

How can different generations support each other in social movements for creating positive change in the world? How can elders best help youth and vice versa?

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Elders

- Elders offer experience in the real world, having learned by trial and error, what can work and what might not work, potentially deeper analyses of global issues because there has been more time to delve and develop understandings. Elders perhaps have more stability and resources in terms of materials and/or finances
- Youth offer new idea, fresh vision, high ideals, a fiery sense of justice, enthusiasm, innocence, fewer investments in status quo, more prepared to change dramatically, fewer limitations and fear. (less likely to feel guilt around Indigenous Peoples and just see them as humans AND -- you're stealing our future, we're here to take it back! BOLDNESS)
- Elders might help youth tone down fire so we can also foster more subtle ways of advocating for justice, i.e lobbying and relationship building. Youth might help elders in terms of fueling the fire with energy and fresh ideas,
- If we can come together, across ages, and genders, and recognize in each other the soundness of one another, from our world views to ideas, its about really SEEing each other to an extent that we can see ourselves in one another, this is unity (to build this space, it can be valuable to open the space in an intentional way, so that we can open ourselves up to the space, open ourselves up to each other, and open ourselves in an authentic way to an end goal of the meeting/ceremony – what we wish to achieve). RELATEDNESS is essential to productive collectivity, the people acting as one body
- adults/older people offer access to institutional infrastructures, financial resources, historical continuity, and access to authorities, and they play a particularly important role in supporting the activism of more marginalized young people who otherwise have less access to these resources.
- Youth also impact and educate adults with new ideas and energy. However, while intergenerational collaboration has clear benefits, it also is a challenge in the context of age- stratified societies, where we need to overcome barriers engrained in us from society, rekindle respect for one another (and ourselves)
- older people can help empower youth in the context of youth distrust of government, insufficient knowledge of government officials, and low confidence in the political system as evidence of a worldwide youth apathy crisis” ALIENATION and DISEMPOWERMENT
- help youth with the development of a “civic identity,” or a sense of responsibility toward and belonging to civil society that might eventually produce behavior such

as voting, is an intermediary goal of these programs for youth before they come of voting age.”

OR AN EMPOWERED IDENTITY IN GENERAL, BELONGING TO A COMMUNITY, RESPONSIBILITY

- elders can help youth with sociopolitical development ---- define sociopolitical development as the evolving, critical understanding of the political, economic, cultural, and other systemic forces that shape society and **one's status within it**, and the associated process of growth in relevant knowledge, analytical skills, and emotional faculties
- it is a **discovery of personal agency** as well - apathy, alienation and distrust toward institutional political structures, we work outside of the system to build collective agency.
- important **historical political education for youth**, helping them to see their own struggles in **context** and as part of a longer lineage activism. we often feel that our struggle is isolated
- Adult allies also prove to be highly valuable when youth seek to access and influence adult authorities and policymakers
- youth have more time and fewer obligations than their older counterparts and are thus more able to become involved in social movements.
- CONCLUDE----
- one benefit of intergenerational partnerships is that the adults learn that children and youth have many more capacities, skills, and insights than they had previously assumed. **Young people do not merely learn from adults, but adults also learn from young people.** Intergenerational collaboration between youth and adults can be mutually beneficial. Adults have greater access to financial resources, are often legally necessary for some kinds of infrastructures, help to provide continuity, facilitate connections with various powerful institutions and decision-makers, and offer youth emotional and personal support and encouragement. Young people's energy, enthusiasm, creativity, and distinctive perspectives can also revitalize and inspire adults. Both youth and adults can learn from each other within intergenerational political spaces.
- being a good adult ally requires learning to challenge one's own embedded adultism and one's assumptions about youth
- Intergenerational collaboration is also supported by deep relationships based on mutual trust and affection. These relationships not only facilitate intergenerational groups' abilities to productively confront power and inequality but also enhance their dialogic practices and their capacities for being transformed by one another's perspectives). Trusting relationships not only encourage young people to express themselves but also require that adults take those voices seriously and allow young people's views on the world to potentially change their own understandings of the issues at hand.

- What I would personally benefit from is an elder/older person helping me with my understandings of my place and identity within the context of being a white person on stolen land where genocide is ongoing. My relationship with the Canadian state is deeply confused, and I personally feel enormous shame and guilt, that is sometimes paralyzing. I would benefit from an elder's insight, one who has already done this work. (It would have to be a settler because this emotional labour is not that of an Indigenous person of person of colour)

Decolonizing

- What are our Western ways of knowing? Relating to eachother? OTHERING, individualistic, fear-based ways of knowing and relating
- Feminism!!!! Feminine ways of knowing and relating, connection to nature and cycles, intuition and nurture, compassion, peace-building. DANCE TEMPLE THOUGHT of all women governing the world.
- Indigenous relationship building if WE do this work, questioning our own role within white supremacy, recognizing patriarchy