DEGREES OF YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Increasing Degrees of Youth Participation

Youth and Adult Initiated and Directed	→	Designed and run by youth and adults in full partnership.
Youth-Initiated, Shared Decisions with Adults	→	Designed and run by youth who share decisions with adults.
Youth Initiated and Directed	→	Designed and run by youth and decisions made by adults.
Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth	→	Designed and run by adults who share decision-making with youth.
Consulted and Informed	→	Designed and run by adults who consult with youth. Youth make recommendations that are considered by youth.
Assigned but Informed	→	Youth did not initiate, but understand and have some sense of ownership.
Tokenism	→	Symbolic representation by few. May not have genuine voice. May be asked to speak for the group they represent.
Decoration	→	Adults use youth to promote or support a cause without informing youth. Youth are not involved in design or decision-making.
Manipulation	→	Youth involvement used by adults to communicate adults' messages.

Provided by the National 4H Council's Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development.
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