My name is Colin. We are aware that phones have been a topic of opposing views in recent years, and they should have been taken care of years ago. Here is why, from a kids perspective who is living in this situation every day at school.

During my sixth grade year I was highly addicted to YouTube. I watched thousands of YouTube videos during my school day and essentially skipped that entire year of school.

In this same year I was told by another student to take the “gay test” online using my school device. I did and was brainwashed for months thinking I might be gay, due to the surveys influence on me.

In 7th grade, I was shown a video of XXX pornography and a real livestreamed suicide on kids personal cell phone at the lunch table. This same student, because of Discord and other social media platforms, was influenced by the “trend” of saying, “Just kill yourself”. This student repeatedly told me I should kill myself daily. This led to suicidal ideations. I was lucky, I told my mom and asked for help. Not everyone is able to do that.

I no longer have these extreme ideations. These negatives experiences, with the help of certain teachers and my parents, have led to a profound emotional and spiritual growth in my life. I cannot say the same for some of my peers I see each day. Please help us, as children, to end the addiction. Give us a place to be kids and socially interact with each other again.

Thank you for your time.