



**Black Creek Youth Initiative**

*Group meetings: Thursdays — 4:30 pm - 6:00pm*

*Common Room, 25 Martha Eaton Way*

*blackcreekyouthinitiative@gmail.com*

*Contact: (647)-706-2924/ (647)-504-1553*

**THE BLACK CREEK YOUTH INITIATIVE**

**Youth in motion Zine**

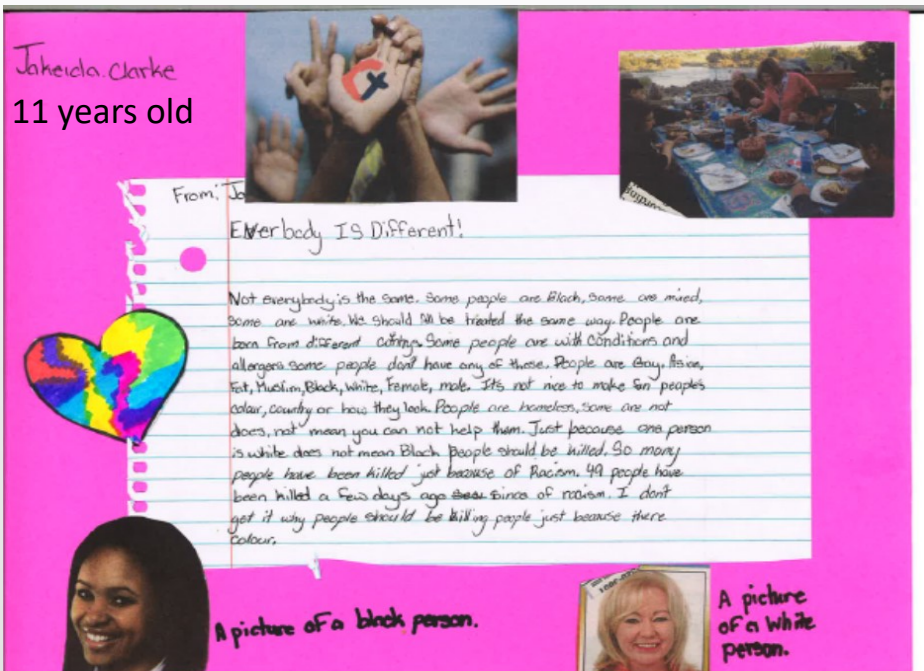
**CHALLENGING STEREOTYPES**



**WHAT DOES DIVERSITY MEAN TO YOU?**

**By the children and youth of 25 Martha Eaton  
way after- School program**

Jakeida Clarke  
11 years old



### Everybody is Different by Jakeida Clarke

Not everybody is the same. Some people are black, some are mixed, some are white. We should all be treated the same way. People are born from different countries. Some people are with conditions and allergies, some people don't have any of those. People are gay, Asian, Fat, Muslim, Black, white, Female, male. It's not nice to make fun of people's colour, country or how they look. People are homeless, some are not, does not mean you cannot help them. Just because one person is white does not mean black people should be killed. So many people have been killed just because of Racism. 49 people have been killed a few days ago of racism. I don't get it why people should be killing people just because of their colour.

"It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in Diversity, there is beauty and there is strength"

I wanna be freeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee



I don't want to be scared anymore



the chaos of anger

"It's a negative impact, I don't think they should have this right," he said. "If I was found guilty, then yes, you can shame but right now we're in the stage where we're going to trial, what if I was found innocent, then what? (I guess) that will happen after I'm famous. There's nothing

