

# EQUAL FUTURES



## Children and young people building racial equality

For the second year running Equal Futures: children and young people building racial equality was the largest single gathering in Scotland that met to discuss issues of race, equality, identity and citizenship within an ever changing Scotland.

In excess of 600 people, more than 400 being children and young people came from across Scotland, with observers from England and Wales.



The combination of children, young people, politicians, journalists and professionals met to discuss, debate and dialogue new ideas, challenge mind sets, see working examples of good practice, listen, learn and network.

Equal Futures is a partnership between Children in Scotland, the Commission for Racial Equality and the Scottish Executive. The partnership is underpinned by the experiences, needs, expectations and contributions from children and young people - the very future of our racially and ethnically diverse country.

*Children*  
IN SCOTLAND  
CLANN AN ALBA  
working for children and their families



One Scotland. Many Cultures.



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE



COMMISSION FOR  
RACIAL EQUALITY

*Make sure you don't miss out on this year!*

Join us on... 2 December 2003, SECC Glasgow...

ask your teachers to contact Radha Singh at...

Children in Scotland, Princes House, 5 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh EH2 4RG.  
Tel: 0131 222 2438 or e-mail [rsingh@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:rsingh@childreninscotland.org.uk).

A DAY OUT OF SCHOOL? A DAY AWAY FROM IT ALL?

## SO, WHAT DID THE CONFERENCE MEAN?

QUOTES FROM PUPILS FROM PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS ACROSS SCOTLAND

- ▲ I think if I see someone getting bullied because they're different, I will help them.
- ▲ I'm going to stop slagging people cos of their colour...
- ▲ I'm going to try to be friends with every person no matter what colour they are.
- ▲ I will never again make fun of anyone because they are different...
- ▲ I've heard about the Scottish Youth Parliament and I'll try to get in!



- ▲ Never be afraid to speak up.
- ▲ Even though I'm a bit shy, I'll try to get in!
- ▲ Talk to my older brother about it.
- ▲ Take part in a project about diversity.
- ▲ Set up anti-racism clubs in my school.
- ▲ Show a good example to my friends.

And for children and young people in the care system, it's nice to know that there are people who realise there were areas of change that we can improve.

QUOTES FROM SOME OF THE TEACHERS, POLICEMEN AND EXPERTS...

I'm going to:

- ▶ address my own racist perceptions...
- ▶ ensure staff have a broader understanding of diversity.
- ▶ ensure that equalities issues stay on the teaching agenda.
- ▶ promote early intervention with pre five children.
- ▶ promote equality of opportunity in access to services.
- ▶ examine our practice/evaluate our service to ensure it is inclusive.



OR AN OPPORTUNITY TO REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

MEAN TO YOU?

CROSS SCOTLAND...

...speak up...

...they are...



...I did to stand up for what I believe!!

...sometimes I disagree with others, their opinions, I must respect their rights...

...I wonder relatives about issues they don't understand...

...I want to do anything in the future to do with equal futures!!!

...I want to encourage racism groups to change people's views...

...for example as an anti racist person...

...I want to be still in the education professionals for them too.

...POLITICIANS, PRACTITIONERS



...of different lifestyles and cultures..

...on my agenda...

...children...

...pre school child care and support...

...for black and minority ethnic families...



If you, or someone you know, are experiencing racial abuse,

call **ChildLine** on **0800 1111** or visit the website

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

### **Commission for Racial Equality**

The Commission for Racial Equality is the government body for monitoring and advising on race issues in Britain. The web site covers areas such as law, publications and a self-help guide.

[www.open.gov.uk/cre/crehome.htm](http://www.open.gov.uk/cre/crehome.htm)

### **Fight Racism!**

This site aims to promote the work of the European Union in the field of anti-racism by raising awareness of the migrant population's contribution to European society.

[www.fight-racism.org/](http://www.fight-racism.org/)

### **Homebeats**

Homebeats highlights the Homebeats CD Rom produced by the British Institute of Race Relations, which is about the history and depth of race relations in Britain.

[www.homebeats.co.uk/](http://www.homebeats.co.uk/)

### **Scottish Traveller Education Information Project**

Promoting equality in education for Travellers. Inclusive approaches for gypsies and Travellers within the context of interrupted learning.

