke, just smoke cigarettes.”

The stigma around vaping has a lot to do with millennials and the mixed reasons people have put down cigarettes. While vaping is often a way to get away from smoking, it has become a cultural movement and a hobby. Using electronic cigarettes is not just a method to get away from smoking tobacco cigarettes.

“Vaping has created this community. I know it’s cheesy, but with the vape tricks, like doing O’s and tornadoes on the table, it’s become a hobby for people more than just smoking ... so even if it’s not good for me I’m going to keep doing it because I enjoy the hobby,” said Bicknese.

Nostalgia, however, is a pretty good attack against cigarette smoking. A study from Medical News Today from 2017 showed smokers between 18 and 39 a nostalgic PSA and non-nostalgic PSA and noted their attitudes toward smoking after.

“The researchers explain that nostalgic PSAs increase viewers’ engagement by arousing images of their own treasured memories, which can impact attitudes and behavior. They believe that such PSAs may be useful to help people quit smoking.”

While smoking and quitting are paired together, vaping and e-cigarette companies continue to thrive and the number of people who use it also continues to rise. Cigarette users are susceptible to ads convincing them to quit because in many ways this has become the expectation for smokers. The same isn’t quite there for vaping.

Eighteen-year-old high school student, Arjun Pandey, said he consumes tobacco products regularly, but has been trying to cut back his nicotine intake. He said his start came from tobacco through cigarillos for blunts, which

turned into vaping.

Vaping in high school is a continuing conversation for parents and has appeared in the media consistently. Naperville Central High School recently had an event for the community titled “Vaping and Beyond” which targeted the growing increase in nicotine use for young adults specifically in secondary education.

“Often times the bathrooms are packed with kids hitting their vapes so much that people who actually have to go to the bathroom can’t use the stall,” said Pandey. “The classes that graduated before me were never into vaping as much as current high schoolers are.”

An article by Jia Tolentino in The New Yorker said Juuls have a heavy presence in schools. A school district in Pennsylvania went as far as to ban flash drives because of its resemblance to a Juul. Viral accounts like @doit4juul have become a popular way for the company to have a strong social media presence.

“They are populated with a different sort of imagery: a bodybuilder Juuling in a tank top that says ‘Real Men Eat Ass’ ... a topless college student who has a Juul in her mouth and is wearing a pink hat that says ‘Daddy.’ Teen Juul iconography radiates a dirtbag silliness. Vapes are meme-ready, funny in a way that cigarettes never were,” said Tolentino.

The growing difference between smokers seems to be intent and age. While cigarettes had a cultural presence and popularity years ago, vaping seems to reach a different demographic and serves a new purpose.

Pandey said that those his age hold a stigma against cigarettes because they’re “dirty and smelly.” However, they receive more nicotine via vapes than a traditional cigarette smoker would.

“I think the trends going around right now are just an example of new age kids finding ways to rebel against the system because I think there’s a lot of apathy in our generation,” said Pandey. “Nobody seems to agree on anything so I think students are more likely to simply tune it out.”



COLUMBINE

The start of a never-ending cycle

OPINION

Jordan Bradley - Sports Editor

On April 20, 1999, the country stood still and watched the massacre unfold at Columbine High School. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold murdered 13 students and staff in one of the most infamous school shootings in American history.

This shooting was just the beginning of many to follow in American schools and people have grown numb to the thought of children being murdered. Instead of people standing idle in front of their televisions, they continue on with their day. It's just another story we scroll through on our news feeds. Kids are taking their last breaths while we sip our coffee through the work day.

When it comes to breaking news coverage, very little has changed. Reporters don't assume, they simply update the public with details as they develop while the incident is occurring.

The problem with media coverage in school shootings is what we talk about once the last shot has been fired. The liberal and conservative agendas have caused a massive debate over guns, but it is very seldom they take the time to consider if the students within the schools feel safe and happy where they are.

The profile of a school shooter has a trend that rarely seems to change. A troubled kid, on the quiet side, with anger issues and a broken home. We talk about everything that was wrong with them, but never looked to see if anyone reached out to them, or whether they were getting proper counseling or not. There are other measures that can be done to prevent a shooting aside from taking the gun from their hands.

Now, gun control is definitely something that needs to be discussed with the public. Guns are, of course, a

major issue in these recurring events, but we do not talk enough about mental health and what can be done to help people with these kinds of violent tendencies. No access to guns can stop schools shootings, but being open to helping someone can as well.

A TED talk called "I was almost a school shooter" features Aaron Stark, who discusses what stopped him from committing the act. He too lived a troubled life with drug addicted parents. "When you have nothing to lose you can do anything and that is a terrifying thought," Stark said. "I decided that I was going to get a gun and attack my school ... my best friend saw the place that I was in and even though I stole and lied to him, he didn't care. He still brought me in and showed me acts of kindness."

This is what kept Stark from committing these acts and it could be done for many others. After shootings occur in schools, one of the biggest responsibilities goes to the school counselors. When students return to classes, counselors work to ensure that all students feel safe and prepared to return to regular activities. This is done by keeping an open door to students who may be experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or possible suicidal tendencies.

