

Kids Managing Conflict: Dispute and Conflict Resolution

By: Kids Managing Conflict and Youthful Savings



KIDS MANAGING CONFLICT
SCMA EDUCATION FOUNDATION



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Objective: The Kids Managing Conflict series of restorative justice exercises aim to equip youth with the ability to critically think about their inner and outer turmoil that then creates conflict with others.

Dispute and conflict resolution focuses on what causes disputes and conflicts and how best to seek resolution in order to live a more productive and harmonious life.

What is a Dispute or Conflict?

Disputes and the related conflicts from disputes happen every day. It usually stems from something as simple as a difference of opinion or something as drastic as an actual criminal offense.

According to the American Arbitration Association (AAA), a dispute is best defined as, “An argument or debate over contending views, positions or interests and is related to rights and responsibilities.” AAA further defines conflict as, “A discord or strife resulting in a severance of friendly relations.”

In your youth years, you’ll likely be a part of many disputes and conflicts. Some may be within your control and some may be out of your control. It’s likely these disputes and conflicts will affect your emotional and even sometimes your physical well-being. The good news is that all the tools to resolve these disputes and conflicts are within your reach.



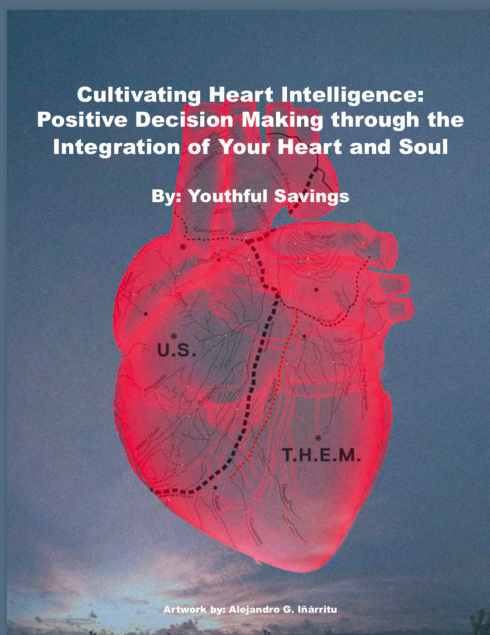
Making Space for Differing Opinions

Disputes are part of the human experience. Conflict will arise from disputes and can threaten the livelihood of relationships.

The key to being proactive about disputes is to work on making space for differing opinions. Making space also means listening to someone else’s point of view.

However, disputes can also arise from something more serious like intentional and malicious bullying. When this occurs, the dispute and related conflict can be much more personal and possibly trigger an emotional response.

If physical or emotional bullying is causing the dispute, then a sincere conversation or a more formal guided mediation may be necessary.



“Learn more about Cultivating Heart Intelligence as a way to prevent bullying”