

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**

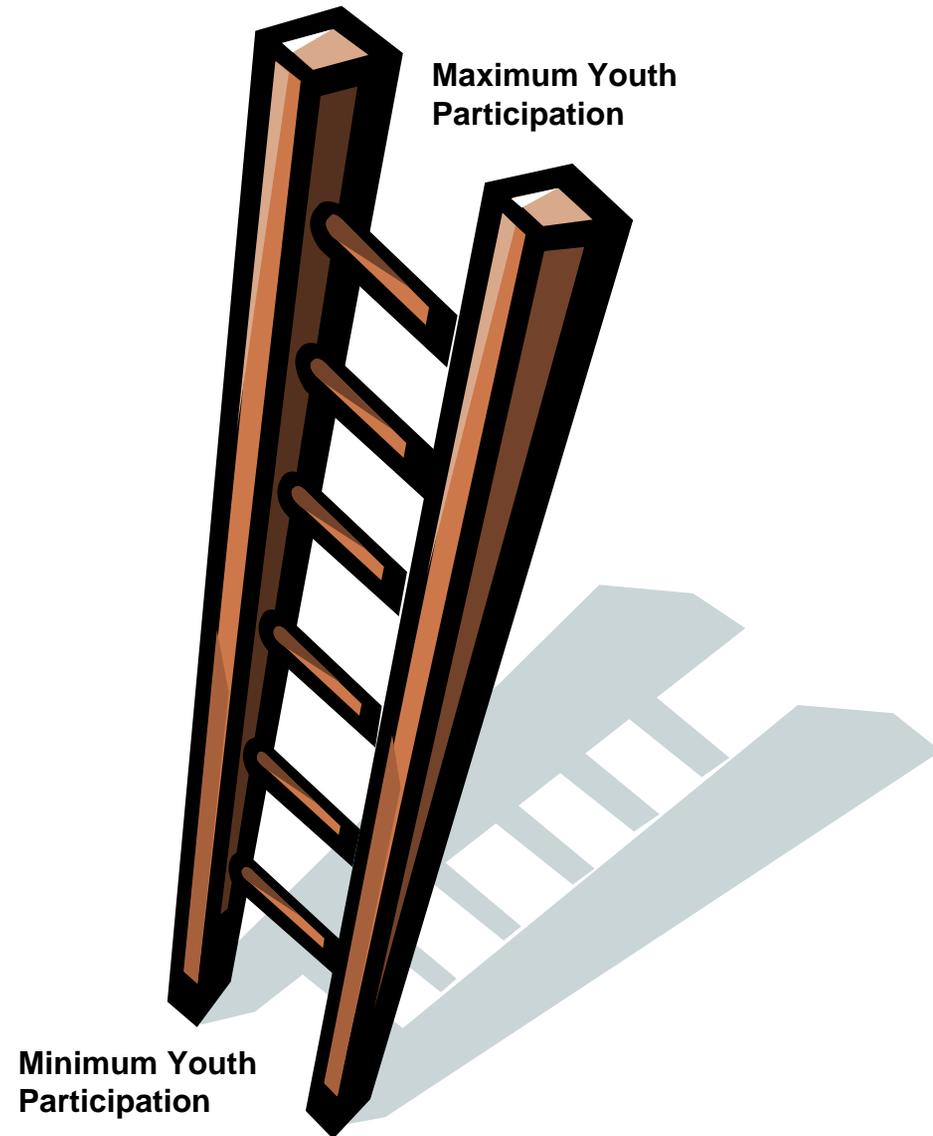
**5. Consulted and
Informed**

**4. Assigned and
Informed**

3. Tokenism

2. Decoration

1. Manipulation



Degrees of Participation

- | | | |
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| 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. |