



## Dead Prez “They Schools”

Why haven't you learned anything?

Man that school shit is a joke  
The same people who control the school system control  
The prison system, and the whole social system  
Ever since slavery, nawsayin?

[Verse 1]

I went to school with some redneck crackers  
Right around the time 3rd Bass dropped the cactus album  
But I was readin' Malcolm  
I changed my name in '89 cleaning parts of my brain  
Like a baby nine  
I took a history class serious  
Front row, every day of the week, 3rd period  
Fuckin' with the teachers had, callin' em racist  
I tried to show them crackers some light, they couldn't face it  
I got my diploma from a school called Rickers  
Full of, teenage mothers, and drug dealin' n----s  
In the hallways, the popo was always present  
Searchin' through n----s possessions  
Lookin' for, dope and weapons, get your lessons  
That's why my moms kept stressin'  
I tried to pay attention but they classes wasn't interestin'  
They seemed to only glorify the Europeans  
Claimin' Africans were only three-fifths a human being

[HOOK]

They schools can't teach us shit  
My people need freedom, we tryin' to get all we can get  
All my high school teachers can suck my dick  
Tellin' me white man lies straight bullshit (echoes)  
They schools ain't teachin' us, what we need to know to survive  
(Say what, say what)

They schools don't educate, all they teach the people is lies

You see dog, you see how quick these motherfuckers be to like  
Be tellin' n----s get a diploma so you can get a job  
Know-what-I'm-sayin' but they don't never tell you how the job  
Gonna exploit you every time know-what-I'm-sayin' that's why I be like  
Fuck they schools!

[Verse 2]

School is like a 12-step brainwash camp  
They make you think if you drop out you ain't got a chance  
To advance in life, they try to make you pull your pants up  
Students fight the teachers and get took away in handcuffs  
And if that wasn't enough, then they expel y'all  
Your peoples understand it but to them, you a failure  
Observation and participation, my favorite teachers  
When they beat us in the head with them books, it don't reach us  
Whether you breakdance or rock suede Addidas  
Or be in the bathroom with your clique, smokin' reefer  
Then you know they math class ain't important 'less you addin' up cash  
In multiples, unemployment ain't rewardin'  
They may as well teach us extortion  
You either get paid or locked up, the principal is like a warden  
In a four-year sentence, mad n----s never finish  
But that doesn't mean I couldn't be a doctor or a dentist

HOOK (first part of hook twice)

Cuz for real, a mind is a terrible thing to waste  
And all y'all high class n----s with y'all nose up  
Cuz we droppin' this shit on this joint, fuck y'all  
We gon speak for ourselves  
Know-what-I'm-sayin'? Cuz see the schools ain't teachin' us nothin'  
They ain't teachin' us nothin' but how to be slaves and hardworkers  
For white people to build up they shit  
Make they businesses successful while it's exploitin' us  
Know-what-I'm-sayin'? And they aint teachin us nothin related to  
Solvin' our own problems, know-what-I'm-sayin'?  
Ain't teachin' us how to get crack out the ghetto

They ain't teachin' us how to stop the police from murdering us  
And brutalizing us, they ain't teachin' us how to get our rent paid  
Know-what-I'm-sayin'? They ain't teachin' our families how to interact  
Better with each other, know-what-I'm-sayin'? They just teachin' us  
How to build they shit up, know-what-I'm-sayin'? That's why my n----s  
Got a problem with this shit, that's why n----s be droppin' out that  
Shit cuz it don't relate, you go to school the fuckin' police  
Searchin' you you walkin' in your shit like this a military compound  
Know-what-I'm-sayin'? So school don't even relate to us  
Until we have some shit where we control the fuckin' school system  
Where we reflect how we gon' solve our own problems  
Them n----s ain't gon' relate to school, shit that just how it is  
Know-what-I'm-sayin'? And I love education, know-what-I'm-sayin'?  
But if education ain't elevatin' me, then you know-what-I'm-sayin' it ain't  
Takin' me where I need to go on some bullshit, then fuck education  
Know-what-I'm-sayin'? At least they shit, matter of fact my n----  
This whole school system can suck my dick, BEEYOTCH!!