**Despicable Meme:**

**Living in a generation of**

**sound byte communication**

By Cooper Ellis & Henry Kerfoot

Steph Curry chokes? (Insert crying Jordan.) When you are fond of children but you are a gorilla in the Cincinnati Zoo? (Insert Arthur Fist.) When you are Ronald Reagan and your boy Hinkley tells you about this new movie he saw then starts pulling out a gun. (Insert Caveman Spongebob.)

These are quintessential examples of our culture’s finest interpretation of our own social issues. Whereas generations before us had fought for civil rights or the liberation of America from Britain, we gather around to spin our yarns about Photoshop sludge that crawled out of the primordial ooze that is the internet.

Our generation has grown into a society incapable of proper communication through ordinary means and seek visual representation of a multitudinous amount of our views on how we express ourselves.

What has lead our young society to form together in a carefully woven meme basket of blue and black (and perhaps gold) dresses? How has our social construct been altered from our disposition towards funny images?

The first attributing factor towards this could be the efforts of some to create coping methods with their own personal issues. A number of memes may depict sad frogs (The Pepe) or frogs depicted as minding their own business whilst tea is sipped (The Kermit). These could be interpreted as attempts to alleviate the stresses of things like depression or anxiety. Perhaps some are holding a fear of being judged when expressing serious thoughts so they are instead brought out in a joking manner.

Another key contributing factor would be the rise of social media that our generation has grown up with. Social media has definitely helped to spread the tall shadow of the meme and infect the youthful masses with its angry cat hordes. There exists a long list of meme-dedicated pages on Instagram or Facebook that have continued to peddle the vileness that has kept our generation under wraps, in a communication-deprived sort of way.

These are all very important things to address because in some time span of about 50 years, our testament to the history books for the children of the future will be Spongebob still frames and Vaping Timbs. Our obscure tales into ironic jokes and President Bush will be the tomes we preach to our grandchildren where our own grandparents wrought upon us detailed oral stories of “the war” or walking to school through 50 feet of snow and a blizzard.

All this is due to our inability to truly connect through any other medium of communication. Its reached a point that a number of us cannot reach 140 character rants. So, we must let laughable caricatures like poop emojis do it for us. (Insert Facepalming Captain Picard of Starship Enterprise)