

Monologue Mania!

“Ban on Gum” from *Ups and Downs*

By Rebecca Wright

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

Perspective One: You are a student who is upset that your school is continuing its ban on chewing gum.

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STUDENT:

I don't see why this has to be a rule. Is it even legal for the school to forbid us to chew gum? It's not like there's an age limit or a law against it. Why does my school even care what I put in my mouth? Don't dentists recommend chewing sugar-free gum after every meal to keep from getting cavities? Doesn't that mean I can sue the school if I get a cavity since they won't allow me to chew gum? Makes sense, doesn't it? They're acting like it's evil or something. Well, I'll tell you what's evil. Max Thompson's breath! I have to sit next to him in science, and it's so bad I end up holding my breath the whole time. I can't even focus on what the teacher is saying, because all I can think about is Max's smelly breath. All of that could be fixed with just one piece of minty-fresh gum! I can see if they banned blowing bubbles, because that could be annoying and distracting. But regular old chewing? What harm is that? I think we should go on strike until they change their minds! We can do that, right? Or get them to let us vote on it. That's the democratic way of doing things, isn't it? It's our right, isn't it? Well, isn't it?