

The opinion that my work presents is the opinion that we take away our own childhoods. We created the society that said childhood has to end. We stole childhood from ourselves by giving it a finite existence, so we can give it back to ourselves. It's a societal thought, so this obviously isn't able to be done immediately. When one enjoys playing with building blocks, or coloring in coloring books, it's not "childish". It's you, as a person, in whatever stage of life you're in, enjoying something. We are the ones creating the society that made it bad to have childish traits and associate negative things with being childish after a certain age. In doing this, we're not just taking our own childhoods. We're taking everyone else's, too. Yours. Mine. The childhood of the kid you sat next to in fourth grade.

By saying childhood has to end, we end everyone's. But why? Being childish isn't bad. Sure, the system is based on our own biological growth, and that's not inherently bad. But when we *make* it bad, as we've been doing, then that has consequences. If you're a kid now, then you don't have a part in that, you're the one who's childhood will end. But if you're an adult, you can give your childhood back to yourself. If you want your childhood again, then you're the one who gives it back. It's *your* childhood. It's *your* life. And you should be able to enjoy it. If you're fine as is, that's valid. You don't need to want childhood back. But for those who do, I hope this did something good for you. They're building blocks. Just enjoy it.

YOUR NOW BUILT BLOCKS

Helianthus/Lola C.