

Reading the Signs of the Times: The Inculturation of the Church among Youth

Ask the following questions of the adult you are interviewing and record his or her responses precisely:

When you were a teenager . . .

What did you do when you were hanging out with your friends?

What was your favorite music or musical group?

What were your favorite books or hobbies?

What technologies did you use to communicate?

Which sports were most popular?

What were religious services like (in tone, music, or preaching)?

What types of church activities for youth did your church provide?

Did you have any (or many) non-Catholic friends?

Did your parish sponsor activities with other local churches that were not Catholic?

You will now answer the same basic questions:

As a teenager . . .

What do you do when you are hanging out with your friends?

What is your favorite music or musical group?

What are your favorite books or hobbies?

What technologies do you use to communicate?

Which sports are most popular?

What are religious services like (in tone, music, or preaching)?

Which types of church activities for youth does your church provide?

Do you have any (or many) non-Catholic friends?

Does your parish sponsor activities with other local churches that are not Catholic?

Based on this survey, would you say that youth culture today is different from that of your parent's generation? Explain your response.

Should the Church try to understand the culture of your age group? Should the Church dialogue with other cultures and religions? Should the Church engage with scientists and those who are developing new technologies? Explain why or why not.

