**Is Aging “All That”??**

**Nickelodeon causes feelings of nostalgia to kick in early for young adults.**

**By Jordan Duckens**

**Contributing Writer**

The demands of 90’s Nickelodeon fans were finally answered in July 2011 when TeenNick introduced their “90’s Are All That” block. The four hour block of shows started at 12 a.m. with *All That (1995)* and concluded with *Doug (1991)* at 3:30 a.m. *Kenan & Kel (1996)* as well as *Clarissa Explains It All (1992)* were also a part of the programming block that sent Twitter and Facebook into a frenzy as former viewers who consider these shows childhood classics reminisced online.

“I was super excited when I heard they were bringing them back because you just can’t get quality tv like that anymore,” said Erin Crawford, now 20 years old studying biomedical engineering at George Washington University. The majority of viewers, who are now adults ages 18 to 34, found themselves racing to their television sets to catch their favorite Nick programs just as they did a decade ago. Yep, 10 years ago! And in some cases more! It felt like just yesterday we were singing along to TLC’s soulful theme song for All That or bobbing our heads to the beat of Coolio’s rhymes which signaled the start of another crazy adventure with Kenan and Kel.

While this trip down memory lane might have made some of us feel warm and fuzzy inside, it may have caused others become conscious how old they’ve gotten. “Yea that’s pretty weird” 18-year-old Janie McDermitt said in reference to the amount of time that has passed since she watched the original Nickelodeon programs. While some watched with anticipation this summer, they realized the punch lines scattered throughout each episode didn’t cause them to break out in a fit of giggles like they did as a kid. “Yea, I would have to say I was not as entertained as my childhood self,” Crawford said. Could this be a telltale sign that we indeed aren’t a young as we used to be? “Not really,” Crawford disagrees. “I just feel like in the full scheme of things, we are still young.” In some cases, maturity acquired over the years opened many eyes to the humor that went undetected in the early years. “I found them entertaining in a different way. When I used to watch shows like Hey Arnold, I thought it was great for unspecified reasons. Now I can appreciate the jokes they make,” said Landon Elkind, a 20-year-old junior studying Math at George Washington University.

The idea of aging brings others a sense of pride instead of horror. For now, at least. “I feel proud. We have our own distinct group. Something that belongs to 90s kids,” said Ariel Young a 19- year-old who attends college in Washington, D.C. That sense of pride and ownership of the original Nicktoons and sitcoms, may have been part of the reason TeenNick’s ratings skyrocketed when they flashed back to the 90’s. According to Entertainment Weekly, the block averaged 550, 000 viewers which is a 114 percent increase from last year. Whether or not you were as thoroughly entertained as you hoped to be, the numbers don’t lie. Most of us can agree this blast from the past was a fun one. “Even if the shows are bad, I’m hard-pressed to dislike them. They have sentimental value just by virtue of having enjoyed them when I was younger,” Elkind said.