



Statement on Today's Youth

Today's youth are engaged. No longer are they only involved in the excellence of team sports or academic achievement. The power of today's teens reaches beyond the school environment and into the community, where their inspiration, energy, and commitment make them positive change agents of our times.

The truth is, youth are no longer as sheltered from the intensities of the world as they once were; and they have met this challenge with braveness and courage. Instead of recoiling, they take unique and creative steps to effect transformation in every community where they gather. If you listen closely, even in your hometown, you will hear the voices; the voices of youth who choose to come together, united in a vision to make beneficial changes. And as their momentum builds, peers and adults join them in efforts that range from community gardens to citywide anti-smoking initiatives, to lobbying for human rights.

This is the power of today's youth. Listen to them, hear what they have to say, their enthusiasm is contagious, their wisdom will surprise you, and their partnership is invaluable in making our world what we want it to be.

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