

The Graduation Speech You'll Never Hear

Being a teenager can be a great experience. The lingering perfume from a dance partner can be pleasantly intoxicating. There are so many people of the same age everywhere. One glimpse of beauty is better than gym class at making your heart beat wildly. And one can imagine all sorts of future scenarios, most brighter than galactic stars or those of Hollywood.

But adolescence is also a time when one becomes aware of the world's screwiness: political and religious wars, fads in diet and education that don't help people's bodies or minds, along with economic and environmental disasters. What all these have in common is adherence to the following psychology:

- 1) People make up their minds about issues without sufficient data and experience.
- 2) They only associate with people who agree with them.

3) They only examine ideas and disembodied numbers that reinforce their views.

4) They get sponsored by those who profit from their misconceptions.

Don't grow up like that!

1) Postpone your conclusions until you are very old, and even then, be ready to reconsider.

2) Meet the spectrum of humanity.

3) Try harder than anyone else at exposing the weaknesses of your own hypotheses.

4) Don't prostitute yourself to the \$ symbol. Value the diversity, unity, interaction and continuity of life.