HOMICIDE. OVER 300 KIDS SEEK PLACE TO STAY EVERY NIGHT: SHELTER

**"It kills, it kills"**

**The rise of**

**Socioeconomic Mixing**

**Civic Engagement**

**Access**

**Value Creation**

**Trust**

The problem with talking about mental health

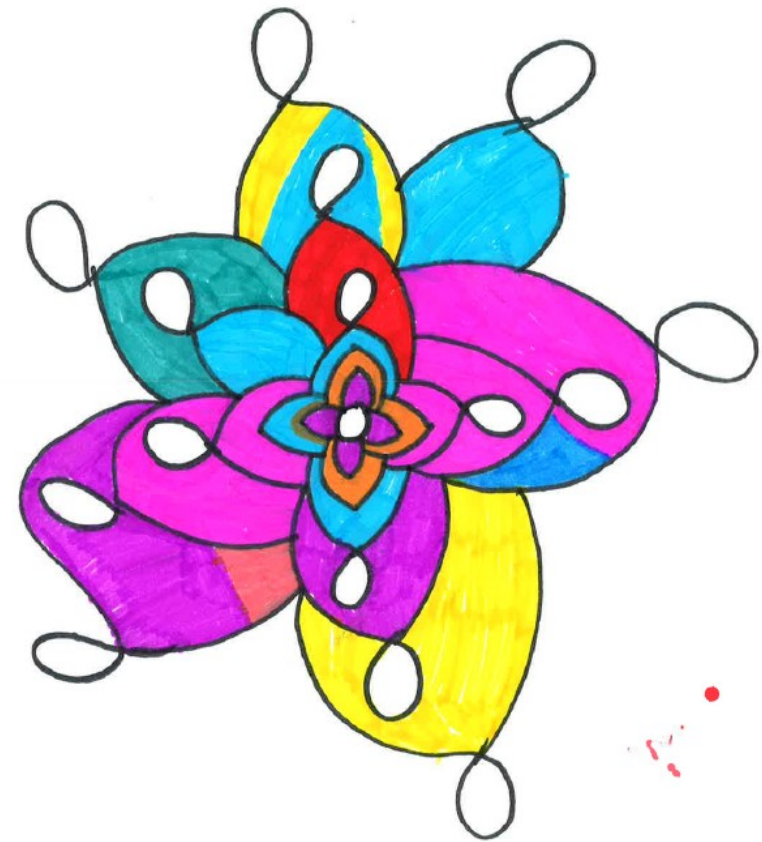
**The Politics of Ignore Them**

**JUDGEMENT**

**VOLUNTEERISM IS WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY**

FOOD BANK TO SERVE 500 FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS

Challenging stereotypes



CATARINA

Emo **Fat** Dumb Emo **Goth** Skinny Emo Dumb  
**Chav** Skinny NERD JOCK Emo Hipster Dumb GEEK NERD GEEK  
 GEEK Blonde Hipster Dumb Skinny JOCK Hipster  
 Ginger Dumb Emo GEEK Ginger **Fat** **Chav**  
**STEREOTYPES**  
 Emo **Goth** Skinny Dumb **Goth** Blonde **Fat** **Goth**  
 Ginger GEEK **Chav** Skinny Blonde Skinny **Chav** Ginger  
 Hipster JOCK **Fat** Dumb Ginger Emo NERD  
**Everyone is different. . .LIVE WITH IT!**

## Introduction

The youth in Motion Zine was created by the talented and passionate group of diverse children and youth of the 25 Martha Eaton Way After-School program. (Black Creek Youth Initiative). This zine was created to challenge stereotypes around gender, race and intersecting identities. Raising awareness about these stereotypes that are enacted by our teachers, social workers, peers and even family members, creates more opportunities and inclusiveness in our communities. Special thanks to youth mentors from FCJ Youth Network who assisted with the creation of this project.

We hope that this project helps to bring about a change in our community as well as show the importance of valuing children and youth opinions.

