

# Ladder of Young People's Participation\*

**9. Youth Initiated and Directed**

**8. Youth Initiated, Shared Decisions with Adults**

**7. Youth and Adult Initiated and Directed**

**6. Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth**

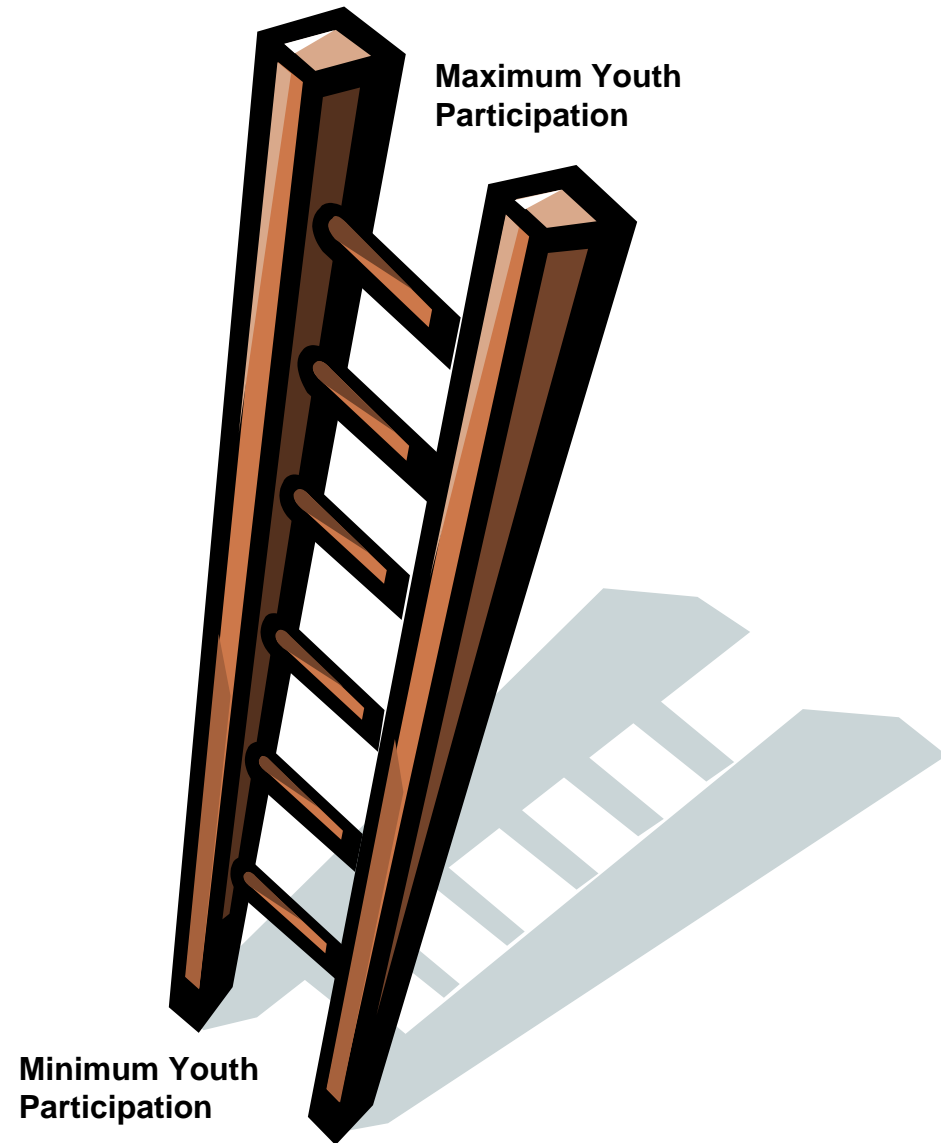
**5. Consulted and Informed**

**4. Assigned and Informed**

**3. Tokenism**

**2. Decoration**

**1. Manipulation**



# Degrees of Participation

9. **Youth Initiated and Directed** → **Designed and run by youth and decisions made by youth.**
8. **Youth Initiated, Shared Decisions with Adults** → **Designed and run by youth who share decisions with adults.**
7. **Youth and Adult Initiated and Directed** → **Designed and run by youth and adults in full partnership.**
6. **Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth** → **Designed and run by adults who share decisions with youth.**
5. **Consulted and Informed** → **Designed and run by adults who consult with youth. Youth make recommendations that are considered by adults.**
4. **Assigned but Informed** → **Youth do not initiate, but understand and have some sense of ownership.**
3. **Tokenism** → **Symbolic representation by few. May not have genuine voice. May be asked to speak for the group they represent.**
2. **Decoration** → **Adults use youth to promote or support a cause without informing youth. Youth are not involved in design or decisions.**
1. **Manipulation** → **Youth involvement used by adults to communicate adults' messages.**