**Gen Z Podcast – Episode 1 - Podcast Script:**

This Gen Z Podcast is proudly brought to you by our title sponsor Riverside Secondary School.

[cue in intro music]

Gianna: Welcome everybody to Episode 1 of The Gen Z Podcast, the show where we discuss modern world problems which we all face today. We’re your hosts, Gianna, and Annabelle. Are you ready Annabelle?

Annabelle: I’m ready Gi! What about you out there? Are you ready to face the issues seen in our world?

Gianna: Well, I'm ready! And I think it's time we talk about this. Because it’s time to speak up **LOUDER**

**[**intro news sound effects]

**[**transition music]

**Segment 1:**

Annabelle: It is currently March 11th 2022. Can you believe that it’s already been a couple years since 2020?

Gianna: How can we forget 2020? It was one hell of a ride.

Annabelle: It sure was! But the thing is, it allowed us to see how prejudiced our world has become. Specifically, the racism towards the Asian and Black communities.

Gianna: According to Frontiers in psychology, dehumanization is “the blatant denial of a group’s humanity or humanness”. This is evident in so many ways within our world today because we see some people treating other people as less than human based on their race.

Gianna: The news, social media, articles, and memes found all over the internet are spreading misinformation that influences racism and stereotypes.

Annabelle: That’s a good point Gianna! But I feel like a lot of young people may have no idea about this current problem. I've interviewed Zoey, a middle school student, to see what she knows.

[Zoey interview here]

Gianna: Wow! I guess I thought we all knew about this, but maybe we don’t! But that’s why we created this podcast: to inform and explain global issues in a clearer way.

Annabelle: Yes we did! I also interviewed Ms. Chin, a social studies and law teacher at Riverside secondary. Let’s listen to what she has to say about the harmful influence of media on racism.

[cue in Ms. Chin’s interview about the influence of racism]

Annabelle: Wow, that was so insightful, I don’t even know what to say! It's hard to top that off!

[cue in transition music]

**Segment 2: examples and how prevalent it is**

Annabelle: Welcome back to Gen Z Podcast!

Gianna: A good way to start this segment is to ask you a question, Annabelle. Same goes for our listeners out there, just call out your answer.

Annabelle: Okay, I'm ready for this question!

Gianna: When did the Black Lives Matter movement start?

Annabelle: Hmm. Didn’t it start around 2020?

Gianna: You... are... **wrong**

Annabelle: What do you mean? It didn’t start in 2020?

Gianna: Get this, the movement actually began in July 2013, which is what, almost 10 years ago? But it resurfaced in the media and was nationally recognized around 2020. The killings of black people such as George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and countless others in the United States alone sparked a new wave of protests against the systemic racism towards Black people.

Annabelle: Wow, I didn’t realize it’s been going on for so long. It makes me truly sad that something this devastating had to happen for people to start standing up against racism. White privilege is still happening today, even in such a modern, advanced world. Not to mention, how COVID sparked racism towards other communities too.

Gianna: Actually Annabelle, on that note, I am half Chinese and half Filipino, and I remembered the tensions me and my family felt when the bat soup rumor started spreading across the media. I believe every Asian felt uncomfortable with that news spreading. I was genuinely ashamed because it felt as if we were the reason why the pandemic happened.

Annabelle: I’m so sorry for you and to other people who experienced that. Instead of uniting and helping each other get through the pandemic, it divided our community even further.

Gianna: Our vulnerability, the fear we felt during those times developed prejudice. It developed hate.

Annabelle: This shows us how spreading misinformation on the pandemic can create racism.

Gianna: Though BLM still continuously demeaned, devalued, and not talked about, we can’t forget about Anti-Asian racism and the impact it has. A study concluded that “The evidence ….... suggests a nontrivial number of Americans dehumanized Asians, Asian Americans, and Chinese people during early stages of the pandemic

Annabelle: Why is this so common today, in the 21st century? Racism has been happening for hundreds of years; shouldn’t we have learned from past mistakes in history?

[transition music]

**Segment 3: what can we do or not do about the problem**

Gianna: So, what can we do about this issue? It seems like there’s some huge problems going on.