[www.education.ed.ac.uk/step/index.html](http://www.education.ed.ac.uk/step/index.html)

### **ENAR European Network Against Racism: for 'real European Citizenship'**

Regular updating on current legislation and campaigning. Invaluable source of information about other NGOs for networking purposes.

[www.enar-eu.org](http://www.enar-eu.org)

### **One Scotland**

Set up as part of The Scottish Executive's anti racist campaign: *One Scotland Many Cultures*. This site provides information about racism in Scotland and contains links to useful reports and web sites.

[www.onescotland.com](http://www.onescotland.com)

### **EU Accession Monitoring Program**

Comprehensive insight into human rights and the rule of law in Europe.

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

### **Campaign Against Racism & Fascism**

An independent anti-racist magazine, chronicling British and European resistance to racism. Also a resource and information base for community-based campaigns, co-ordinating and servicing grassroots anti-racist initiatives.

[www.carf.demon.co.uk/](http://www.carf.demon.co.uk/)

### **The Anti-Bullying Network**

The Anti-Bullying Network provides information packs and other publications for teachers, parents and young people.

[www.antibullying.net/](http://www.antibullying.net/)

### **Kick Racism out of Football**

An independent organisation established to highlight and campaign against racism in football at all levels.

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

### **European Federation for the Education of the Children of Occupational Travellers**

EFECOT's mission is to optimize the education of occupational travellers, mainly bargee communities, circus communities, fairground communities and seasonal workers.

[www.efecot.net](http://www.efecot.net)

### **Britkid**

This is a website about race, racism, and life as seen through the eyes of the Britkids.

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

### **For anti-racist reading material contact:**

Letterbox Library, 71-73 Allen Road, London N16 8RY. Tel 020 7503 4801 Fax 020 7503 4800

Email [info@letterboxlibrary.com](mailto:info@letterboxlibrary.com)

Web [www.letterboxlibrary.com](http://www.letterboxlibrary.com)



For more information about equality and next year's Equal Futures Conference at the SECC, Glasgow on 2 Dec,

go to [www.childreninscotland.org.uk/equal](http://www.childreninscotland.org.uk/equal)

# Speak out and be counted



**Speak out and be counted** was an ambitious open space workshop with over 70 young people, S4, S5 & S6, meeting to formulate their ideas, opinions, suggestions and recommendation on what changes they would like to see to make Scotland a more progressive nation in terms of race and equality. They were asked to try and concentrate on three main areas: Scottish Parliament, Police and the Crown Office.

Full feed back is available on [www.childreninscotland.org.uk](http://www.childreninscotland.org.uk) but there was no doubting some thoughts on just some of the area...

## What can be done to make our communities less racist?

- ▼ scrap denominational schools
- ▼ tougher punishments for football thugs by the football clubs themselves
- ▼ more advertising campaigns to make people aware of the issue...the campaigns should be produced by young people themselves



## And the politicians

During Question Time and Does Parliament L...  
Kate McLean MSP, Irene McGuigan MSP and M...  
Parliament, got some tough questioning,  
including:

*The First Minister Jack McConnell said that his term of office would be characterised as 'doing less better'?*

In other words...

*Do the MSPs think that Churchill, the greatest Briton, would have set his sights so low?*

*"People lack confidence in the government, not very impressed with what extent do parliament building politicians are to..."*

In other words...

*"Do you think the press they get..."*



### How can we alter police attitudes to racism?

- ▼ more black officers
- ▼ there needs to be an effective way of dealing with police officers who are racist and break the law: otherwise the community has no trust
- ▼ police officers should have anti racist educational courses for their own benefit

And as a pointer for another day: another time discussion:

How can schools be encouraged to promote anti racism, the equality of different religions and to tolerate differences in society?



ans didn't get off lightly either...

listen to Me?, the panel of Tommy Sheridan MSP, Mike Pringle, Parliamentary Candidate 2003 Scottish

confidence in politicians generally, and are led by the Scottish Parliament so far. To you think the controversies of the new and the stories about corrupt to blame?"

the politicians deserve the bad ?"

