

# Coming OF AGE

My Counselor is crying.  
Get thee to a Reg Room. I simply told her that I was scheduled home on Fridays.

THE VARIETY SHOW IS ON. OFF! ON!! OFF!!! ON.

GOODMORNING: THIS IS MR. O!

The English Resource Center was too crowded, so I went to Wayzata.

Meanwhile, back in Room 344 . . . .

THIS IS YOUR 53RD AND FINAL CHANCE TO BUY YOUR YEARBOOK!

OF COURSE I HAVE A PASS, IT'S FROM WHAT-HIS-NAME, AND HE FORGOT TO SIGN IT!  
PLEASE, THIS IS A QUIET STUDY AREA!



*I realize now how much my perception of the world was influenced by TV, Life, and Tiger Beat magazines and 630 AM on the radio. I learned to talk about the stress and fear I was feeling as I watched, listened, and read about the [social and political turmoil].*

*There was a light-hearted, normal 13-year-old in me, too. I put eye makeup on to look like Twiggy and wore white lipstick even if it wasn't flattering. I played the guitar and was sad to see the Monkees TV show end! I really, really wanted to go to California and live on the beach.*

—Wendy George

Coming of age in a decade swirling in political turmoil and revolutionary social change, some Minnesota teens actively carved out their identities, while others were far less intentional. Pivotal events were emotionally “far away” for one and ground-shaking close for another. Normal life, everything from dates and 4H to *American Bandstand*, shared the calendar with an undefined future. Certainly, The Monkees sought and gained a young audience. A severe, Cold War climate had teenagers in mind, too.

*Coming of Age: The 1968 Generation* looks at how Minnesota teens navigated this historic decade, “the age of youth,” when people fought for equal rights, assassinations betrayed something “very wrong in this country,” family television shows proliferated, war divided, music “was huge,” and fashion showed its colors.

# The

# 1968

# GENERATION