

# 3000 ADOLESCENTS DOCUMENT THEIR EXPERIENCES OF THE PANDEMIC

Children innovating, creating and expressing

Global

In the United Kingdom a theater company working with a small group of adolescents on taking forward change through drama, encouraged adolescents to document their experiences, which led to 3000 adolescents from 16 other countries (England, Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Channel Islands, Portugal, Spain, Kenya, USA, Croatia, The Netherlands, France, Ukraine, New Zealand, Thailand, Austria, Canada, Northern Ireland) to contribute their experiences of the pandemic, resulting in a time capsule of experiences of lockdown founded on peer engagement. “The Coronavirus Time Capsule has pushed me to stay creative and keep making connections with the outside world. It's allowed me to be part of something bigger than myself. Getting together with other young people in different places has been the best part of it. It's really important for young people to have their voices heard and right now we're in a position where I feel like we should be able to make decisions about the things that affect us. The Time Capsule gave me a space to speak up in lockdown.” Kezia, 16, United Kingdom. Such projects have also triggered new ways of creating collectiveness, a sense of community between peers, and common advocacy goals: First children feel like part of a community, and then they're empowered to start reflecting about the kind of world they'd like to live in. If we want children to have a strong say in building back better, they need to feel safe and the complicity of their peers” .

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