

Report on The National Forum 2000 and National Forum Youth during and after the Conference on War-Affected Children

Adolescents



What is working?

- Workshops about humanitarian laws and children rights.
- Counselling programs to let them be aware of the problems.
- Many wish to pressure to be able to continue their education.



What is not working?

- Adolescents are not listened to, they are killed.
- People are not taking in account the adolescents in decision making processes.
- They are not the only victims of the conflict, but also pressured to participate directly in the armed conflict.
- Taking youth seriously.
- They have been recruited for the armed groups.
- They are distracted by "hippy" things => distracted.

What Actions Can Youth Take

- They must protest in order to have support.
- Tell any governmental groups in their country any information concerning the places of landmines and the groups that mislead.
- Discourage ignorance that is considered as 'cool' in the world today.
- Encourage knowledge that should be 'cool' to us.
- Programs to disengage youth people from armed groups.
- Government & UN agencies should show more respect for youth contribution to world issues especially in conflict prevention and resolution.
- Dialogues should occur between adolescents so as to learn from one and another.
- Discourage stereotypes especially between the adolescents of conflicting nations (ex. opposing sides of youth should talk with each other).

Support girls education because when you educate a girl you educate the nation.

Recommendations/Key actions

- There should be a system of support created for war affected adolescents whom are burdened with the responsibility of their household sponsored by international NGO's – such as programs linking those with the same problem and financial aid and job opportunities.
- That way they are able to sustain the fundamental needs of their families.
- There should also be continuous education and child-care for younger siblings so that they can work and attend school.
- A more thorough education should be available to them so that they won't be vulnerable to misleading promises.
- Have a major position vs. the life despite the shortage – to be away from mode and consumption.
- Be aware of the country's situation in which we live and the responsibilities for the future generations.
- Establish some organizations around the world to support adolescents in the conflicts.
- Produce a resolution by the UN to protect adolescent civilians among the wars and the conflicts.
- There should be opportunities for education, jobs and health.
- Educate them so that they can comprehend their role in the protection of their lives.
- Youth must be the key of the future.



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