Annabelle: Yeah you’re right, it can be overwhelming. Sometimes it feels like there's nothing we can really do. But one way to overcome racism in our communities is simple: treat people with respect, rather than being quick to judge or assume. We can practice building relationships and connections to basically “rehumanize” the world.

Gianna: That’s interesting. But based on what’s happening in the world, I think it’s easier said than done.

Annabelle: For sure. I think this is something that will take time and effort, but it can be done if we work together. What else do you think we could do about these issues?

Gianna: I believe that it would make a huge difference if people were well informed on the events happening in the world and acknowledging racism. If you see or hear something that you are unsure of, check where the information came from and put effort on analyzing if it was a reliable source

Annabelle: Yes, I totally agree with you Gianna. And remember not to spread information online if you don’t know how accurate it is. As said by Criss Jami, “It's okay to be honest about not knowing rather than spreading falsehood. While it is often said that honesty is the best policy, silence is the second best...”

[segue music]

**Calls to Action:**

Gianna: We’re back, and we’ve come up with 3 simple actions that can be taken to work towards a possible solution.

Annabelle: Tell me Gianna, what’s the first one?

Gianna: First, we think it would be helpful to create a trustworthy news site for kids and teenagers where they can get accurate, factual information on current events.

Annabelle: This would certainly help people stop spreading misinformation and let people know what's really happening in the world

Gianna: Yeah! And having this one website would make it more straightforward, rather than being bombarded with news from so many different sources.

Annabelle: Yes, I know how overwhelming that can be. Another call to action is to continue to support BLM and go against Asian hate, even when they are not as relevant in the news as it was in 2020.

Gianna: We can do this by going to Black Lives Matter.com to learn about the issue, and even donate to support the cause.

Annabelle: Finally, we can start encouraging society to take time and develop connections.

Gianna: But how can we do that, in such a technological world? Wouldn’t it be easier to just text someone?

Annabelle: Well, if we take time off from technology, maybe by simply taking your time to genuinely meet people. That act alone would be a huge step in our society.

Gianna: Couldn’t agree with you more Annabelle. By interacting more in person, we can re-gain what it means to be human: connecting with others. Just remember: think twice about what you say, read and see, for it could be contributing to the false beliefs we have.

Annabelle: Thank you so much for listening to Gen Z Podcast Episode 1, where we discussed racism. Tune in for our podcast on inequality in education next week!

[outro music]

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**Podcast Script Draft: Citizens live in a dehumanized state**.