The Youth in Motion Zine to challenge stereotypes is a Community Action project, supported by **Equitas, Speaking Rights.**

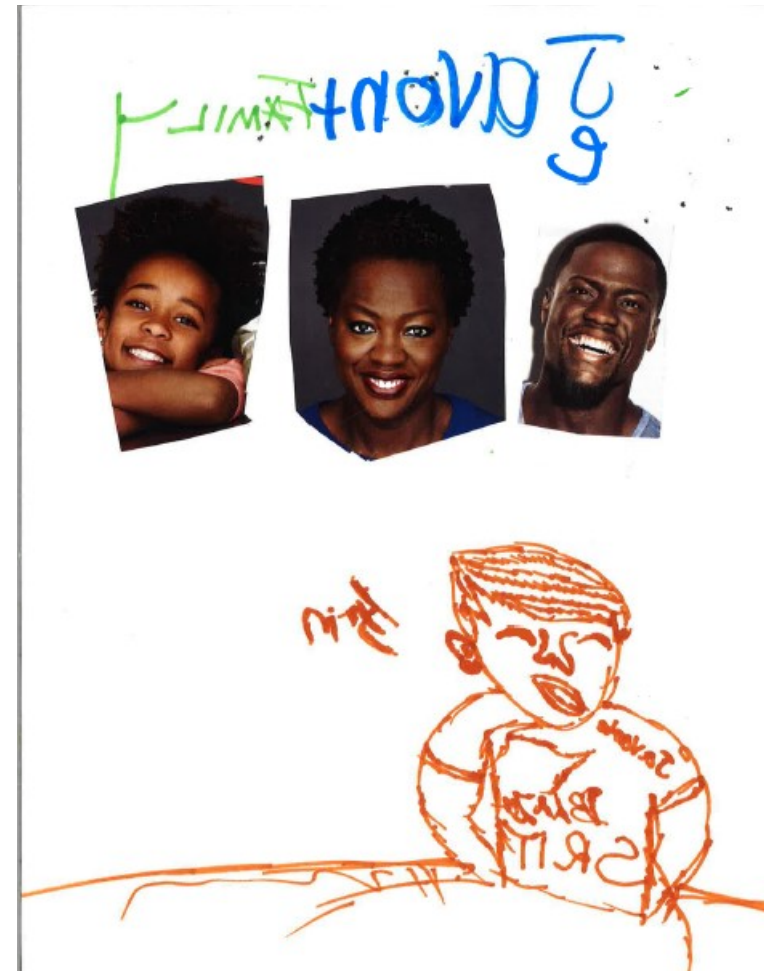
## Who are we?

The Black Creek Youth initiative is a youth-led group that provides a safe and inclusive space for young people in the Black Creek/Trethewey neighborhood to have their voices heard. The group engages children and youth from diverse backgrounds and identities in meaningful programs and activities that build a variety of skills while building networks and making new friends.

## **Acknowledgements**

Special thanks to **Artisan Charitable Foundation & DMS Property Management** for providing a weekly meeting space for the group

Much appreciation to **The Vitanova Foundation** for supporting the group's weekly running costs since its creation.



### I Love my family

9 years old

"I love my dad because he is my inspiration  
I love my mom because she is superwoman  
I love my family! I am happy!"



## **I AM** by AJ

**I am** a young black male  
**I wonder** why this world is so corrupt  
**I hear** broken things  
**I see** people of colour being killed  
**I want** everyone to be treated equally  
**I am** young and passionate

**I pretend** that I'm ok and to like people

**I feel** sorry

**I touch** people's hearts

**I worry** why its always like this

**I cry** about death

**I am** smart

**I understand** things

**I say** stuff

**I dream** cash

**I try** to get money/water

**I hope** I can have a god life without death

**I am** faithful



## **Speaking Rights**

Speaking Rights is an HRE program that aims at developing the capacity of youth to engage in actions that support respect for human rights. Through participatory activities and Community Action Projects, youth are increasing their understanding of human rights and human rights values (such as equality, respect) and building life skills (such as self-awareness, critical thinking) while creating positive relationships and having a stronger voice in promoting respect for human rights in their communities.

[www.speakingrights.ca](http://www.speakingrights.ca)

[www.equitas.org](http://www.equitas.org)



## **FCJ Refugee Centre - FCJ Youth Network**

FCJ Refugee Centre is a registered charitable organization that serves refugees and others at risk due to their immigration status, and welcomes anyone asking for advice, counsel and support regarding their refugee or immigration claim process.

