

The 'Squelched Generation'...

MARGARET KOCH

There are 13 million of them enrolled in U.S. high schools.

They are deeply involved in a revolution of sorts—a revolt against something they have labeled "The Establishment"

These teenage Americans exist in a maze of contradictions. They long to be the "herd," then when they belong, they long to be "unique." They are 20th Century modern—yet their ideals of life and love are as old fashioned as the horse and buggy.

Many suffer from terrible self-images . . . suicide ranks fifth as a cause of adolescent deaths.

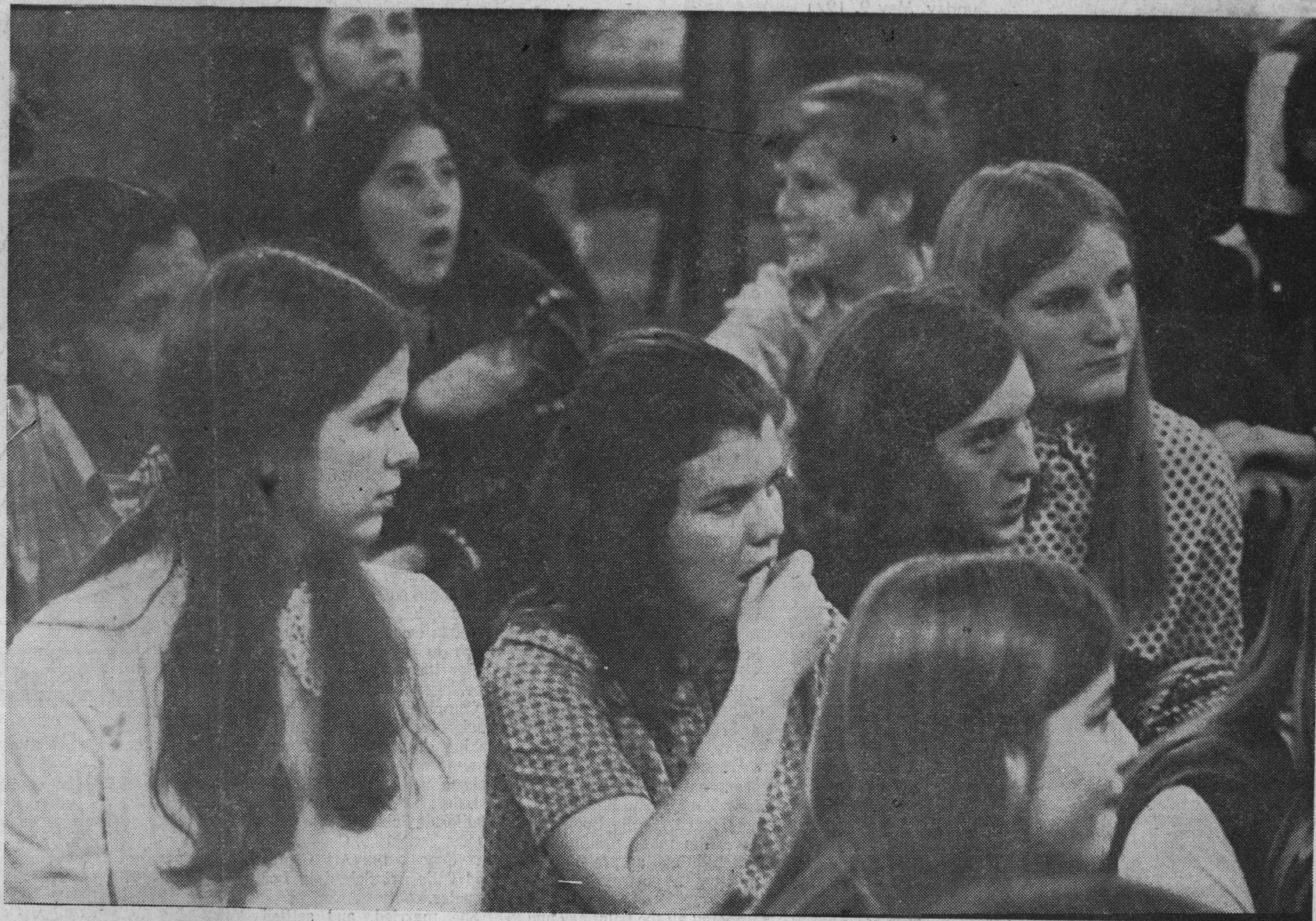
Teenagers today are adrift on an island they have created in order to escape the establishment. But there is a peculiar paradox here: while they protest the establishment, they patronize it to the tune of \$15 each, every week, for establishment goods that include stick shift cars, new clothes, records, tape decks, food and entertainment.

In the midst of all their material riches they have been labeled the "Squelched Generation," because there is an emptiness and futility in their buying and protesting and experimenting with life styles.

Among them a constant searching goes on . . . a search for a meaning to existence.

Young Life, a quest for creative relationships with high school people, is a prophetic voice speaking to the "turned off" generation. They are listening.

(Local leaders of Young Life are Rick Cruse, a UCSC student, Sandy Sanfilippo of the county probation department, Len and Diane Sunukjian and Ron Demolar in the San Lorenzo Valley. Its address is Box 290, Santa Cruz. Or telephone Chairman Harold A. Johnson, 722-4600, Watsonville, or Harold Shores, 423-6440, Santa Cruz, for more information).



... Discovers 'Young Life'

Photos
By
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**Tref'n'Sea
Living**

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