



WHY NOT YOU? WHY NOT NOW?

SPARK

CHANGEMAKER NETWORK MAGAZINE

1st Edition

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to changemaking

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to-do list

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**CHANGE
MAKER**
NETWORK

Find us online:
www.changemaker-network.org

CHANGEMAKERS

Taking a creative action to solve a social problem, big or small, is what it takes to become a changemaker.

A changemaker is someone who desires positive change for their surroundings and makes that change happen. As a young person the ability to be a changemaker is

within you. You just have to dare and decide. The grand strategy will follow, but first, be voluntarily willing to be action based and solution focused after spotting an issue. Creating change is not just work for certain people with big titles, anyone who navigates positively through the challenges the world presents and reimagines a new and better way moving forward is a changemaker. Waiting for the perfect moment, time or age is never as powerful. You are already powerful when you decide to make a choice to be action orientated.



Different changemakers

The trick is to start with doing what you can, where you are and with what you have. Here are examples of changemakers, but not limited because changemakers are always innovative and coming up with new ways to find solutions. Let's look at 3 types changemakers namely:

The Creatives

Creative Changemakers have usually mastered or are working towards an artistic skill such as singing, writing, rapping, acting, painting etc. They might have gained digital skills such as coding, computer literacy, designing and even handmade skills such as jewellery making, baking, etc. In our days we see Creative Changemakers taking up spaces such as the modelling industries, being make-up artists, vloggers, film makers and many other innovative roles, just like their name, they keep of it creative and crisp.



**Tanatswa Kativu 17
(Walmer High School)**

Tanatswa wrote and performed a spoken word to encourage victims of abuse to speak out.

The Communicators

The Communicators share information with intentions to bring awareness, educate, motivate, and influence others positively. They are passionate about driving conversations and debates that ignite change of attitudes and perceptions. They constantly work on their public speaking and communication skills to improve their advocacy. The Communicators have enquiring minds, they read often and do research to improve the activism. You will see them engaging in dialogues, debates, delivering speeches, or sharing useful insights and writing articles on blogs and social media. Importantly, they carry the information to the close circles as such as family and friends as well.



**Azukile Moko 16
(DF Malherbe)**

Azukile used her passion of public speaking to address a crowd of young people about child abuse.

The Organizers

These Changemakers use the peculiar skills of being able to brainstorm open-mindedly, plan thorough and execute. They turn ideas into reality and are able to pay attention to the smallest yet important details. Organizers are big team players and they encourage and inspire collective action. They want to see the critical thinking manifest and you will see them multitasking in organising meetings, events, campaigns and assisting people to network.



**Hlomu Sidlova 17
(Junior Commissioner of the SAPS)**

Hlomu organised an online awareness campaign for the 16 days of activism for violence against women and children in 2020.

Changemaking is TEAMWORK

Changemakers do not work in isolation. They need to work hand in hand with their environment, with peers, teachers, parents and community.

On learner level, the Class Representatives and the Representative Council of Learners are very important allies for changemakers.

The Representative Council of Learners (RCL)

According to the South African Schools Act the annual elections of the Representative Councils of Learners (RCLs) in schools uphold democracy and provide for greater participation of learners in the governance of their schools.

- The RCL is made up of all Class Representatives of a school, democratically elected by their peers in class.
- With good communication and collaboration, the RCL represents the voice of learners and learner-led activities in School Governing Body (SGB) meetings.
- RCL members assist in the organisation of extra-curricular activities and encourage learners to participate in activities such as sports, drama, dance, debate and other cultural activities.

It is clear that the Class Representatives need to support activities of the Changemaker network and invite trained Changemakers to RCL meetings for the suitable topics such as school safety. In return, it is also the responsibility of the Changemakers to invite and inform the RCL of their activities, for the RCL to support where possible and amplify the impact.

A CHANGEMAKER'S TO-DO LIST

- Research, ask questions and have an enquiring mind
- Connect and collaborate with others
- Maintain a positive balance between academics, social life and being a changemaker.
- Be a Friend: Listen to others, be non-judgemental, be kind and encourage others to drive change with you.
- Be an Educator: Act as the bridge or link for your peers to get information and knowledge about the topics you know.
- Be an Activist: Refuse to be a passive bystander, challenge unhealthy behaviours and attitudes and stand for equality.
- Be a positive Role model: Lead by example, be a safe space for others.
- Be a Team player- Commit to being active in the group. Ask for help and offer help when needed.





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CHANGE MAKER

NETWORK

The Changemaker Network aims to capacitate learners with knowledge on various social topics, such as school safety, through activation workshops and changemaker trainings so that they can spark positive change through campaigns and leadership in their respective schools and communities.

OBJECTIVE: To encourage young people to take responsible positive actions to find solutions and understand that they have the power to impact and influence their peers and consequently their communities, even those who are said to be from vulnerable groups in our communities. To create an environment that enthuses them to be resilient. **"Why Not You? Why Not Now?"**



Activation
workshops in
grade 9 classes

1



Changemaker
training

2



Campaigning!

3

This project will be replicated NATIONALLY in 4 provinces in South Africa; KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, North West and Eastern Cape. This will be done in partnership with 20 Civil Society Organizations, 100 schools and ultimately training 500 changemakers!



Implemented by
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