

SCOTLAND'S GENERATIONS WORKING TOGETHER 2009 CONFERENCE

The Scottish Centre for Intergenerational Practice



Challenging stereotypes of youth and age

Workshop C

Key issues

1. Informal links

- a) Family separation – not so close geographically
- b) No community feel – finish at 5 and in the house for the evening, no interaction with neighbours
- c) No local centres – out of town shops

2. Media -Good kids don't make news

3. First impressions - Not judging a book by its cover

4. Family support – is it a generational cycle regarding delinquency learned behaviour, ignorance and assumption

5. Over-regulation – disclosure and health & safety(confusion, unable to look at the positive aspect of convictions)

6. Age and Equality – services provided, transitional support, use this as a block

Solutions

1. Communication
 - Groups
 - Projects (Individual behaviour society/community, attitude changing)
 - In bed in all aspects/all cultures/all ages)
2. Community Achievement -Let the community 'get something' out of it - ownership
3. Be political (with a small p) – the impact on community attitude/behaviours – marches?
4. Media – use effectively – do not stop badgering them
5. Back to basics – look at what happened in the past i.e. post war

Everyone contribute an idea

- Younger people viewed as unreliable by adults (volunteering)
- What does 'old' mean?
- Get young people to show – change misconception by adults (media plays a negative role)
- People's own stereotypes limit their activities – these need to be challenged
- USA model/ Aberdeen 'silver surfers'
- Segregation of community work
- Professional influence on reinforcing stereotypes
- Funding dictates activities – leads to stereotype issues
- Integration of community resources
- Provide exciting and interesting opportunities and ALL ages will participate
- Allow/provide opportunities for meaningful and sustainable cross-agency working
- Ensure inter-age work/activities include inputs/awareness of the political decisions which effect them