



May 2016

# PSCORE Newsletter

People for Successful COrean REunification

## Street Campaigns in Itaewon

Early this month, PSCORE's team had already started on planning this year's first campaign season, and we finally began our first round of campaigns on the street of Itaewon during the last week of May! This summer, our goal is to continue to raise awareness and support from people about the human rights issues in North Korea, in order to support our mission of reunification and end of human rights abuses.



Passers-by stopping to see our campaign boards on the street of Itaewon.

Despite the sunny weather of early summer, all of the interns who participated in our street campaigns have had a rewarding time interacting with the public. During the first two days of the campaign, we already garnered the interest of many passers-by on the street of Itaewon, and were able to discuss with them further more about the work that PSCORE is doing.

Over the course of the next few months, PSCORE is going to continue to hold more street campaigns like this in different areas around Seoul, so please keep an eye on our Facebook fan page for more detail!



An intern explaining about the campaign to a passer-by.

# Education Program for North Korean Defectors

## Wednesday English Class

Our diverse team of volunteer tutors and teachers has been continuing to help North Korean defectors in PSCORE's weekly Wednesday English Class. Besides giving them more confidence and basic skills in speaking English in the public, we have been gradually seeing remarkable succeeds from our students in all aspects of their education and life. One student, who is taught by our intern Borja, had successfully obtained a visa to study English in America, thanks to her constant participation and practice in the Wednesday English Class.



Borja teaching his student in Wednesday English Class.



Kelly Han helping her student in simple English practices.

Kelly Han is volunteering as an English language tutor for PCORE, and has recently been tutoring one-on-one with a young boy at his home once a week in addition to their time at PSCORE's Wednesday English Class. Kelly commented on what she discusses with her student and why she volunteers her time to PSCORE: "We talk about his favorite color, favorite toys, what he does at school, movies, what hobbies he likes, things he likes to do with friends. I teach Kindergarten so this is actually a great way for me to get in touch with the Korean community. North Korean refugees are also a passion of mine so it's good to help with that."

## Students Joining PSCORE Office

Starting from the month of May, we have welcomed a few North Korean students from the regular Wednesday English Class coming to PSCORE's office everyday to learn and deepen their English and computer skills. Our interns in the office take turns to spare some of their working time during the day to assist the students on the aspects of English and computer skills that they need help on, as they are busy getting ready for university entrance exam and English-proficiency exam. The students aalso spend time to engage with South Koreans and foreigners, who give them a welcoming atmosphere to their transition to life in South Korea.



Intern Rai having conversations with a North Korean student at the office.

# Education & Propaganda Research Project

PSCORE's research team has been working intensively since the start of this year on our Education & Propaganda research project. We aim to produce a comprehensive report on the education system of North Korea in order to give an insight in the faults and violations of human rights within its system, as well as to compare and contrast the differences & similarities to that of other communist systems.



A propaganda poster portraying young children violently vanquishing soldiers from enemy nations.

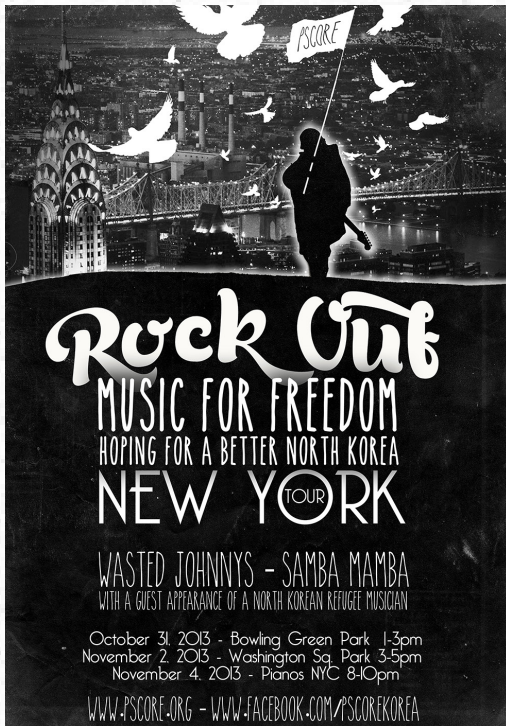
We've been conducting even more interviews with North Korean students during the recent months, so that we can ensure all the information represented in the research is the most accurate and reliable. All of the interviews conducted are focused on the students' real experience during their time studying in North Korea, as well as the emotional approaches they had. Altogether, they make great resources for the research project, providing anecdotes and credibility to areas of our research such as propaganda, idolization, and surveillance, etc.



PSCORE team interviewing the North Korean defectors about their school life in North Korea.

# Fundraising Initiative

## 12th Rock Out Concert



As one of the annual charitable events hosted by PSCORE, we are excited to bringing our 12th Rock Out Concert this July 30th, with the performances of famous South Korean indie rock bands including Wasted Johnny's, The Sons of Tiger, Street Guns, and more!

Rock Out Concert is a charitable rock concert held every year by PSCORE, where all the proceeds from ticket selling will be used to support North Korean defectors on our on-going educational and cultural programs. In the past years, we had successfully held 11 concerts in Seoul and New York City, with the participant of many rock lovers and human rights supporters, and raised amazing amounts of money that contributed to the succeed of PSCORE's projects.

More details of this year's Rock Out Concert will be announced very soon on our Facebook page, so please make sure to stay updated with us!

## On-Going and Upcoming Events and Projects

1 Street Campaigns

2 Speech Event with North Korean defectors at Korea University

3 Education & Propaganda Research Project

4 PSCORE's 10th Year Anniversary