## Author

Tutor

Course

Date

## Should students in the Public schools wear uniform?

The debate on whether students in the public school have been highly contentious since time immemorial. Some parents and students and parents are convinced that children who wear uniform are more disciplined than those who do not. In addition, uniform supposedly brings equality among the children. Nonetheless, there are other people who find uniform as an unnecessary cost placed on parents' school budget. Some students claim the uniforms make them appear shabby. The following paper gives the reasons why students in the public schools should wear uniform (Jill 7).

First, uniform helps to bring equality among children in the public schools. The students in the public schools come from diverse family backgrounds. Some can afford the latest fashion trends while others cannot afford. Those who cannot keep up to the fashion trend are likely to get distracted by their colleagues who can afford expensive outfit (Yunhee 1). Nonetheless, some students argue that the inequality status is essential in school since it encourages students to see the reality of life. It encourages those who cannot afford the latest fashion trends to work harder hence the reason why uniform should be abolished in public schools. Nevertheless, students are even capable of concentrating in education when they have no destructions that can lower their
self confidence. Students whose attention is not diverted to fashion are able to dedicate higher attention to academic work (Bowen 4).

Second, uniform in public school helps to inculcate positive behavior among students. For instance, a uniformed student will be easily spotted and identified when engaging in bad behaviors (Bowen 8). This encourages them to maintain high virtues when in and outside the school compound. Students opposed to wearing uniform claim that students can easily swap the outfit when they want to engage in obnoxious behaviors like taking alcohol (Yunhee 1). Fortunately, the fear of students meeting people who might have seen them when they were wearing uniform makes them behave responsibly even when they are clad in civilian outfit (Bowen 9).

Third, uniform is a form of identity. Students can easily identify their school mates by the uniform they are wearing. This implies that uniform acts as a unifying factor to the students of a particular school. Students who oppose wearing uniform assert that uniform is likely to instigate enmity instead of suppressing it because students tend to compete with other schools. This makes students to retain their interaction within their social circle especially if their uniform is a target for bullying by another school (Yunhee 1). On the contrary, wearing uniform in schools should be encouraged because it helps to reduce gang units and violence in public schools. It is easier to prohibit gang symbols or colors. In addition, harassment within the school is reduced since the bullies have one less thing to talk about (Bowen 11).

Fourth, uniform helps to improve the learning environment through minimizing distractions. The uniforms are often made in a way that they cannot be used to conceal weapons. Besides, they make the students appear equal even though they come from diverse backgrounds
(Jill 10). Some students argue that uniform should be banned because it emphasizes conformity instead of enhancing individuality and making of personal choices. However, uniform reduces the hassle of choosing the outfit to wear in the morning especially for the girls who take a long time mixing and matching their outfits (Bowen 12).

Fifth, uniforms are more affordable to parents because parents are only required to purchase one or two pairs every fall for their children. This is unlike buying the costly and volatile high-fashion trends every summer (Jill 25). Some students contend that uniform violates their freedom of expression for it limits inclusion of offensive texts, visible logos, some symbols and colors among other personal effects. Pro-uniform enthusiasts claim that the absence of these personal statements is crucial because as parents can save a lot of unnecessary school expenses (Yunhee 1).

Sixth, the savings acquired from the curtailed cost of uniform can be put into better uses that can later benefit the children. For instance, the savings can be put into a junior account that the child can later withdraw when joining a higher learning institutions or starting an independent life from their parents. The anti-school uniform aficionados claim that independent dressing code is an indication of the personal feeling of an individual. Failure of wearing personal tastes can conceal the real identity of the children which can be detrimental to both their life and others as well (Bowen 14). Nevertheless, uniform boosts personal confidence of individual students because they will not have to participate in the fashion show of the latest outfits. Students can purchase a few uniforms and some fashionable weekend outfit to clad in when going out (Yunhee 1).

Seventh, the learning environment is very friendly in public schools that wear uniforms. The children cannot bully others depending on the outfit they are wearing because uniform is more affordable than designer outfit (Jill 35). Research indicates that the regular cost of a designer jean is worth a similar cost to three complete uniforms. Children who might be feeling intimidated by their colleagues who can afford the high cost outfits are likely to develop low self esteem. Lack of self confidence often makes students a target for bullying, as well as compromise the overall academic performance (Bowen 18).

Eighth, uniform helps to boost the team spirit. Students who are dressed alike have a strong all-for-one-and-one-for-all comrade power. They will defend each other when challenged by other schools or when one of their own is experiencing personal issues. This is unlike a situation where everyone dresses in their own way (Jill 38). In fact, the unique dressing enhances individuality and differences among the students, thereby killing the comrade power common in many public schools. Eliminating the personal differences reflected by the dressing code can help to inculcate a culture of unity among the students. This goal can be easily attained through ensuring that all the students wear uniforms when at schools (Bowen 24).

Lastly, the school administrators are able to spot outsiders who can be a threat to the students easily. Schools where the students wear civilians are challenging to maintain security because the security officials cannot differentiate between a student and an outsider. Although there is a possibility of malicious people wearing the uniform of another school when engaging in unethical behaviors in order to taint its name, the risk is even higher when students are not uniformed. Non-uniformed students do not have a limitation to hold them back from engaging in abhorrent behaviors (Yunhee 1).

From these arguments, an individual can tell that there are more merits than demerits when children in public schools wear uniform. The spirit of oneness, equality and obligation to defend the name of the school help students to maintain high discipline in and out of school. The public schools that wear uniform have an outstanding track record for good behaviors. Their performance in academic is also high because the students are not obsessed by competing with the emerging fashion trends. The uniform eliminates the negative learning environment that may be propagated by home outfit. The uniform inculcates modesty in schools through preventing students to wear clothes displaying offensive texts, visible logos, gang colors and symbols among other contentious materials in the school environment (Jill 40).

## Works cited

Sherry, Bowen. Should Kids Wear School Uniforms? Georgia. 2012. Web. Retrieved on April 28, 2013 from http://www.eduguide.org/library/viewarticle/1401/

Hamilton, Jill. Dress Codes in Schools. Detroit, MI: Greenhaven Press, 2008. Print.

Kim, Yunhee. Perception Toward Wearing School Uniforms., 1998. Print.