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| Sponsor (Introduction) | NOTES  Sponsor segment   * The New Dystopia * Living Dystopia * Censor Dystopic * The New Utopia * Excluded * Fahrenheit 451 * Living in Fahrenheit 451 * The Tea * 2 girls 1 Podcast   Welcome to [podcast name], the show that discusses the relationship between humans and our world. We’re (I’m) your host, (Gianna/Annabelle) and today we are talking about dehumanization in the 21st century. This podcast will question and explore the topic of dehumanization in an informative and interesting way. We will be discussing current events in depth to understand how we think and react. | SCRIPT  This podcast is sponsored by Riverside Secondary School.  Welcome to ......., the show that discusses the relationship between humans and our world. We’re (I’m) your host, (Gianna/Annabelle) and today we are talking about dehumanization in the 21st century. This podcast will question and explore the topic of dehumanization in an informative and interesting way. We will be discussing current events about racism to understand how we think and react. | Sound Effects    [Gianna] |
|  |  |  |  |
| Examples/Interviews | 1. Ms. Chin   1) Do you think BLM movement is still talked about today?  2) Do you think the world is in a dehumanized state?  3) Why do you think our world is nearing in a dehumanized state?  4) Do you think human rights will get better in the future?  Zoey:   * What do you think dehumanization is? * Has covid impacted you based on race or ethnicity? * How do you think covid has impacted certain races or ethnic groups?  1. Mr. Horton | Recording of interview with Ms. Chin............  These were the responses from Ms. Chin, a high school social studies teacher at Riverside Secondary.  We also talked to a middle school student named Zoey to get the point of view from a younger perspective.  Recording of interview..........  What do you think dehumanization is?  Do you see racism in your school and how would you react? |  |
| Segment #1 | · Citizens live in a dehumanized state.   * Media contributes to dehumanization   Media-driven dehumanization:  How memes became a part of dehumanization (When is dark humor too far?)   * We are slowly becoming more intelligent, but at the same time our views can be clouded by new inventions and discoveries * We are “dehumanized” or desensitized as the world becomes more violent * Children are accustomed to the dangers of the world, so they put up a shield around themselves and block it out | According to Frontiers in psychology, dehumanization is “the blatant denial of a group’s humanity or humanness”. This is evident in so many ways within our world today. The news, social media, articles and memes are just a few examples of ways humans can spread misinformation and cause a domino effect of problems. As we become more intelligent, new discoveries can begin to take over and do everything for us. Even skip the dishes is an example that limits human interaction and makes things impossibly convenient. However, this may slowly be eliminating human interactions for good, as we move into a more technological world. Does this impact our connections with other?? |  |
| Segment #2 | 1. Asian Hate/Black Hate (BLM) – lower class   How COVID sparked the dehumanization with Asians   1. The Rise of Dehumanization in our Society We treat people as “less than human” based on only their race or culture 2. Why a sizeable amount of people still dehumanizes Black people? 3. Dehumanizing messages in the media (racism more info on link <https://thehill.com/opinion/civil-rights/527379-beware-of-dehumanizing-messages-in-the-media>) 4. This is ingrained in us and so we think things without realizing they are dehumanizing 5. How every generation contributes to dehumanization: how the early generation’s view with “minorities” affected the generations ahead 6. Why are Black people still dehumanized seen less human? 7. Support for Black Lives Matter movement is declining, according to new poll: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/nbcblk/support-black-lives-matter-movement-declining-according-new-poll-rcna5746> 8. Black Lives still continuously demeaned, devalued, dehumanized 9. The Psychological Reason Behind Dehumanization (get some insight with psychology teacher) 10. Covid and dehumanization – like other times in the past 11. Asian hate based on covid 19 – treated as “less than human” misinformation on covid 12. According to Frontiers in psychology, “the blatant denial of a group’s humanity or humanness, is a global issue perpetrated on a range of outgroups? 13. Why is this so common today, shouldn’t we have learned from past mistakes in history? 14. A study concluded that “The evidence in this two-wave study suggests a nontrivial number of Americans dehumanized Asians, Asian Americans, and Chinese people during early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.” | <https://www.buffalo.edu/news/releases/2021/01/010.html>  Not to mention, the events that happened  Did you know that the Black Lives Matter movement started in 2013, almost 10 years ago?  What?? I thought it started just a few years ago?  No, it actually began......... |  |
| Segment #3 | How to solve the problem   1. We can overcome dehumanization by building connections with people 2. We need to “rehumanize” by talking with humans rather than technology 3. This may also end up reducing conflict 4. Living in harmony for a better and more connected world 5. Treat all humans with respect and fairness 6. Being well informed on topics such as covid can help avoid racism and inappropriate comments | So, what can we do about this issue? Well, one way to overcome dehumanization is to treat people with respect, rather than being quick to judge. We can practice building relationships and connections to “rehumanize” the world. Though this is difficult, it is possible if we make an effort.  Being well informed on the topic of racism and current events can help to avoid spreading misinformation. If you see or hear something, check where the information came from, and whether it was a reliable source. |  |
| Outro | Calls to action:   1. Create a trustworthy news site for kids and teenagers where they can get accurate, informative information on current events. 2. Continue to support BLM and go against Asian hate, even when they are not as relevant in the news 3. Encouraging society to take time to develop connections | We need to continue to support BLM and go against Asian hate, even when they are not as relevant in the news  Thank you for listening, and remember....... |  |

**Interview Questions:**

1) Do you think the Black Lives Matter and Asian Hate is still talked about today?

2) Do you think the world is in a dehumanized state?

3) Why do you think our world is nearing in a dehumanized state?

4) Do you think human rights will get better in the future?

6) What do you think are the racial impacts of COVID 19? How did it affect our community?

7)What do you think the impact of COVID has been on Asians and Blacks?

8) How do you think the media influenced how we may feel about racism towards Asian Hate and Black Lives Matter

9) What do you think is the psychological reason behind individuals committing racist acts (get some insight with psychology teacher)

10) Do you think human rights will get better in the future?

11) What are the psychological aspects of racism