

Mischievous Angels

Most youth in Inuvik get a bad reputation partly from people that are just looking for the bad rather than the good. They're looking for the "juicy" information they can gossip about to their friends. I'd have to say that the only bad reputation about this town is the gossip. If only people would just mind their own business everything would be cool. But no that's not how it goes; everywhere you go you hear people gossiping. I hear it at school all the time, work, in an elevator, or just walking down the street. People here are like a bunch of crows on a piece of meat, waiting for the next sentence they can gossip about.

I think behind every crime there's a story as to why the child/youth did what they did. They can have problem's where no one understands them or knows how to help them or to guide them on a direction where they can get help. I myself know if I didn't have guidance, understanding, support and discipline growing up that I would be a jailbird right now. But I'm not; I'm on my way to graduating and going to post secondary school. It's not that hard, any child can do it if they have the support they need. Most people don't know that it takes a whole community to raise a child.

I saw things happen in action, and asked them what's your point? Are you just trying to show off so that you can look cool in front of your friends? But maybe that's what they need so reality can hit them in the face. Going to jail for a while to show that this is what you want for the rest of YOUR life! Not the people who were watching you, not the people who look up to you. Only you will be suffering the consequences. While they still live their lives, and you'll be in jail. I know I don't want that. I don't think anyone would want that either.

After all the "bad kids" have been noticed, there's no room for the "good kids", like 1 in every like 10 good kids get mentioned in the media. You can put part of the blame on the media for the youth having a bad reputation. You have to stand back and take a look at the big picture. There's kids that you would never have noticed help an elder cross the road, help them with their bags, or just simply say hi on the street. Even "bad kids" have respect. So give them a little respect too.

They also need more activities for the youth. Yah they have a youth center. But if you walk in there, all you will see are kids high off weed having somewhere to chill. They need to start a youth committee or something where kids can organize events that they enjoy doing. I as a youth know that there nothing ever to do. You know WE are the future leaders. So help us become smart and knowledgeable with new life experiences. So new thing to gossip about, "Helping the youth out".

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