

Bill is down with the kids!

History has yet to decide whether Bill Gates will be remembered as an innovative software designer or a great philanthropist, however one thing is for sure, he is capable of expressing some common sense principles that are seldom heard these days

Mr Gates was speaking at a High School in California and saying that the current "feel good, failure free, politically correct" teaching had created a generation of young people who had no concept of the real world and in effect set them up for failure. He pointed out the extent to which self reliance, self appreciation and common sense had been undermined by wooly educational theory and the dogma of political correctness.

Among the points he made to the kids, were :-

- 1) Life is NOT fair – get used to it.
- 2) The world does not care about your self esteem. It expects you to accomplish something before you feel good about yourself.
- 3) You will not make \$40,000 a year straight out of school and you will not be a vice-president with a car phone until you have earned both.
- 4) If you think your teacher is unfair / strict / unreasonable, wait until you have a boss.
- 5) Flipping burgers at McDonalds is not beneath your dignity – your grandparents had a different word for it – it was called opportunity.
- 6) If you mess up it is not your parents fault so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.
- 7) Before you were born your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you are. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parents generation, try de-lousing the closet in your own room.
- 8) Your school may have done away with winners and losers but life has NOT. In some schools they have abolished failing grades and they will give you as many chances as you need to get the right answer. Be aware this does NOT bear resemblance to anything in real life.
- 9) Life is not divided into terms, you don't get summers off and employers are not interested in helping you 'find yourself'. Do it in your own time.
- 10) Television is NOT real life – in real life people actually have to leave the pub and go to work.

And Finally

- 11) Be nice to 'nerds'. Chances are that you may end up working for one!!