

ACTIVITY SESSION TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE PREPARE QUESTIONS FOR VAV'S BIG BANG EVENT!

Dear Worker!

These activities can be used with individual young people or with groups (we've used them ourselves!). Their purpose is to help the young people you work with to come up with great questions that they can put to our panel (Nicola Sturgeon, Harry McGuigan and Tam Baillie) at the Big Bang Event.

They are just a guideline for you and there is no obligation that you should use them! Please email any young people's questions to VAV, brenda.saetta@ed.ac.uk by 21st November. If you need more time, let us know though. We are really looking forward to meeting you and the young people you work with 😊

Activity	Details	Materials
Introducing the people in power!	<p>1. Show young people the VAV 'People in Power' Cards.</p> <p>All three people in power (Nicola Sturgeon, Harry McGuigan and Tam Baillie) will be at VAV's Big Bang event on the 29th November. They have the power to change things so that Government, local authorities and agencies become better at helping children affected by domestic abuse. They will listen to young people's views about what needs to change and act on them.</p> <p>2. Explain to the young people you work with that, at the Big Bang Event, the three people in power will sit on a 'panel' in front of an audience of many young people and adults. They will answer the audience's questions but they will give priority to questions from young people.</p> <p>This is a big chance for young people to have their voices heard and to be a part of shaping the future! Young people can tell the people in power what should change and ask them how they will make those changes!</p> <p>The next activities are about helping young people decide on their question for the people in power and become more confident about asking it on the day.</p>	People in Power cards
Things that needs to change	<p>This activity is about enabling young people to explore what really helps if you are going through domestic abuse.</p> <p>1. Give the young people a copy of the 'Things that really help' worksheet and help them to fill it in.</p> <p>2. There are already some 'prompts' in the worksheet – these are from other young people who have done this activity. If the young people you work with are struggling to think of things at first, you can use the prompts to start a discussion about 'how important do you think these things are?' If you need more prompts, use the VAV survey to see what other young people across Scotland think are important.</p> <p>3. When the young people have finished the worksheet, ask them: <i>'If there was one thing you could change to make things better for children affected by domestic abuse in Scotland, what would that be?'</i> This is to help them think about what is the most important thing to change.</p>	<p>'Things that help' Worksheet</p> <p>VAV Survey</p>

<p>The perfect question ☺</p>	<p>Okay, so the young people have decided the most important thing that needs to change in Scotland to help children affected by domestic abuse. Now it's time to create a question for the panel that will put some pressure on them to help make those changes ☺. Here's how...</p> <p>1. The question will be really powerful if it has two parts. The first part should be about what is important and why (make it real!). The second should be a question to the panel about how they are going to make sure your change becomes a reality.</p> <p>So, for example, if a young person thought that the most important thing that should change is for all teachers to understand domestic abuse then the question could be:</p> <p><i>'I think it's really important that all teachers understand domestic abuse because then they can help pupils going through it. What are you going to do to make sure all teachers in Scotland understand domestic abuse and how to help pupils?'</i></p> <p>* It is up to the young person if they want to use their own personal experience of domestic abuse to make their question real. For example, if a young person thought that the most important thing is for everyone to have a support worker, their question could be:</p> <p><i>'I think that every child who is going through domestic abuse should have a support worker because that is what really helped me. What are you going to do to make sure that all children have a support worker if they need one?'</i></p> <p>* Young people can also chose things from the VAV survey to make their questions real if they want to. For example, the support worker question could be:</p> <p><i>'In the VAV survey, the most important thing was for children to have a specialist support worker if they are going through domestic abuse. What are you going to do to make sure that all children have a support worker if they need one?'</i></p> <p>2. It would be good if you could help the young people be quite specific with their questions so, for example, a question like 'How can you make sure that people listen to young people?' is very valid but too broad. It would be more powerful if it was:</p> <p><i>'I think that people in power/agencies should listen to children who've been through domestic abuse otherwise they won't know if they are making a difference. How will you make sure that people in power/agencies listen to children?'</i></p>	
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<p>Practice your voice!</p>	<p>Once the young people have decided on their questions and written it out, give them a copy of the VAV Top Tips and let them read it.</p> <p>These are the things that you can help them decide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If they want to direct their question at one specific panel member or all three – either is okay! 2. If they want to ask the question themselves on the day or if they want someone else to ask it on their behalf (a support worker or a VAV young expert). It would be very powerful if they asked it themselves but we totally understand if they're not 100% comfortable doing this. <p>We find that practicing what we are going to say out loud really helps with our confidence. If the young person is up for asking the question themselves, then they can read it out loud a couple of times to you!</p>	<p>VAV Top Tips</p>
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