Hart's Ladder of Youth Participation

- **Manipulation**: When adults use young people to support causes and pretend that causes are inspired by the young people.
- **Decoration**: When young people are used to bolster a cause in a relatively indirect way, although adults do not pretend the cause is inspired by young people.
- **Tokenism**: When young people appear to be given a voice, but in fact have little or no choice in what they do or how they participate.
- **Assigned but Informed**: When young people are assigned a specific role and informed about how and why they are being involved.
- **Consulted and Informed**: When young people are informed about how their input will be used and the outcomes of the decisions made by adults.
- **Youth-Led**: When young people initiate and direct a project or program. Adults are involved only in a supportive role.
- **Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth**: When projects or programs are initiated by adults but the decision-making is shared with young people.
- **Youth-Adult Partnership**: When projects or programs are initiated by young people and decision-making is shared between young people and adults.