

## “Wicked” Youth?

The news media extol the evils of today’s youth. We are distressed. Just listen to this: “The sins of youth include too much luxury, contempt for authority, over-indulgence of self...they contradict their parents and tyrannize their teachers.”

Sound familiar? Those words came from a speech made about 400 years before Christ – by Aristotle!

I enjoy working with young people. Most are serious, caring, inquisitive, challenging, and anxious to improve things. As a whole, they are better behaved than was my generation.

A visit to the State Science Fair was inspiring – 623 exhibits, all well done. These were the division winners from thousands of entries. Categories included physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, botany, and more. Each project presented the hypothesis, research, result, and conclusion.

Many projects were agriculturally related. This is to be expected since agricultural science is a composite of the basic sciences. Environmental protection, crop and soil science, pesticides, soil erosion – all were subjects of excellent projects.

Emphasis on youth’s problems can blind us to the goodness and potential of most of them. Let’s hear more about these promising young people who are exploring the Earth’s secrets. They are the ones who will conserve the world’s resources and feed its people. I left the fair with unbridled optimism.

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