

Dear Silent Killer,

Your deceiving tasks of temptation have come to a slight default. You have now been exposed. Your venom runs thin through our blood. You have slithered your way into homes, parties, communities, and schools. You have killed of our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and friends. You have murdered many without being convicted of crime however today is the day you meet your match.

You have the aptitude to attract people of all races, ethnicities, and ages. Seeking out youth has become your forte. We are naive, young, and uneducated and you love it. Adults have now become smart; they can recognize your wrath, however us, youth remain sightless. Your mask of "coolness" is appealing to us so we give you a try. Stumbling, falling, slurring; that's "cool" to us. It's our ignorance that draws us in. its your stubbornness that makes us stay.

I cannot put the blame all on you. I can, however include the influence of our peers. With your help, they have impersonated your words of enticement and spun us into your web. We can also fault our media stations. We watch your victims upon our TVs and see them enjoying your venom; laughing, loving, and having a great time. Rarely do they show us the side effects of your venom, the longevity or your relationship with your victims. So we take what we can from what've been shown. It's a "monkey-see-monkey-do" situation.

But I am here to break myself apart from the pack. I stand here today to fight the influence; to be the better influence. With youth, you have to lead by example to build your army. We need to be educated in schools about drug and alcohol abuse. We learn English, history, mathematics, sciences, but where are the prevention classes. It's a new era; we need change, help, and encouragement. Knowledge is empowerment.

In conclusion of my letter to you, the Silent Killer, you have now been exposed. No longer will I allow you to take away my friends, family, and community. I will not stand for your lurment. Today you meet your match. I vow to be educated and educate my peers about your iniquities. I vow to stop your treacherous murders in honor of those who have fell under your rage.