The **FCJ Youth Network** is an incredibly diverse group of newcomer youth. The group meets on a weekly basis and shapes a space to share experiences, support one another, and mobilize their knowledge to overcome the challenges that they face.

[fcjrefugeecentre.org](http://fcjrefugeecentre.org)



## **The Vitanova Foundation**

The **Vitanova Foundation** is a not-for-profit corporation that provides a range of addiction-related services to individuals, families and the community at large—all at no charge. The organization has served over 16,000 clients since 1987 and offers a program for up to 30 males who are homeless in relation to their addiction.

[www.vitanova.ca](http://www.vitanova.ca)

## "I am" by LH - 13 years old

I am LH

I wonder why People are mean

I hear evil and gossip every day

I see danger and gangs

I want to be a role model for younger kids

I am a woman

I pretend to be happy

I feel sorry for the homeless people

I touch people's feelings and hearts

I worry about death

I cry when I am mad

I am black

I understand other people's feelings

I say bad things and good things about myself

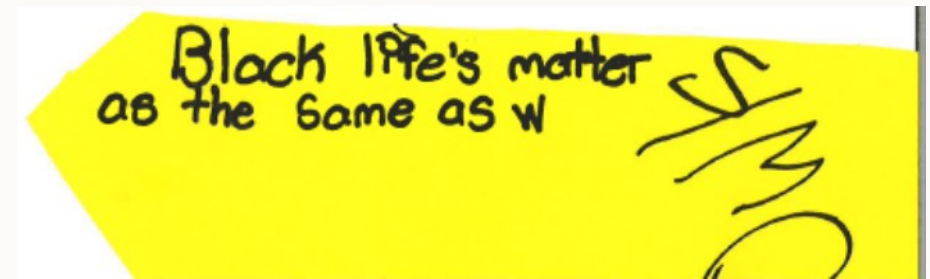
I dream of being a singer

I try to be a leader

I hope I become a nurse and mother

I am smart, talented and pretty

"EQUALITY MEANS EQUALITY FOR ALL-NO EXCEPTIONS. NO  
'YES,BUTS', NO ASTERISKED FOOTNOTES IMPOSING LIMITS"



All I see in prisons and jails. What is  
the explanation?



By JabZiyah Smith

# Black lives matter

**WANTED:**

**SPORTS**

**Zero**

**OPINIONS**

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



## I AM POEM



I am pretty, cute  
I wonder everyone likes me  
I hear bad things  
I see fight  
I want to be loved ♥  
I am Black

