For my visual argument I wanted to show the idea that we lose touch with our inner child when we transition into reality and adult life. To show this I used an adult businessman holding a briefcase on the right and a young girl holding a backpack on the left. I wanted the contrast to be clear with the adult/reality side being more ridged and using hard edges on the images as well as making it darker. And on the child’s side I used brighter images and made them softer and airy to show the innocence and dreaminess that we have as children. To emphasize these opposites, I used a white vignette on the girl’s side and a black vignette on the man’s side. I chose to make the girls side have more space (negative and used space) to show the freedom a child feels to dream and do what they want and not having any responsibilities. Likewise, I made the space on the man’s side more confined and closed off to show lack of freedom and to make his side feel tighter and more constrained. I think my visual argument uses Kawasaki’s balance, alignment, and proximity. The image has contrast and as a person on either side positioned that way on person to represent two different ideas of mental state and stages of life.

In my visual argument the man is looking down at the child envying her freedom, he wants to give her the bag, but she is off in her own little world being herself and doing her own things. She is not paying attention to the man because she is content with her own world and too carefree to notice. I decided to include bubbles between them and have them even touch the man to further show that there is a block between them and their thinking. The bubbles are almost like a shield.

Some of the struggles I had were finding the right profile view images of an adult and a child. I originally wanted to have the genders of the adult and child to be the same to make it appear they were the same person at a different stage in their life. I had to adapt when I could not find the right images. Though this was initially an issue, I found it made it more interesting for me as I was able to push the light and airy image of the child easier with a girl.

I think my audience would be those that are being to transition or have already transitioned into the “adult life” side and are beginning to or have, lost touch with their inner child. I would hope to inspire the viewer to remember that part of themselves and get back in touch with and to care for that part of themselves.

I am overall happy with this project and how it turned out. I also really enjoyed navigating GIMP, learning how to use it and applying design principles to my visual argument.