



Exposure to violence is increasing worldwide. Young people are often the ones most affected by violence, while at the same time juvenile crime is also rising. In both cases, it is the character of violence as a primary mode of exchange that is being reinforced. Violence is not only an action or a practice. There are many dimensions to violence. It is a perception. It is an expression. A way to be seen or heard. A form of domination. A mode of discrimination. A lack, absence or decline of communication. All these dimensions are interdependent: violence is a process that prevents young people from developing their full potential as it impacts negatively on development. Violence is a social, economical, cultural and political issue, instilled in language. Language acts as a map that mediates reality through everyday communications. Key themes to be explored are:

- 1) Violence as a Daily Language in Youth Reality
- 2) Violence and Media
- 3) Expression of Violence as a Substitute for Communication and
- 4) Alternative Languages to Violence.

Within this context, TakingITGlobal (www.takingitglobal.org) in partnership with UNESCO and the Forum for Development, Culture, and Dialogue (www.fccd.org) as well as with the support of the Salesforce Foundation, is inviting you to get involved in this project!

INFORMATION ON WORKSHOPS:

What to bring?

VISUAL: Art pieces, images, photos, pictures that you feel express any key theme above.

AND/OR

WRITTEN: Creative writing pieces, poems, stories that you feel express any key theme above.

When? Monday, 25 July 2005 and Tuesday, 26 July 2005
(Participants are to attend one workshop).

Where? The Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue
170 Al-Alam St., Khayyat Bldg., 7th Floor
Herch Kfoury, Badaro, Beirut

Contact?

Eman Ebed

Middle East & North Africa Regional Coordinator, TakingITGlobal - eman@takingitglobal.org

May Eliane

Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue - Tel: 03 712 690.

Website:

<http://www.takingitglobal.org/express/gallery/contests/contest.html?contestID=357>

All outcomes of the project will be presented at the UNESCO Youth Forum in September 2005, as well as through a range of initiatives, including a Creative Magazine, an Online Art Collection, and a Multimedia Short Video.