

## **IDEA 14 Combine rites of passage and citizenship education: Helping both young people and our community**

To the Greeks, puberty was not limited to the process of physical changes by which a child's body becomes an adult body capable of reproduction. Puberty was the transition to public life. It was a process of bringing youth into and through "puberty"—that is, to introduce them to public life, cultivating citizenship and concern for the *polis*.

Our schools are where youth are introduced to society and the problems of sharing the same space. Schools are not private places like homes; they are places where multiple perspectives and personal values are brought into face-to-face contact around matters that "are relevant to the problems of living together." This proposal sees such experiences are mutual collective concerns, not "yours" or "theirs", but "ours" which arise in public places—places such as schools. This is why public schools can, like no other place in society, nurture "puberty."

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Reinvent-adolescence-Combine-rites-of-passage-citizenship-education.pdf>