

Project Title: Construct Destruct (by Tyrone)

Background

(1) Last year or so graffiti and vandalism have common problems in the Cold
(2) Lake Tritown area. It all started when our town had a political
campaign for mayor. Kids
(3) thought that since the election wasn't really important and directed at them that it
(4) didn't really matter what happened to the election signs. Kids got pretty creative with
(5) some spray paint and while the effect was really artistic and impressive, the local
(6) politicians and law enforcement didn't think so. It didn't seem to stop there either cuz
(7) after the election the graffiti in the main street area grew bigger. It affected the
(8) business owners because they couldn't catch the vandals and had to pay for all the
(9) damages. It made storefronts look really bad, and made the general public feel unsafe
(10) because it no longer looked clean. The issue came to my attention because of
(11) the numerous endless letters that went into the paper at this time complaining,
(12) ranting and being outraged about the street art, and not one of them addressed the
(13) positive artistic talent that was behind this seeing only the negative, even though some
(14) of the stencils the vandals used were really intricate and required a lot of skills to
(15) make. Now there's art and then there's just plain messy damage. This was just a
(16) group of youth that didn't have anything to do, needed a creative outlet. Other youth
(17) (kids in my school) loved it, and the graffiti created more graffiti artists and followers. It
(18) was becoming a culture of silence in our school, because no one would report anyone
(19) doing it. By addressing the issue, this creativity and talent could be showcased instead
(20) of put down, and by not doing so, it would probably just continue to annoy people, and
(21) get these kids into trouble with the law.

Rationale

(A) If successful, the implementation of this public art site would reduce the vandalism and graffiti
(B) in our community because it would provide more creative and bored teenagers with something
(C) to do, and a creative outlet. It would look like an open-air work-shop that the public could walk
(D) through whenever they want (this should be encouraged), and it would be full of started, finished
(E) or in-progress artistic works and typically, kids working on those projects. The public would
(F) have the opportunity to understand the kids a little bit better and not in a negative light. The
(G) business owners in town wouldn't have to worry about their property anymore. The site
(H) could arrange formal shows for the public where special displays are made and maybe snacks or
(I) a band is provided. Young artists now have a safe place to create outdoor art, and let their
(J) imaginations run wild.