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All We Need Is Love

Peter Williams

Recently in California two young people committed suicide. A boy who was seventeen years old, a girl who was fourteen. When told that they were to no longer see each other, they ran away. They lived in a vacant house, alone, caring about nothing—except each other. A "concerned citizen," doing the "right thing," called the police. Showing up promptly, the officers threatened the couple when they refused to leave the lot. Bang...Bang...silence. They were both dead.

So many would-be experience, will never be, so many feelings: joy, pain, anger, jealousy, love—gone. Murderers are punished with death. As are innocence, love, and youth. Are adolescents not human? We are loved as children, respected as adults, and ignored as adolescents. Seemingly, we cease to exist through our teenage years. If this continues, many more adolescents will cease to exist. Literally.

"All we need is love." (John Lennon)

