

Youth: The Real Future of the South

Making Choices for Your Community

One of the reasons people participate in discussion forums is to let others know how they feel about certain issues. Now that you've had a chance to participate in a forum on this issue, we'd like to know what you are thinking. Your opinions, along with those of others who participated in forums, will be reflected in a summary report that will be distributed to officeholders, the media, and others in the region.

1. Which statement best describes your thoughts about what should be done to strengthen and capture the vision, talents and passion of youth, the real future of the South? (Check one.)

- I am not at all sure about what should be done.
- I have a general sense of what should be done.
- I have a definite opinion about what should be done.

2. Do you agree or disagree with the statements listed below?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not Sure
Communities should focus on youth development programs, EVEN IF there is no guarantee that youth will stay in the community.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communities should focus on giving youth a real voice in community decision making, EVEN IF it means a risk of disrupting current "tried and true" processes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communities should focus on building youth-friendly communities, EVEN IF it diverts resources from other age groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Listed below are some potential actions that could be taken to strengthen and capture the vision, talents and passion of youth in the community. Please rank your top three choices from among the actions below, with "1" being the action you think is most important, "2" being the second most important, and so on.

- Boost investments in youth leadership and development programs.
- Strengthen adult-youth mentoring programs.
- Strengthen youth-youth peer mentoring programs.
- Undertake a marketing campaign to promote the value of youth involvement.
- Provide opportunities for young people to serve on community boards and committees.
- Create more physical gathering places for youth, such as coffee houses, technology centers and skateparks.
- Create more virtual gathering places for youth, such as community-oriented websites and blogs.
- Incorporate more community service opportunities into the school curriculum.
- Encourage businesses to offer internships and other opportunities for youth.
- Boost investments in prevention programs, such as those focused on reducing teen pregnancies and drug abuse.

4. Are you thinking differently about this issue now that you have participated in the forum? Yes No
If yes, please explain.

5. Do you see ways for people to work on this issue that you didn't see before? Yes No
Please explain.

6. What, if anything, might you do differently as a result of this forum?

7. What else, if anything, would you like to share about this topic?

8. Are you male or female? Male Female

9. How much schooling have you completed?

- Some High School High School Graduate College graduate
 GED Some college Graduate school

10. Are you:

- African-American Hispanic White
 Asian-American Native American Other (specify) _____

11. For which type of business or organization do you work?

- Government Educational institution I'm not currently employed
 Business I'm a student Other
 Non-profit

12. How old are you?

- 17 or younger 25-34 50-64
 18-24 35-49 65 or older

13. In which state do you live?

- 1 AL 5 LA 9 OK 13 WV
2 AR 6 MO 10 SC 14 Other
3 GA 7 MS 11 TN
4 KY 8 NC 12 VA

14. In which type of community do you live?

- Rural
 Urban
 Suburban

Please give your completed questionnaire to the forum moderator.

