



Bringing you snippets of youth trends and issues compiled from diverse sources such as news reports, journals and press releases. **Y+** is a quarterly e-newsletter that aims to help you stay in touch with the constantly evolving youth scene.

YOUTH & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Developing socially responsible youths is the aim of many youth organisations and governments around the world. For example, in the UK, a nation-wide [#iwill campaign](#) is underway to ensure young people have access to opportunities for social action and create a habit for life which can have much far-reaching benefits on wellbeing and the community at large.

In Singapore, how do our youths act on their sense of social responsibility? A [2015 World Vision poll](#) found that local youths do prioritize helping the less fortunate, but many of them were not able to translate this into action. Volunteering is one key way which youth can be involved, and we need to dig deeper to understand the psyche of our youths and find ways to provide these meaningful opportunities for them. One newer form of volunteerism that is gaining popularity with young people these days is [skillset volunteering](#).

This issue of Y+ explores youths' participation in social action & volunteering, and how we can work together to nurture youths for good.

In this issue:

1. Youth Social Action in the UK - 2015 [United Kingdom]

Ipsos MORI, 2015

2. Evaluating Youth Action [United Kingdom]

The Behavioural Insights Team

14 January 2016

3. One Size does not Fit All – Understanding your volunteers over their different life stages [Singapore]

National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre

Center for Creative Leadership, 2014

4. Raising a Generation of Socially Responsible Youth [Singapore]

Samantha Chin, Focus on the Family, Singapore

22 March 2016

5. Other Research References

(Please note that you may be required to register with Research Gate in order to view and retrieve the article/s.)

- **Developmental Change in Social Responsibility During Adolescence: An Ecological Perspectives**

Laura Wray-Lake, University of Rochester; Amy K. Syvertsen, Search Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota & Constance A. Flanagan, University of Wisconsin-Madison
American Psychological Association, 2015

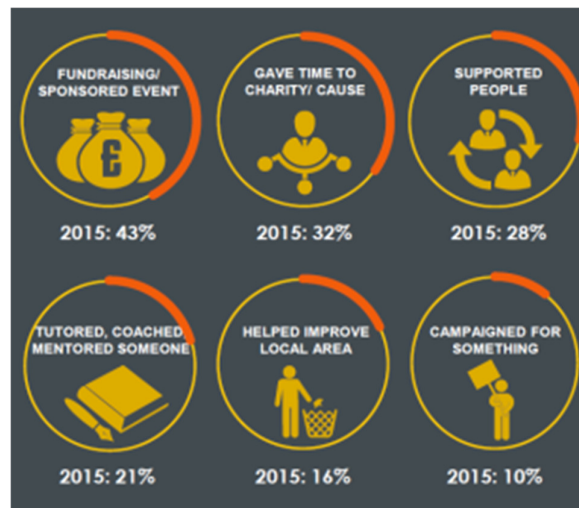
- **The Relationships Among Youth running Programs' Multidimensional Climates and Social Responsibility and Belonging**

Byrd Brigid and Jeffrey Martin
ResearchGate, 2015

6. Further Readings

1. Youth Social Action in the UK - 2015 [United Kingdom]

A survey of 10-20 year olds in UK conducted by IPSOS Mori showed that 42% of young people had participated in some meaningful social action in the past year, of which 23% did so at least once a month.



The study highlighted that 93% of participants recognised that social action benefitted themselves and others. Participants who engaged in social action also record higher levels of life satisfaction and greater sense that their lives are worthwhile.

In terms of reaching out to youths who may be "reluctant" to participate in social action, the study suggests greater guidance and encouragement through structured opportunities (e.g. through schools) and starting habits of doing good at a young age.

(Source: IPSOS Mori. Accessed 15 Nov 2016)

<https://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/publications/1775/Youth-Social-Action-in-the-UK-2015.aspx>

2. Evaluating Youth Action [United Kingdom]

The Behavioural Insights Team conducted randomised controlled trials (RCT) on 4 programmes aimed at empowering youth social action in the UK. They studied six common outcomes of empathy, problem-solving, cooperation, grit and resilience, sense of community, and educational attitudes. They also measured interest in future volunteering and wellbeing, giving and employability.

Results show that while each approach was different, all 4 programmes consistently improved young people's levels of empathy and community involvement. Those who participated in social action were more willing to donate time in future as well. The positive results of this study confirms that the investment in social action leads to benefits for young people taking part as well as for the intended beneficiaries.



(Source: The Behavioural Insights Team. Accessed 15 Nov 2016)

<http://www.behaviouralinsights.co.uk/publications/evaluating-youth-social-action-final-report/>

3. One Size does not Fit All – Understanding your volunteers over their different life stages [Singapore]

This comprehensive guide by NVPC seeks to help organisations understand volunteer motivations, challenges and needs in their various life-stages.

