

Younger Generation Blues

Janis Ian

I was standing on the corner, I was smoking on the sly
when along comes a grownup from the grown-up FBI
He said - This ain't Marlboro country, hon
Where's you get your cigarettes? You know you are too young
Then up stepped three more governmental nuts
who'd been laying in the gutter disguised as cigarette butts
If you think I'm hating grown-ups, you've got me all wrong
They're very nice people when they stay where they belong
But I'm the younger generation,
and your rules are giving me fixations
I've got those younger generation, regurgitatin' blues
Called for the sergeant. He rolled up in a hearse,
and he called me a lousy no-good juvenile pervert
He gave me a lecture on cancer of the lung
Said - Anyone who smokes is a low down dirty bum
"Don't let me catch you smoking around here again", he said
and he took another drag of his own cigarette

Chorus

Going down the corner, I was going against the light
which had just turned green, when up comes this guy
Says - Don't you know that's a federal offence?
Seems like kids your age just ain't got no sense
Don't you know you're risking juvenile arrest?
Committing suicide is punishable by death

Chorus

Sitting on a city park bench, Reader's Digest in my hand
when down next to me sits this liberal looking man
who says - You're a cute chick, I believe in being free
I swung at him with my pocket book - Don't you natural around me!

He took out a badge, put some handcuffs on my hands
"Now you're carrying a weapon, self defense be damned"

Chorus