

# "They" Schools

## dead prez

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'? 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' niggas  
In the hallways, the popo was always present Searchin' through niggas 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 fifth's a human being 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 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' niggas 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 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 niggas never finish

But that doesn't mean I couldn't be a doctor or a dentist  
 They schools can't teach us shit  
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 (Say what, say what)  
 They schools don't educate, all they teach the people is lies  
 'Cuz for real, a mind is a terrible thing to waste  
 And all y'all high class niggas 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 ain't 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 niggas  
 Got a problem with this shit, that's why  
 niggas 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 niggas 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 nigga  
 This whole school system can suck my dick, beeyotch