

## Let Me Say We Don't Care About Them

*Editors' Note: Songbird is the pseudonym chosen by a young man who has grown up in "the system." As a very small boy he was taken into the care of the child welfare system and made a ward of the crown. He spent his childhood moving through far too many foster homes and group homes, never really feeling that he belonged. Upon leaving child welfare care at age 21, he entered the community living sector where he continues to reside. A talented poet he expresses through his art his thoughts, feelings, frustrations, and questions about life in the system, notably his belief that people with disabilities, such as himself, are largely forgotten and invisible.*

### Author

Songbird

Let me say we don't care  
We just don't care about them  
Let me say we don't care  
We just don't care about them  
Let me say we don't care

Users, abusers  
Everyone is in it for themselves  
Disgrace, disregard  
Bang, bang. A love under aim, shoot to kill  
Everyone is just dog food  
Never bite the hand that feeds you  
Replace, throw away  
In with the new, out with the old

Blood spilled, ignore  
Innocent snatched away by a cold hand  
Stories twisted and flip  
Situation, Speculation  
Blackmail system, collusion  
Allegation, aggravation  
Expose, control, denial  
Everyone gone bad  
We are just dog food

Kick us, thrill us  
Love us, boycott us  
Stab us in the back, hate us  
Replace us, bash us  
We are just food for your thoughts  
Souls to be sold  
Neglect us, use us  
Good cop us, bad cop us  
We are conditioned by the system  
Hearts in a dying hand

### Correspondence

At the request of the author,  
all correspondence should  
be directed to Ann Fudge  
Schormans at fschorm@  
mcmaster.ca.

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 Let me say we don't care

*Ain't my soul enough for you, why do you got to take so much of my love. I'm tired of being the victim of shame, giving into you, having you throw me away when you decide. Tell me what has become of my life. Why is it ok to promise me your love and then take it away? You say you care, but you are raping me of your love, snatching me of my innocence, a kick to my integrity. Oh for god's sake when will they see I had enough and set me free from this prophecy that I don't want to claim.*

User, abuser  
 Dying hand, skin heads  
 Everyone gone bad  
 Confusion, collusion  
 Contradiction, situation  
 Black and white in all it's glory  
 Souls to be thrown away  
 Lost cause, dead cause

*Tell me what has become of my right to be loved. All I wanted to feel was love like any other child, to grow up in a loving home. To have open arms to go to. But I got the blackmail system that thinks I am invisible because they ignore me, take their love that they give and abuse me. How could this be? I just wanted somebody to care about me, to love me. Instead my composure is judged, my family tree is alienated. I can't help it that this is the system which I came from. I never wanted to see it or believe it that this is the fate of every child in the system. Tell me how could this be. What about me? What about us?*

Dying hand, skin head  
 Everyone gone bad  
 Dress to kill, in the suit  
 Litigation, allegation  
 Everybody, speculation  
 Blackmail, injustice  
 Politics, politician  
 Let me say we don't care  
 We just don't care about them

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