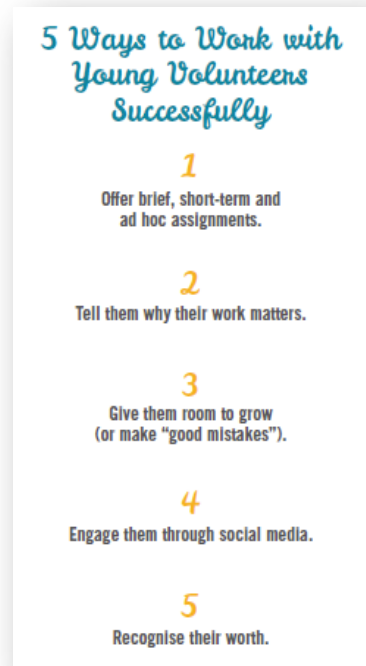
For youth, the study found that they are motivated to volunteer because they believe in a cause, they gain new skills and experiences, and because of friends. But for working adults, the reasons are more varied and include wanting to benefit others with their skills, being grounded and gaining perspective and spending time with children.

Based on their findings, the guide offers detailed examples of better volunteer management and engagement practices.

(Source: National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre. Accessed on 15 Nov 2016)

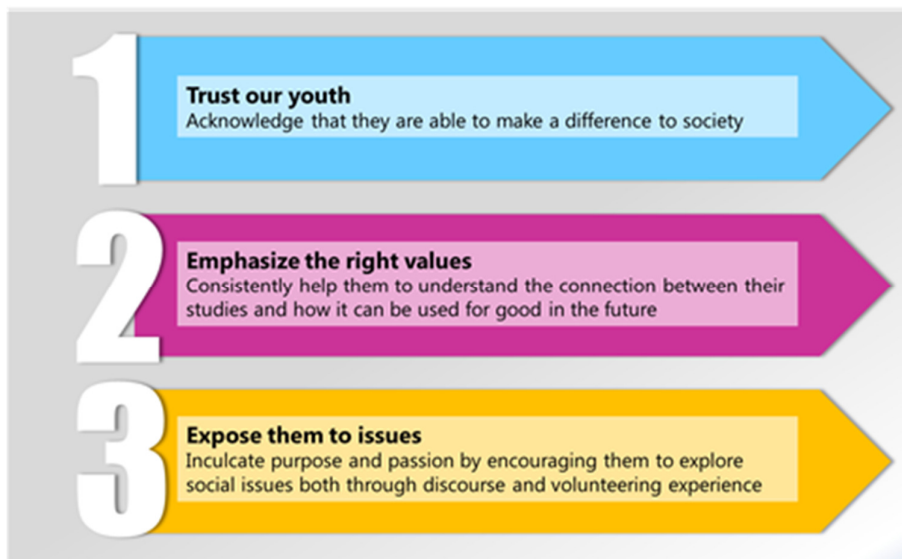
[PDF: One Size does not Fit All](#)*

* Please request a copy of the pdf from Suharti if you are unable to access this link.



4. Raising a Generation of Socially Responsible Youth [Singapore]

This article provides 3 tips to inspire youths to be socially responsible. They are:



(Source: Focus on the Family, Singapore. Accessed on 1 Nov 2016)

https://www.family.org.sg/FOTFS/Articles/Culture/Raising_a_Generation_of_Socially_Responsive_Youth.aspx

5. Other Research References

(Please note that you may be required to register with Research Gate in order to view and retrieve the article/s.)

Developmental Change in Social Responsibility During Adolescence: An Ecological Perspectives [United States]

This accelerated longitudinal study discovered that social responsibility values decreased significantly from ages 9-16 years, levelling off in later adolescence. These values appear to decline with the decline of relationships in youths' families, schools, community and friendships.

(Source: American Psychological Association. Accessed on 15 Oct 2016)

<http://psycnet.apa.org/journals/dev/52/1/130.pdf>

The Relationships Among Youth Running Programs' Multidimensional Climates and Social Responsibility and Belonging [United States]

Findings from the study on youth from a middle school running programme show that feelings of social responsibility (working together cooperatively on a team, following rules and playing fairly) can be predicted by high perceptions of caring climate.

(Source: ResearchGate. Accessed on 10 Oct 2016)

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/299388287_The_Relationships_Among_Youth_Running_Programs%27_Multidimensional_Climates_and_Social_Responsibility_and_Belonging

6. Further Readings

- ✦ [Step Up to Serve Campaign](#)
 - ✦ [Volunteering Work: What, Who, Why, Where and How](#)
 - ✦ [When Should Entrepreneurs Pursue a Social Good?](#)
 - ✦ [Empathy in Action: How Teachers Prepare Future Citizen](#)
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