

Degrees of youth engagement



← Youth involvement / ownership →



Manipulation

Youth follow directions from adults with little understanding of the purpose of their own involvement.

Tokenism

Young people are invited to be members of a group but they have little to no decision-making power

Assigned but informed

Adults give youth specific tasks but let youth know how their work will contribute to the project as a whole.

Consulted and informed

Youth advise adults on ideas and projects. They understand how their participation fits into the overall process.

Youth-initiated and directed

Youth create a project idea and involve adults to make it happen.

Decoration

Young people are used to augment a cause with their presence at an event.

Adult-initiated and directed

Adults create a project idea and youth take a leading role to make it happen.

Youth-adult partnerships

Shared decision-making and equal power balance between youth and adults working as a collective to achieve common goals.

Adapted from Roger A. Hart and Sherry Arnstein (1969)



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