

# Dying Scene

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## Album Review: Common Enemy - "Living The Dream?"

Posted by rampsnotbombs04 on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 9:34 AM (PST)



Editor Rating:

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**Common Enemy** is a 5-piece Punk/Thrash band based out of Reading, PA. Their latest release, *Living The Dream?*, is the full-length debut of new singer Gary Critical. The album was released on September 8th of 2009 with help from Horror Business, DRP, and Overdose On Records.

It's clear as soon as the first track kicks in that this is the good ole' Common Enemy you've grown to love with a great addition following a successful hunt to track down a vocal grit that meshes perfectly with the band's raw style and rabid tempo. Gary immediately feels like part of the Common Enemy family when he belts out 'I'm still having fun playing different places, I'm still having fun thrashing off faces'. One difference the longtime Common Enemy fan may notice is a slightly political theme not seen in their previous releases. While songs such as 'Bail Out' may be reminiscent of the classic Common Enemy track about skateboarding, the motive behind the album name is more prevalent in songs such as the title track 'Living The Dream?' which features Jason Navarro of the Suicide Machines/Hellmouth and 'Never Enough' with an opening line that I feel sums up the record better than any other lyric, 'I have a disease, it's the American Dream.'

The album is tied together with songs confessing hardships and the struggle of the daily grind. However, for those in search of another fun Common Enemy record with songs about skating, partying, and yes, video games...you certainly won't be let down with tracks like 'Beer Bong', 'Pac-man fever', and 'My Board, My Rules'. There's something in this one for the whole family and they're the only band I know that can rip through 20 tracks this well in under 28 minutes! Face it, this band couldn't release a boring album if they tried. If you learn one thing from this record, it may be that no amount of skating and drinking can blind us from everything that's wrong with society...but it's sure as hell worth a try!

Other stand out tracks: Shut Your Mouth, Warped in World 8, Nothing's Wrong, Hey Kid Wake Up, Standing In Line

### More News On Common Enemy:

New Song: "All I Want For Christmas Is A Bag Of Weed" by Common Enemy

Video: Common Enemy - "We're Under Attack"

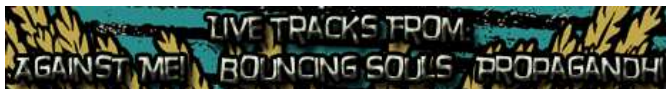
Watch Common Enemy's music video for "Beer Bong"

[More News On Common Enemy](#)



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### Upcoming Shows:

**Common Enemy** playing at Skanking and Moshing For A Cause - A Benefit For the MS Society in King Of Prussia, Pennsylvania on 01/22/2010

**Common Enemy** playing at Championship Bar and Grill (21+ only) in Trenton, New Jersey on 01/30/2010

**Common Enemy** playing at LOVE SUXS FEST 2010 @ Hamburg Legion Hall in Hamburg, Pennsylvania on 02/13/2010

**Common Enemy** playing at The Rock and Roll Hotel w/ VPR (Reunion Show) in DC, Washington DC on 02/27/2010

**Common Enemy** playing at 4th EUROPEAN TOUR - May 2010 in Europe on 05/30/2010

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### Album Reviews:

#### *Living The Dream?*



Editor Rating

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### Discography:



Date: 09/08/2009  
Album: **Living The Dream?**  
Label: **DRP**



Date: 06/16/2006  
Album: **T.U.I.**  
Label: **Overdose On**



Date: 10/15/2004  
Album: **Late Night Skate**  
Label: **DRP**



Date: 06/12/2002  
Album: **Outsiders**  
Label: **Spine Punch Music**

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#### **The Rebel Spell**

Label:  
**None or Unknown**



[The Rebel Spell MySpace](#)

If anybody out there thought punk rock had lost it's angst they clearly haven't come across Vancouver's [The Rebel Spell](#) yet. This four-piece punk outfit plays fast and aggressive political punk rock so filled with conviction they could inspire nuns into rebellion. For those unfamiliar with the band, their EP *4 Songs About Freedom* is a great introduction to their unique style (check it out on their [MySpace page](#)). If you like what you hear you'll be stoked to know a new album is currently in the works and a US tour is already planned for February. When it comes to bands to watch in 2010 it's definitely time to put The Rebel Spell on your



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