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Graffiti not best outlet for expressing personal opinion

POSTED: May 1, 2008

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A couple weeks ago, I was stunned to hear the responses I got as a teenager going out to do the "right thing" for our community.

April 11, a fellow classmate, two adults and I went to go paint over the graffiti on the old communications bunker along Mokulele Highway. As we began to paint, one comment we got was horrible. There was honking then the four-letter adjective and "you sick people, covering up the truth!"

Yes, burning sugar cane is very harsh to our health but please write your opinions in the newspaper instead. Isn't that what "Letters" is for?

Why spray-paint graffiti on something that's going to take away the beauty of our island? Growing up, I was always taught malama o ka aina, take care of the land, and hearing the comment we got on Friday wasn't pono.

We are 16-year-olds trying to help our community. Please give us some support. To those who honked and showed shakas, mahalo. To that one person, write your opinions somewhere in The Maui News, not around the island.

Kuilani Elaban

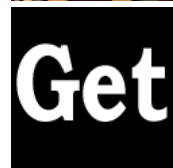
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