

## *The Power of Change: The Importance of Youth Voice*

### Kids these days...

What do they know?

Video games, social media, cellphones and more,  
If they only knew what it was like before...

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Once upon a time, we were all kids.

We were once labeled as the trouble makers,

Now we are the policy creators.

What if there was a change?

Quicker to listen & slower to speak,

For the word of a youth is something to value and keep.

We shall not assume, perceive, or ignore.

The fruits of our future are just upon the youths' prosperous door.

They are the gatekeepers,

Yet sometimes the oppressed.

Still they are the ones who want change for the best.

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Who are we, adults?

Who are we to shun them from opportunity?

Adults and youth TOGETHER can create positive change with unity.

Let's rise to the occasion to listen, co-learn, and grow!

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Opportunities: Make them available;

Dreams: Can be achievable;

Adults: It's time to recognize it's up to the

kids these days.

**-Dr. Chad E Nelson**  
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