

## Statement by research participants

We wish to live in a nonviolent world. This is what we can contribute to this, from what we have learnt about violence and nonviolence:

It was fun for us to work in separate gender groups. We could create a free and fair environment, and we learnt more than we would have otherwise. Stereotypes that classify men as powerful and women as weak are wrong and contribute to violence. We challenge the idea that women must stay in the kitchen and do chores. If we could swap jobs, it would be fun and cool.

There are attitudes that certain crimes done by men are 'cool', such as hijacking, or that it is OK for women to do things like shoplifting. This is completely wrong.

Unemployment is the cause of insecure citizens with no respect for others, resulting in xenophobia and discrimination. It is hard for some young people to have self-acceptance given their backgrounds and the ways they are living. Some of us pretend to be rich when we are poor. Communities and families need to promote self-acceptance and communicate that young people are valued.

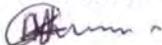
We have a cultural value of respect, and the way we do things should reflect the respect we feel for others. Sometimes this idea has been misused by older people to justify abuse. Younger people and older people should respect each other. The domination of English excludes our language. Hlonipha uyihlo no nyoko ukuze izinsuku zakho zande ezweni (respect your parents so that the days of your life will be long).

We see that the media bring about change in our lifestyles. One thing the media do is to promote the abuse of alcohol and this also supports drug use. The media can create confusion between needs and wants. We reject pornography. The promotion of these things makes youth aggressive.

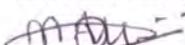
We learnt that sport can be of value in giving young people a chance to give attention to positive enjoyment, and to get away from stress. Sports can play a role in combating racism. Women in sport are not given the support men get. Women could be an assistant coach of the men's national team, for example.

Our advice to young people is to fight violence with non-violence, as Mahatma Gandhi said.

Mfanafuthi Chamane



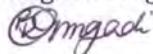
Mandisa Dlamini



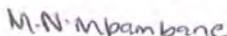
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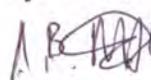
Bongiwe Mngadi



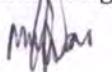
Mvuyisi Mpambano



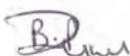
Ayanda Mthembu



Mandisa Ngcobo



Bongiwe Zulu



8<sup>th</sup> December 2010