Effectively Engaging Youth in Policy Advocacy

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Texans Standing Tall
As required by the Alcohol Policy 18 Conference, I/we have signed a disclosure statement and note the following conflict(s) of interest:

None
OUTLINE:

1. The What, Why, & How of Youth Engagement
2. Youth Advocacy In Action
3. Youth Perspective
4. Q&A
The meaningful participation and sustained involvement of a young person in an activity.
Youth Empowered

8. **Youth/Adult Equity** = Youth and adults share decisions and work as equal partners

7. **Completely Youth Driven** = Youth initiate and direct activities with little adult input

6. **Youth/Adult Equality** = Adult-initiated, shared decisions with youth, but adults lead the activities

5. **Youth Consulted** = Youth are consulted and informed about how their input will be used in activities

4. **Youth Informed** = Youth are assigned roles, but informed about the purpose of the activity

3. **Tokenism** = Youth are token symbols; youth may be consulted, but only a little

2. **Decoration** = Youth are decoration for adult-led activities and have no say in planning

1. **Manipulation** = Youth are only directed in adult-led activities and not given an explanation for the activity

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This ladder concept was first introduced in a book written by Roger Hart in 1997 for UNICEF. More information is also available at The Freechild Project (Freechild.org).
“An intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive.”

-Positive Youth Development Theory, Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs
EQUALITY

EQUITY
Youth Advocacy In Action
JANUARY
ODD YEARS
140 DAYS
BALANCED BUDGET
10,672 bills filed
4,960 bills passed
51 bills vetoed
YOUTH

ADVOCACY DAY
Despite concerns, Texas legislators push to regulate powdered alcohol

Bills that would regulate powdered alcohol sent to House floor

Concerns about powdered alcohol have led 34 states to ban or restrict the product in Texas.

By ALEX SAMUELS  APRIL 3, 2017

The case for banning powdered alcohol in Texas

GUEST COLUMN: Lawmakers should ban powdered alcohol

Legislature must ban powdered alcohol products outright

By Laura Dean-Mooney  May 17, 2017  4
I was about 14 years old when I came face-to-face with the consequences of alcohol abuse. I was talking with my mom one day when she told me that while my grandfather had battled lung cancer, he ultimately died from cirrhosis due to his drinking. My mom told me that from the time she was a young girl, my grandfather was a heavy drinker and that’s what eventually led him to his deathbed. That was the first time I heard this about him and I was in complete shock.

Adults in my life had always told me that drinking was harmful, but actually knowing that alcohol abuse led to the death of a family member? That left me with my jaw on the floor. I saw the affect it had on my mom and my entire family, and I vowed to never let my family feel that way because of me.
HI, MY NAME IS...
Youth Perspective
Keep in touch!

Send questions, comments, or requests for information to:

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