

## Summary

This speech will motivate your audience to be aware of the things they conform to and how it is detrimental to their purpose, creativity and livelihood. This speech is suitable for any speaker to give either to students or to a general audience.

## Sample

What does the word conformity mean to you? Give a few seconds to see if the audience responds. If so, field comments, then continue with your definition. And no this is not Webster's definition, nor is it Oxford's definition. This is my definition. As an educated human being, I believe that I can use my sense to perceive the outside world and come up with a good, solid, working definition of what conformity means.

So, let's define conformity shall we. My definition of conformity is simple. It means to follow tradition, to follow social mores, stereotypes, prejudices, ideas, customs and rules set forth by the general public or the powers that be. Now there is a key word that I used. Can anyone point that word out for me? Give the audience a second to respond. That word would be follow!

I mentioned before that I would define what conformity means to me. Now if I "followed" what national convention says I would not have used my ability that was given to me. And that is to be unique, original. Now, my definition is not far off from any definition you would read in any dictionary. But it's mine! We are not here to be clones, difference is what makes us special, what makes us what we are today.

Conformity stifles creativity, I repeat, conformity stifles creativity. If you are like everyone else, how can you have a different vision, why would your dreams and goals be different, how could you stand out? The saying "Think outside the box", speaks to that. The most successful, well known individuals were themselves even in the face of danger. Jesus Christ, Malcolm X, Ghandi, Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King Jr. Tupac Shakur, and you know the list goes on.

You have to ask yourself a very serious question. Do you want to fit in because it's acceptable or do you want to be yourself? Can you stand on your own two feet, be an individual, and do what feels right and not what is told to you. We have more ordinary lifestyles because on conformity, we repeat our past behavior because of conformity, we look at our differences as being negative because of conformity.

Now, let's look at why this may be the case. Let's do some digging. Conformity keeps people in check, it allows the powers that be to have control. You control the message, you control the minds of the people. Too many free thinkers can disrupt the message, have people believe in themselves, they become free in mind, body and spirit. We need just enough to create, to afford us with these nice luxuries we have before us today.

How many times have you been told not to do something without even a logical explanation behind it only that it's just not how things are done. How many times have you heard the terminology, "It's just tradition"! Which is code for we want you just to be like everyone else, why buck the system? Maybe because the system is dysfunctional perhaps.

What I'm telling you is to own your truth, own your message, and own yourself. Too many of us are not even aware that we are controlled by the masses, not informed with our true self. You are a replica, a clone of somebody else. You might as well have been passed down an assembly line!

Wake up, wake up, wake up!!! Change is not the enemy. Most of us cannot even find our true happiness because we just go with the flow. Read, search, explore, visit, imagine, create, open, and delve deep inside your mind. The world will be just fine, as a matter of fact, the world will be better off with individuals that are free from distractions, free from dysfunction, free to spread their wings and fly.

In closing, I would like to say I am you, you are me, we are all family. It's not how we get there it's getting there. I love each and every one of you.