

**To the Task Force for the Consultation on Ministry to and with Youth, to the Unitarian Universalist Association Board of Trustees, and to whomever it might concern:**

Youth Council 2005 is concerned regarding the youth voice on the Consultation on Ministry to and with Youth. Several issues have been brought up about the representation of the wide diversity of Unitarian Universalist Youth on the Task Force. People of Color and more specifically Youth of Color as well as Canadian youth and GLBPTQQI youth (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Pansexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex) are institutionally underrepresented. We have attached a RevoluUtion Statement regarding more institutional youth representation on the Task Force. We ask that you recognize the importance of this statement and understand that these historically marginalized groups and our congregations that serve them are affected by the Task Force.

In regards to the surveys the Task Force plans on distributing, Youth Council 2005 voices its concern that the Youth Surveys returned will be few compared to those of other core stakeholders. Therefore, we propose that the surveys be statistically representative of all core stakeholders with no less than 500 surveys received from Youth. To assist in assuring this happens, we encourage intermittent updates and process checks be given by the consultant to the task force concerning the proper receipt of the youth surveys. We charge the Task Force to ensure that youth in all congregations receive this survey and are equally included in all steps of the process.

We are also concerned about youth participation in the congregational and district/regional discussions. We ask the Task Force to put greater emphasis on the importance of youth participation and vocalization in these conversations. We recognize that the brochure regarding the Task Force recommends that youth participate in the congregational and district / regional conversations, but we are concerned that the youth will not be heard over the voices of religious educators, ministers, and other adult voices. Youth Council 2005 in particular strives to ensure that the process and outcome of the Consultation on Ministry to and with Youth really is youth empowering, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive.

Sincerely,  
Youth Council 2005