

The Acorn

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Film Review: Buy Now! The Shopping Conspiracy

By Maya Ney-Nichols



pirg.org

Buy Now! The Shopping Conspiracy is a documentary that reveals the tricks and tactics big companies use to lure consumers into buying their products and the negative effects of overconsumption, as well as waste issues.

Former employees of large brands such as Amazon, Apple and Adidas who worked in the marketing department give us inside information about how their companies commercials, websites and marketing strategies really work and how they keep us consumers consuming more and more of their products.

This film was not made for entertainment, but to inform viewers of the horrible effects that result from buying fast fashion, effects that big companies are hiding from us. For example, the quantity of waste created by these companies is unreal and excessive.

Approximately 92 million tons of clothes are dumped in a landfill annually due to overproduction, and if products aren't sold, these companies will destroy those products and send them to be trashed. Another area that this documentary covers is plastic waste and the effects it has on the environment. For instance, in 2018, the U.S alone produced 35.7 million tons of plastic waste, harming the environment and wildlife. Not only is the U.S suffering from one-use plastics and unrecyclable plastics, but worldwide ecosystems and wildlife are suffering from the huge quantity of plastic waste.

I found this film to be incredibly eye-opening and it gave me a real understanding of the harmful effects that fast fashion industries and plastic waste causes. The visuals that were used for this documentary were also extremely helpful to acquire an even deeper understanding on how massive this issue is becoming and how polluted we are making the Earth. I highly recommend watching this documentary as it is incredibly informative and will undoubtedly change your perspective on the clothing and tech industry as well as plastic production and its dark side.

The Benefits of a Small University

By Rocio de la Rosa

In Western culture, we place prestigious or well-known Universities on pedestals, so much so that by the age of thirteen most of us knew exactly what Harvard was, even

living in Canada. When we think of the best Universities in the world, we picture Oxford in the UK, Harvard and Yale in the United States, and UBC or U of T in Canada. These schools have extremely high academic standards, many opportunities, and perhaps most notably, a name to themselves, which accounts for much of their appeal.

However, these schools may not be suitable for everyone. It is important to know what you want to get out of your post-secondary experience, as an academic student and as a young person in general, before making a decision.

The benefits of going to a smaller, less-known university are endless. Take into consideration these points while making your decision, whether you are just beginning to think about post-secondary, will be applying in the fall, or are currently deciding between schools.

In many instances, smaller schools will offer more opportunities than larger ones because of the significantly smaller number of students and the personal connections you will be able to make. This could help advance a career and help you gain work experience.

Additionally, while larger schools often have class sizes of more than one-hundred students, smaller schools offer the chance for students to learn with a close-knit class and get a more personalized experience from the teacher.

There are more opportunities for leadership at smaller schools, as well as chances to make a difference in your school and community. There is less competition between students, so academic pressure is less likely to be the cause of burn-out and

poor mental health at a small school. Of course, a small school also means a close-knit community of individuals and the chance to experience true connections with your peers. Not to mention the tuition of these small schools are significantly lower than that of the well-known ones.

Depending on what you are looking for, different sized schools will have unique pros and cons for everyone, but the benefits of smaller schools are apparent everywhere. Be honest to yourself about what you want your post-secondary years to look like, but remember that a University decision won't determine the rest of your life!



<https://wagner.edu/hawktalk/small-campus-good-bad/>

Easter: Tradition and Origin

By Shekayah Silvey

Origin:

Easter is a Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The holiday has roots in both Christian tradition and ancient pagan celebrations of spring, with the name "Easter" likely coming from the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eostre.

Varied traditions

Over 95 countries celebrate Easter, with the

traditions varying. They include egg hunts, decorating eggs, eating chocolate, and attending religious services, but these practices can look very different depending on the country and their cultural context.

How the egg hunt traditions started.

The egg hunt is a custom of Germany that spread to other countries, becoming more and more popular around the world. It even became a tradition that young Queen Victoria would do, saying that her German-born mother, Duchess of Kent, would paint and hide eggs.



<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2024/03/30/why-easter-celebrated-eggs-bunny-rabbits/73108158007/>

Is SIDES right for you?

By Sophia Schlag

Many students at Oak Bay High take courses through a platform called SIDES, a free online school with a variety of courses for all grades. Most commonly, you may see your friends taking P.E or Career Life Education on this site and wonder to yourself, “Why isn’t everyone doing the same?”.

It turns out that there are many pros and cons to SIDES, that must all be considered

before you login to your first lesson.

The South Island Distance Education School is a Provincial Online Learning School, situated in the Saanich School District. It provides courses for students from Kindergarten to Grade 12, in a variety of subjects. It’s very easy to register, and it’s free, which means adding another course to your transcript is a very attractive idea. I myself completed Law 12, and am Currently in German 12, through this platform.

The website is fairly easy to navigate too, and most courses are well-organised for completion. There are real teachers, who are available to contact for help and are in charge of marking your assignments. Overall, SIDES is a very useful resource which provides many opportunities for students at Oak Bay.

However, one of the biggest drawbacks is that for all online courses, you’re in charge of keeping yourself on task. If you aren’t a very organised person, or you know that you have a problem with procrastination, you might find yourself only a Unit or two in after 3 months. This is especially a problem when you have a deadline for yourself, such as the end of the school year. Some people may also find themselves less motivated by the lack of a classroom atmosphere to feel more engaged.

All in all, SIDES is a very useful resource for high school students wanting to add to their transcript or change their schedule, but you need to be sure that you’re prepared for the challenges involved.

Clubs at Oak Bay

A	I	I	G	R	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	W	A
G	W	M	A	V	T	T	T	S	P	S	A	A	A
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C	C	H	A	D	T	M	M	O	E	E	I	H	T
E	N	N	B	M	E	E	N	A	R	A	N	A	R
A	N	G	A	N	N	N	Y	N	T	E	T	M	O
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P	N	C	O	M	E	R	A	I	N	T	I	A	H
H	N	I	R	M	O	E	A	A	G	T	V	A	V
Y	I	D	N	D	A	B	E	A	D	C	E	C	E

PEER TUTORING
 WARHAMMER
 DND
 BADMINTON
 BOARD GAME
 ASTRONOMY
 THE ACORN
 SCIENCE
 OCEANOGRAPHY
 INTERACTIVE
 TENNIS
 BEAD



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