

Ladder of Young People's Participation*

9. Youth Initiated and Directed

**8. Youth Initiated, Shared
Decisions with Adults**

**7. Youth and Adult
Initiated and Directed**

**6. Adult Initiated, Shared
Decisions with Youth**

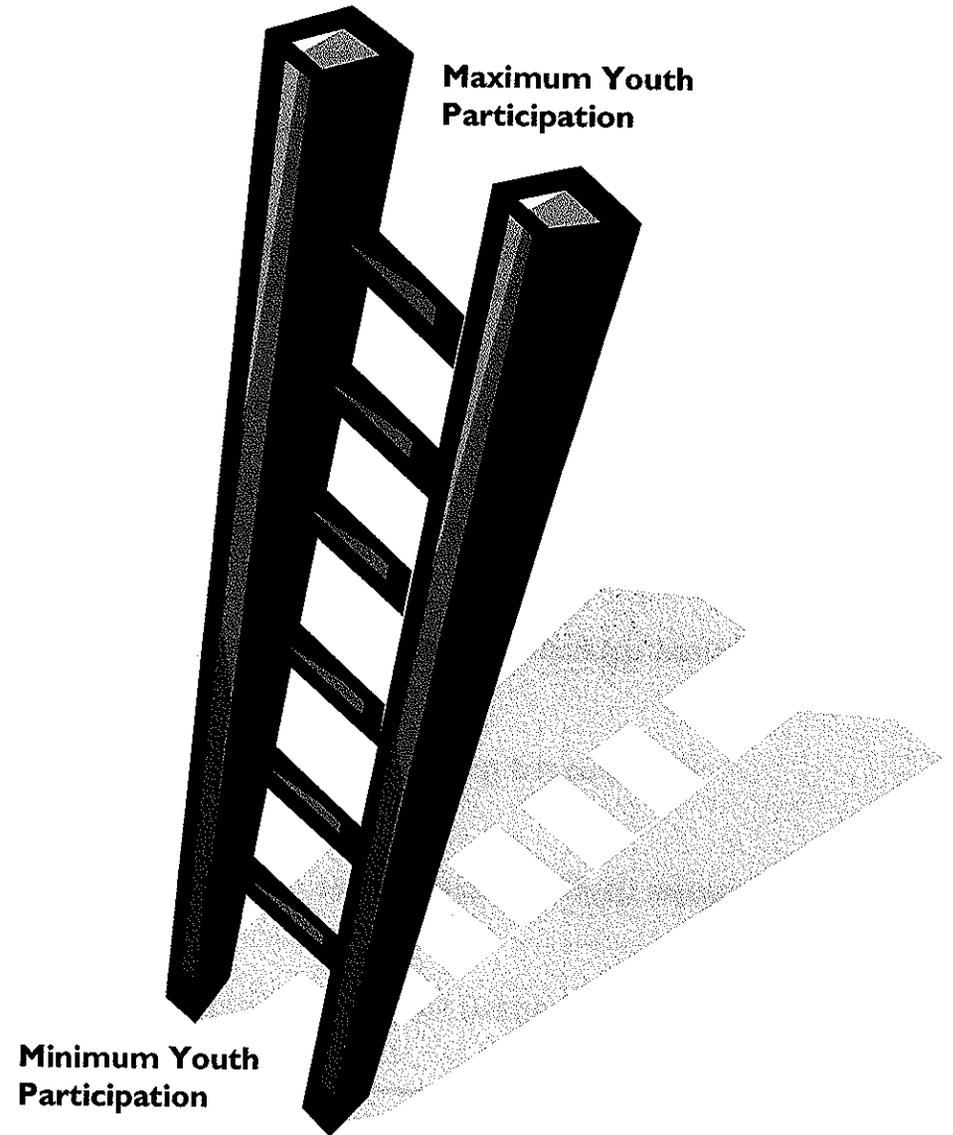
**5. Consulted and
Informed**

**4. Assigned and
Informed**

3. Tokenism

2. Decoration

1. Manipulation



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Degrees of Participation

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

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Youth M.O.V.E.

Youth Motivating Others through Voices of Experience

YOUTH GUIDED

means

to value youth

as experts,

respect

their voice,

and to

treat them

as equal partners

in creating

system change

at the

individual,

state, and

national level.

MISSION STATEMENT: We the members of Youth MOVE will work as a diverse collective to unite the voices and causes of youth while raising awareness around youth issues. We will advocate for youth rights and voice in mental health and other systems that service them, in the process of empowering youth to be equal partners in the process of change.

VISION STATEMENT: We the members of Youth MOVE envision a system of care in which every young person that enters any youth-serving system is successfully prepared for life. We help guide the redevelopment of the system so that no youth falls through the cracks. We advocate for youth to utilize their power to foster change in their communities and in their own lives. Youth MOVE works toward the day when all people will recognize and accept the culture of youth, their families, and the communities that serve them in order to be truly culturally-competent. Youth MOVE looks forward to the day when youth are no longer treated as numbers, problems, or caseloads, but as individuals and humans. We will all stand as partners: youth, youth advocates, supporters, parents, and professionals, to see our youth become successful

For more information, visit us at <http://tapartnership.org/youth/YouthMOVE.asp>

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