



Youth Resources

Introduction

Learning about the global issues that affect women (and their families) is the beginning of understanding that can lead to action and advocacy. Youth are our future leaders and in order for long-term systemic change to occur in the world, their intervention is imperative!

Engaging youth in activities that can help them begin to grow in their awareness of these issues and begin to formulate solutions can bring added vitality to IWD observances. And of course, the adults who participate with the youth will benefit from these experiences as well! These may also be used with intergenerational groups.

Suggested Resources

This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of ways youth can observe IWD. It is merely representative of the types of things that can be planned to engage youth in investigating global issues that affect women (and their families). These suggestions are free resources.

Poverty is a global issue characterized by a lack of basic human needs. In this simulation you experience a month of living in poverty in approximately three hours. http://www.haltpoverty.org/poverty_simulation and/or log onto to www.povertyusa.org and “Tour Poverty USA.”

Baldicer is a simulation activity where students assume the role of the leader of a country in an informal “United Nations”. It is student-centered in that the activity allows students to learn from their own experience. The goal of the activity is to have students work together to reflect on the issue of World Hunger. Available on the Web at: <http://pcchina.wordpress.com/2006/06/09/baldicer-a-simulation-activity-about-world-hunger/>.

When believers are threatened by religious persecution they are often forced to worship in secret in underground churches. The Underground Church Simulation Game is a hands-on, interactive, real life experience. Information is available at their Website www.theundergroundchurch.110mb.com.

A billion people go to hungry each night! This simulation is an excellent way to learn how to band together to fight hunger. Check it out at: <http://www.30hourfamine.org/>

There is disparity in global economics. There are also several simulations that can help make the connection how this relates to everyone: <http://www.united-church.ca/sales/publications/400000044/games>.

There are approximately 15.2 million people classified as refugees around the world (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 2009 Global Trend Report). This number only represents a portion of the displaced. Approximately 43.3 million people fled their homes due to violence or persecution. The challenges facing refugees have grown over the past years, political and economic crises have made it increasingly difficult for refugees and IDPs. Tour <http://doctorswithoutborders.org/events/refugeecamp/guide/index.cfm> for a virtual refugee camp experience.

Again, this is not intended to be a comprehensive list! Your denominational office, local Christian bookstore, and the Internet are sources for other resources to help youth (children and adults too) gain valuable insight into global issues and begin to formulate their response.

After the event

Youth are doers. Even as you plan your simulation or other IWD experience for youth, begin to think of opportunities you can suggest for them to get involved in addressing global issues. Maybe there is one in your group that will offer new and innovative solutions! A Youth Global Women Group is always a possibility.

Most of these suggested resources include instructions for debriefing. Be sure to adequately allow all who participate to have this time to deal with all they have seen, heard, felt, or experienced.

Be sure to let the Global Women staff know what you did and what you experienced! Send photos too so that your story can be shared with others!

Global Voices Summit 2009 Prayer Experience

Perhaps seeing how this room was set up and used will help spark your planning and creativity!

