



Research 2



Lots of people, including Frontier Youth Trust, have undertaken research on matters that relate to young people.

We include some snapshots of these research findings to help focus prayers, highlight needs, inform talks and provide encouragement to respond to what the research says.

Labels r 4 jars

When adults are thinking of young people as 'perpetrators' there is an overestimation relating to levels of anti-social and criminal behaviour (in some cases very significantly). Adults overestimate the amount of crime committed by young people by a factor of 100%. 75% of adults assume youth crime is rising, when the actual rate is falling year on year. 80% believe crime committed by young people is getting worse. However, there has been no growth in the level of serious crime committed by young people. Adults overestimate the level of teenage pregnancy rates (over 5 times the real level). Adults overestimate the use of drugs young people by a factor of 33%. An overwhelming number of respondents stated that their opinions of young people were most informed by the media (61%). An underwhelming number of respondents (8%) explicitly stated that direct contact with young people informed their view of them.

Source: Labels R 4 Jars, Not Young People. Frontier Youth Trust and Churches Together in England. 2007

Buried spirituality

Young people are considered to be spiritual in the sense that they ask, and desire to have answered, the spiritual questions of life. But this awareness of spirituality is often buried within the demands of everyday life.

Source: Buried Spirituality, 2005. Rankin. Sarum College Press.

Generation Y

The distance between the world views of the church and Generation Y necessitates that 'prior mission' to young people is now required. Prior mission is about encouraging imagination, going beyond cliched symbols or catchphrases, and allowing young people to articulate their own questions. (page 121)

Source: Making Sense of Generation Y, 2006. Savage, Collins-Mayo, Mayo. Church House Publishing.

TellUs3

69% of young people say they are happy, with 85% of them enjoying school either sometimes or most of the time. 61% of them have given time to a charity, voluntary organisation or neighbour in the last year. 47% would like to see better parks and play areas where they live. The thing they wanted to have more of was places where they could go with their friends.

Source: TellUs3 National Report, 2008. Ofsted survey of 150,000 10-15 year olds.