

Manual for the TEEN Kitchen table manifesto

The TEEN Kitchen table's manifesto was written up by the T.E.E.N. ambassadors as a handbook for facilitators who wants to host a TEEN Kitchen Table discussion. Whilst the content of the discussion is, of course, flexible, the format should remain consistent.

In this manual to the TEEN Kitchen table manifesto you can find suggestions on how to prepare for hosting a TEEN Kitchen Table discussion and find elaborated comments to the seven rules in the TEEN kitchen table manifesto.

How to prepare hosting a TEEN kitchen table discussion

When you prepare a TEEN Kitchen table discussion you must first recruit a group of teenagers to host the discussion and decide on a topic or question for the discussion.

To find a topic for discussion you can choose to hire and expert to share his or her curiosity or choose a topic beforehand as a challenge for the teens.

Before the discussion the teens should have the same amount of time as the actual Kitchen table discussion, to discuss among themselves without adults present. This helps them to get an idea of some fundamental things about the topic and gives a pre-impression of what their peers are thinking on the chosen topic and ultimate they can use this in the official Kitchen table discussion, sharing the responsibility to get diverse point of views across the table.

Things you will need

A table and chairs for the teens to sit around, a place for the audience around teens. maybe a table cloth, snack etc. to set the mood. If you work with a TEEN. project partner they will bring a Catch box (a throwable microphone/ participation tool) to use in the discussion.

A timer of some sort, buzzer or hourglass.

The rules

The rules of the manifest help to ensure the focus to have a discussion controlled by the teenagers and adults taking the part of active listeners.

The manifest has seven rules:

rule 1-2 has to do with the setting of the room.

The setting of the room is very important as it stages the discussion and lets the teens control the room. You should always let the teens set the scene in the own variation of setting.

Rule 3-4 is in a sense a guideline for both the setting of the room and the hierarchy of the discussion.

Rule 5-7 is about audience participation.

The teens need to explain the rules to the adults in the audience at the beginning of the TEEN Kitchen table discussion, so it is clear for everybody in the room before the discussion starts.