


Overview of Youth + Issues

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12:23 PM

Exploring Youth Issues and Perspectives

Each of us brings our own perspective, our own viewpoint to any issue. Our own experiences, background and identity contribute to our perspective. As we explore a range of texts this term, keep in mind that we want to be open to recognising **multiple perspectives** - even those that don't agree with your own.

 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y59kKzzbh5U> - Short film "Issues for Youth in This Generation"

1. **What are the major issues that youth are concerned with in Australia in 2014?**
2. **What are the top three issues that you personally are concerned about?**
3. **Create a mind-map which outlines the following issues as well as others you have identified.**

As a class, discuss the top 3 issues of the national survey and of the class.

Issues Could Include:

- Environment / Climate change
- Education
- Employment / Unemployment
- Volunteering
- Mental Illness
- Culture
- Politics - not having a say
- Social Media / Technology
- Change
- History
- Global Issues
- Health (obesity/body image)
- Identity – self / cultural / national
- Bullying
- Violence
- Tradition
- Religion
- Apathy
- Community
- Social Issues - Refugees, Gay Marriage

Table 1.7: Most important issues in Australia today

	National 2012 %	Female %	Male %	National 2011 %	National 2010 %
The economy and financial matters	30.8	28.8	34.1	21.3	19.5
Population issues	27.6	26.5	29.5	21.3	15.9
Alcohol and drugs	21.8	20.6	23.7	30.3	35.6
Politics and societal values	20.6	15.4	28.6	15.2	14.0
Equity and discrimination	20.2	22.2	17.4	22.0	24.7
The environment	17.5	19.7	14.1	37.4	37.8
Health	16.2	17.8	13.6	14.6	16.8
Crime, safety and violence	14.0	13.2	15.2	15.1	19.1
Mental health	12.7	16.3	7.1	10.7	12.5
Bullying	11.0	13.4	7.3	12.1	7.6
Education	10.9	11.2	10.4	7.7	8.2
Employment	8.5	7.6	9.9	5.8	6.1
Homelessness/housing	8.5	10.4	5.3	7.5	5.7
LGBT issues	5.9	7.6	3.4	2.2	1.0
Adolescence/youth	5.0	5.5	4.3	4.9	5.5

Note: Items are listed in order of national importance. Data for 2010 and 2011 were based on the 15 to 19 year old cohorts for these years.