

TALKING TO YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT

CORONAVIRUS

AVOIDING BIAS AND SCAPEGOATING

ADAPTED FROM: SEARCH Institute

The outbreak of COVID-19 Coronavirus has led to instances of fear and scapegoating, as some people rush to assign blame for the virus' spread. The SEARCH Institute has created a resource for adults to help young people respond in positive, relationship-enhancing ways when confronted with challenges of bias or other prejudices related to the pandemic. Here are just a few of these valuable tips, the full guide is available at PreventionWorksCT.org/resources.

CHALLENGE GROWTH

If you hear or see blatant or subtle bias or prejudice in conversations, in news coverage, or other places, challenge it. Explain why blanket statements blaming a whole group of people for something is unacceptable.

PROVIDE SUPPORT

When youth express interest in taking action to help those most affected by the Coronavirus, ask them how you might be most helpful. Guide them to find ways they can respond that are most useful to those in need.

SHARE POWER

Young people will likely have creative and innovative ways to respond to the risks of the Coronavirus. Invite young people to talk with groups of adults about how they are coping with the outbreak.

EXPRESS CARE

Take time to listen and engage with young people's concerns, questions, and ideas about the pandemic. Don't dismiss their fears, but seek to understand their source.

Get the full guide at PreventionWorksCT.org/resources