Counseling after a mass shooting also includes schools around the country based on the frequency of this occurrence. Many students in America do not feel safe in their schools anymore.

This is not surprising because there is a trend where shootings come in clusters. According to the Virginian Pilot, in the past five years alone, there have been over 100 shooting incidents in schools and per The Washington

Post, since Columbine, there have been at least 10 school shootings per year. At least 136 people have been killed in schools since then as well.

So are we really taking the measures we need in schools to ensure the students safety and wellbeing in order to keep someone with similar issues to orchestrate the same act of violence?

According to the American Counseling Association, some of the coping mechanisms that are used after a mass shooting are attending to self care, paying attention to emotional health, try to recognize others that need support — all of which are good techniques to cope but it only helps so many and eventually the emotions may get the best of the survivors and can also trigger another violent act from someone else.

In March, two survivors from the mass shooting in Parkland, Florida committed suicide because of guilt from the events that unfolded. Sydney Aiello, 19, and another current student at the high school died by suicide just days apart from each other. According to the New York Times, Aiello suffered from PTSD and also survivor's guilt after she lost one of her best friends in the shooting.

It is unclear on whether the most recent suicide was related to the shooting. The community is brought back to mourning just a little over a year after the tragedy.

Parkland was also a place where students came together after a shooting in ways we have never seen before. Through the March for Our Lives movement and the memorable town hall meeting, students were still in pain and were in desperate need of help and received none.

When it comes to copycats, we have seen shooters orchestrate their attacks to be similar to the Columbine shooters. Virginia Tech shooter Seung-Hui Cho had that idea as he admitted in his confession tapes. Nikolas Cruz, the Parkland shooter, also claimed in chilling videos on how he wished to be

a “professional school shooter.” Cruz was expelled from Parkland before the shooting and, based on footage from his interrogation, seemed like nobody was around to help him with his problems as they continued to escalate before the attack.


As said before by Aaron Stark, if you have nothing to lose you can really do anything and if you put a gun in that person's hand it can have a horrific outcome, but that can be prevented.

We have seen countless horrific shootings since Columbine and the outcry to eliminate guns gets loud and then falls silent until the next incident. The cycle just continues. After years and years of fighting to end gun violence with what sadly seems like no gain, shouldn't we as people seek to find any way possible to help those that are troubled since our government won't listen?

This is something that is not discussed enough in the media. What can we do as people to stop the violence? To stop our classmates, children and teachers from being gunned down by someone that was really crying for help in ways we chose to ignore.

It is sad that someone who is troubled can get their hand on a gun so easily, but what is more sad is the fact that whatever they were going through in their lives brought them to that point and not a single person was there to change their mind. That is what we can do in the public and this is what our media coverage should be on. Peace and compassion can stop violence. Constant debates and the rebuttal of political agendas will not.

According to the *Virginian Pilot*, in the past five years alone, there have been over *100 shooting incidents* in schools and per *The Washington Post*, since Columbine, there have been *at least 10 school shootings per year*. At least *136* people have been killed in schools since then as well.



SENIOR YEAR- BOOK



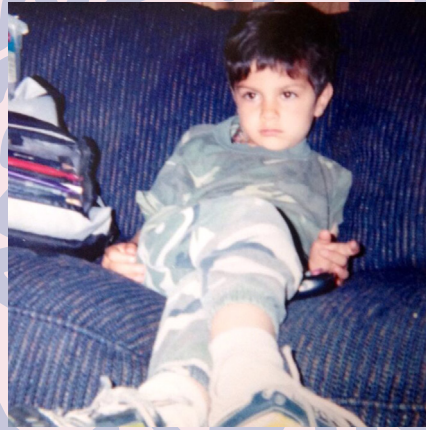
Lexi
"Mood since day one."



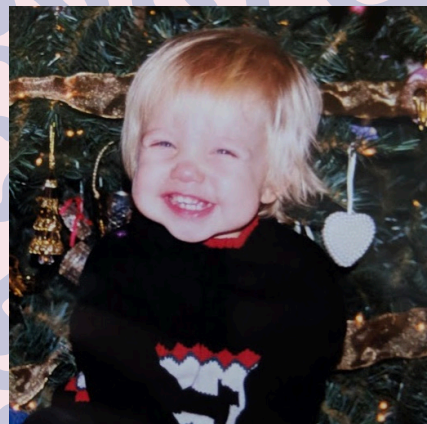
Gabriella
#notaboy



Calli
"Gaming since birth."



Noah
"Been 'done with this term' since age four."



Gillian
"I still don't know how to smile properly."



Rudy
"When your emo phase actually started in kindergarten."

The background is black and features several abstract elements: a yellow polygon in the top right, a red triangle in the middle left, a teal circle in the bottom right, and several white L-shaped bars scattered throughout. A grid of small white curved dashes is also present.

We've got issues.
nclinked.com