



YOUTH: ITS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS



Young people thrive when there are supportive, encouraging and positive people in their lives.

Who was there for you when you were young? Who offered you love, support, guidance, opportunities and affirmation?

Young people today also need and deserve this encouragement.

Enclosed are some ideas and events that you can support over 2008.

Included is information on:

Youth Week 08

Involve 08

Media spokespeople

Facts

Opportunities for you to get involved

We look forward to working with you over the coming year.



YOUTH WEEK 26 MAY - 1 JUNE

Youth Week focuses on supportive relationships with young people this year. Young people thrive when there are supportive, encouraging and positive people in their lives.

Highlights of Youth Week 08 include regional events, and Hoody Day. Wear a hoody on May 30th to show your support.

Youth Week aims to foster a society that values young people and affirms their diversity. The week highlights the amazing things young people (12-24 years) do.

Youth Week started in 1995 with a handful of youth focussed events scattered around Canada. Since then countries all around the world have adopted Youth Week.

Youth Week spread to New Zealand in the late 1990's. The New Zealand Association for Adolescent Health and Development (NZAAHD) coordinates Youth Week, with the support of the Ministry of Youth Development.

www.youthweek.co.nz

SUPPORTING YOUTH



YOUTH WEEK EVENTS

Each year during Youth Week there are events organised by young people, and those who work with young people, all over New Zealand.

Events encourage young people to get involved, have a say, influence opinions, showcase their creativity and talent, share ideas, access information and have fun!



HOODY DAY: FRIDAY 30 MAY

Wear a hoody on Friday 30 May to show your support for youth.

Hoodies, like young people, often get a bad rap. But given a chance, a hoody can be your best friend - stylish, warm, and cosy. Wearing a hoody on the 30th of May means you care about the youth of Aotearoa.



GIVE A YOUNG PERSON YOUR TIME

Spend some time with a young person.

Contrary to popular belief, young people actually want to spend more time with their parents and other adults. But they would prefer to do it more on their terms.

So choose an activity or outing together, and go for it.

involve '08: Redefining how we relate

INVOLVE 08: RELATE QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS

A conference about 'Quality Relationships and Young People', July 2-4 in the Wellington Convention Centre (Michael Fowler Centre and Town Hall).

But Involve is more than a conference. It is an experience. Bringing together about 700 like-minded, passionate people who work with young people: youth workers, policy analysts, peer support workers, health workers, professionals, young people, counsellors, and more.

Keynotes include leading US psychologist Dr Robert Epstein, whose book 'The Case Against Adolescence' says that the drive to extend childhood is resulting in young people being incorrectly seen as incompetent. This he says is the underlying cause for so-called 'teen turmoil' in the Western world.

Other speakers include international youth development and identity expert Dr Anne-Marie Tupuola, iwi development leader Pahia Turia, and the dynamic, globally-focussed Justin Duckworth.

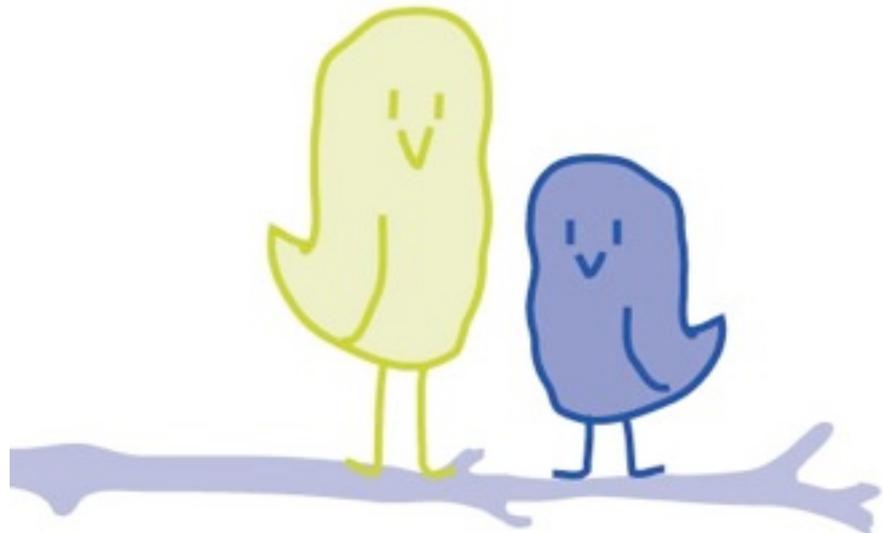
Each day relationships will be explored in different contexts:

Day 1 Self and peers

Day 2 Whanau, family and community

Day 3 New Zealand and the world

You can't afford to miss Involve 08.
www.involve.org.nz



POLITICIANS FORUM

We are inviting the leaders of the major political parties to debate and discuss issues facing young people on day two of Involve.

This is a debate not to be missed, with youth issues rapidly becoming one of the touchstones for the general election.



MEDIA

Journalists will be invited to obtain media passes to key events and discussions.

Press conferences and interviews will be facilitated in a special media room: the Fay Richwhite VIP Lounge, on the second floor of the Michael Fowler Centre.

Register your interest now:
intern@nzaahd.org.nz



EXPERTS IN ALL FIELDS

Keynote presentations include controversial and stimulating Dr Robert Epstein, and international youth development expert Anne-Marie Tupuola.

You will also be treated to other experts from all disciplines at Involve 08. In particular, you can expect a talented, knowledgeable and star-studded line-up in our Cafe Provoke session. Cafe Provoke is panel discussion of a contemporary issue.



YOUTH: NOT WHAT YOU'D EXPECT

CHALLENGING THE STEREOTYPES

Volunteering

Young people (12-24yrs) do over 49 million hours of unpaid work a year outside of the home. And young Maori give significantly more of their time in unpaid roles in the community than other young people

Young people smoking less

Today's young people are smoking far less than earlier generations. In 2006, 14.2 percent of Year 10 New Zealand teenagers said they were smokers, down from 28.6 percent in 1999 according to the Year 10 Smoking Survey conducted by Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) New Zealand, and the Health Sponsorship Council (HSC).

Young people get drink drive message

Land Transport Safety Authority figures show that in the 2004-6 period those aged 20-39 had a much high risk than teens of being involved in a motor vehicle accident causing death where alcohol or drugs contributed to the accident. For example 51% of 25-29 year old vehicle related deaths involved intoxication compared with 32% for 15-19 years olds.

Books not MP3's!

More young people say they could not live without books than without an MP3 player. (18 Ltd survey September 2007)

Our parents love us

More than 90% of all students (males 92.7%, females 92.3%) report that at least one of their parents or someone who acts as their parent cares about them a lot. (Youth 2000 study, University of Auckland Adolescent Health Research Group)

School is important to us

Most students (males 87.9%, females 89.7%) say it is important or very important for them to be at school every day (Youth 2000 study, University of Auckland Adolescent Health Research Group)

MEDIA SPOKESPEOPLE

During Youth Week and Involve, various spokespersons will be available to speak to media. This will include national and international experts in different fields, and will also include young people themselves. Another pack will be sent closer to the time.

Media spokesperson, New Zealand Aotearoa Adolescent Health and Development (NZAAHD) National Executive Officer Sarah Helm is available to be interviewed up until and during that time.

Contact Sarah Helm: 04 382 9944 or 021 190 2718.

Dates for your diary

May 26-31 Youth Week
 May 30 Hoody Day
 July 2-4 Involve 08
 July 3 Political debate



NZ Aotearoa Adolescent Health and Development (NZAAHD) is a national association of 350 organisations & individuals that work for young people.