

Change

by Graham Lively, Grade 11 CHS

Sparkling, white luxury.

Money flowing, mortgages paid, a colorful, cheerful life.

Well educated, well fed, well clothed and “well bred”.

Happiness, freedom, the highest class.

Dilapidated, dark despair.

Money tight, debts overwhelming, a frustrated, fearful life.

Deprived of knowledge, of food, wearing tatters, born of smatter.

Frustration, longing, the lowest caste.

Suddenly one family, one person, a man or woman,

Breaks the barrier,

They seek diversity, compassion, understanding.

Walls begin to crumble, lines dissolve.

Suburb, slum, cul-de-sac, ghetto, liquefied and coalesced.

And all it takes is change.