### I AM 7 years old

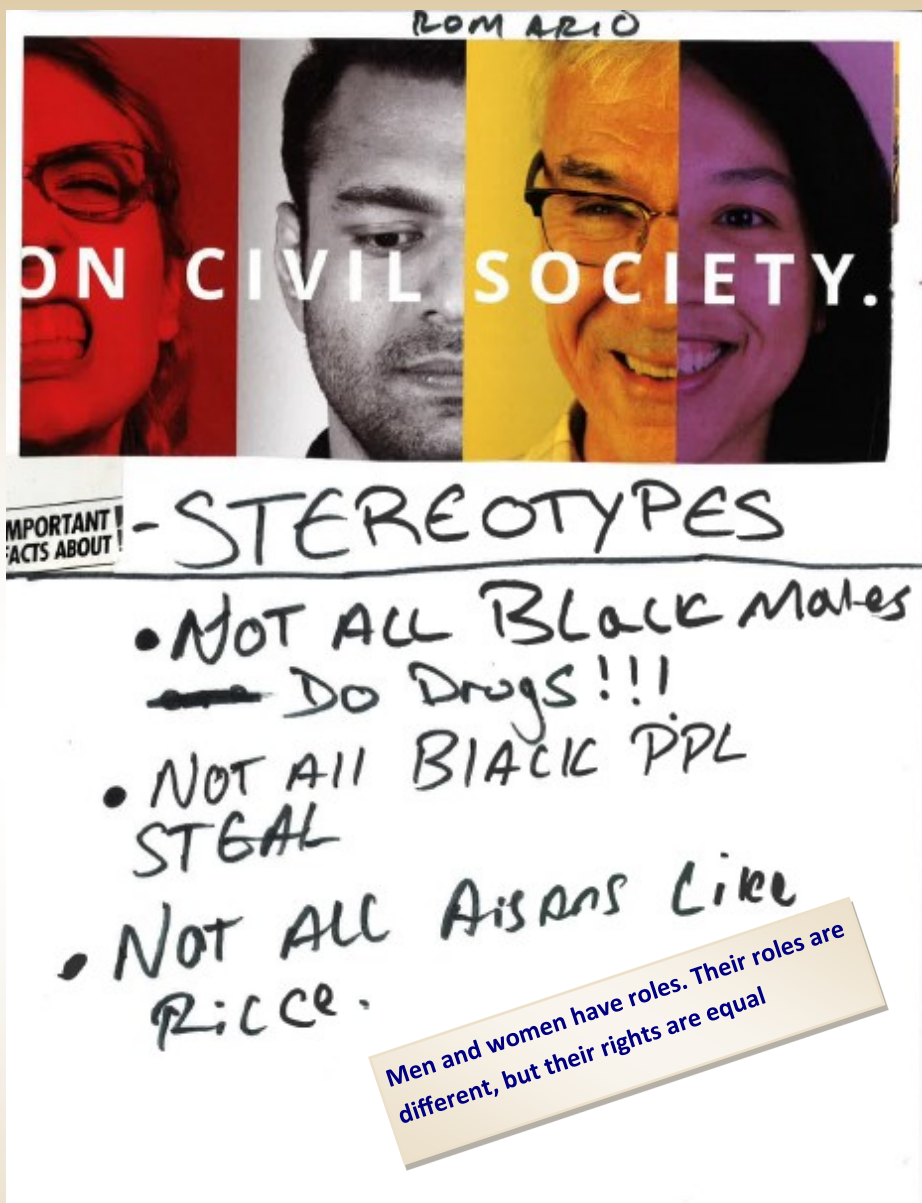
I am a girl  
I wonder why we all must die  
I hear all things  
I see people  
I want to love forever  
I am funny...nice....and a nice friend

I pretend I never pretend  
I feel nice  
I touch my thing  
I worry ???  
I cry ???  
I am a good friend

I understand all my friends  
I say nice things  
I dream of being rich but I'm not poor  
I try to make people happy  
I hope my dad can live with me  
I am a really really young girl ...

We slaughter one another in our words and attitude. We slaughter one another in the stereotypes and mistrust that linger in our heads, and the words of hate we spew from our lip

STEREOTYPES ARE VIEWS ON THE SMALL MINDED



"Sometimes the stereotypes that a lot of people have are of black men in jail or who don't take care of their kids, so I think it's always important to have that"







Challenging stereotypes

**BOYS WILL  
BE BOYS  
IS NEVER  
AN EXCUSE**

THE BULLY PROJECT

"The problem with stereotypes is that they are not **ONLY** untrue but that they are **ALSO** incomplete. They make one story become the only story"

"Gender equality is a human right. Not a female right!"

"When a man gives his opinion, he is a man! But when a woman gives her opinion, she is a ....."

I'm the girl.  
You're the boy.  
You text me ~~first~~  
~~or we don't talk today.~~  
maybe I'll text you.  
Because these gender roles are absurd and so is this immature mindset.

shit-that-blows

'LABELS ARE FOR CLOTHING, LABELS ARE NOT FOR PEOPLE.'

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA

marie claire

#BREAKFREE



Nobody is superior, nobody is inferior,  
but nobody is equal either. People are  
simply unique, incomparable. You are  
you, I am I.



“Exclusion is never  
the way forward on  
our shared paths to  
freedom justice”

