

Article #33

The 40 Developmental Assets were assessed in June 2005 using the survey *Me and My World*. Of the children surveyed in our community, 70% report that they experience the asset *Equality and social justice*.

Asset #27: Parent(s) tell the child it is important to speak up for equal rights for all people.

Consider this . . .

This asset is about ensuring basic rights for all people. Only 52 percent of middle and high school youth surveyed by Search Institute experience this asset.

Try this . . .

Adults:

- Engage youth in role-playing activities that simulate discrimination or inequities based on race, gender, age, ability, religion, socioeconomic status, or other factors.
- Attend activities, such as meetings in your community, which increase your awareness of inequalities and social justice issues.
- Together with young people gather information about a social justice issue that interests all of you. Learn about the roots of the problem and steps that are being taken to address it. Create your own plan for taking action to improve the situation.

Youth:

- Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper on social issues that concern you.
- Even if you can't vote yet, show support for political leaders who take a stand for equality and social justice (for example, campaign for them or let them know when you agree with their actions).
- Don't tolerate mistreatment of your friends or other students.

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