

Adolescence

Intro IDEA 11 Adolescence is not for everybody

Adolescence is a social construct; it is not natural. Puberty is natural. Some societies do not have an extended period between childhood and adulthood. So we must ask these questions:

- Is “adolescence” the best way to view youth during and after puberty?
- Is having our current concept of “adolescence” best for our Marion County society?

Some youth do not think so and refuse to be stuck in adolescence. They find ways to not be viewed as children. This causes problems for them, and their families, schools, and our Marion County society. Can *OpportunINDY* help this situation be avoided?

IDEA 11 Adolescence is not for everybody

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Adolescence-is-not-for-everybody.pdf>

Intro IDEA 12 A Proposal to re-invent adolescence and create a Community Youth Charter

Adolescence is mainly a European concept invented when James Watt’s steam engine helped bring in the Industrial Revolution which put mostly youth out of work. The creation of the adolescent eventually became an answer to this historic level of “unemployment.”

If adolescence was invented, it can be re-invented

What is adolescence all about and how can *OpportunINDY* and our Marion County community help youth’s passage to adulthood?

These and other questions are answered in a Community Youth Charter. Issues around delinquency, disaffection and identity, drop out, gangs, rites of passage, teen parents, and peer pressure are considered, confronted and solutions are proposed in this IDEA.

IDEA 12 A Proposal to re-invent adolescence and create a Community Youth Charter

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/A-Proposal-to-re-invent-adolescence-and-create-a-Community-Youth-Charter.pdf>

Intro IDEA 13 Transform Rites of Passage: Providing young people what they must have: Combine the Walkabout model and the accelerated learning concept

Youth are searching for a passage from childhood and school to adulthood. In the process, they seek challenges. They know from experience dealing with challenges leads to self-discovery. Puberty itself puts youth on the path of self-discovery and actualization. Because puberty is a purely physical event and something they have no control over, it may be one of the few things young people truly respect.

Compared to so-called primitive societies, post-modern America offers neither official or pro-social rites of passage, nor the challenges providing youth the format and specific acts leading to adulthood. Though American society has no official rites, youth, due to the ontological nature of psychological development--which in this case is put into motion by puberty--must

show others they are no longer children. So, they act-out, through their own peer culture's conceived rites, rituals and challenges, this natural universal event to affirm their new status. Consequently and unfortunately, most of these peer-conceived challenges and rites/rituals are anti-social activities. Smoking cigarettes, consuming alcohol and/or drugs, having sex, joining a gang, being a mother or father, going to prison, and other risk-taking behaviors are what the youth subculture has created as *ways youth can prove they are no longer children*. Again, this "proving" is a "universal event" which takes place with/without the consent of society. *OpportunINDY* and Marion County adults can move forward and take on officially ritualizing this long ignored basic act in order to set youth, who naturally seek guidance, on a path to viable adulthood and a sustainable society.

IDEA 13 Transform Rites of Passage: Providing young people what they must have: Combine the Walkabout model and the accelerated learning concept

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Transform-Rites-of-Passage-Providing-young-people-what-they-must-have-Combine-the-Walkabout-model-and-the-accelerated-learning-concept-1.pdf>

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

As young people approach puberty, they seek ways to show they are no longer children. Rites of passage are natural responses to growing up. With few socially approved rites, many youth create their own. To the Greeks, "puberty" was a time in a young person's life when they were introduced to public life in the *polis*. Can we combine rites of passage and citizenship education, helping both young people and community?

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

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Combine-rites-of-passage-and-citizenship-education-Helping-both-young-people-and-our-community.pdf>