



Take Action: Changemaker Stories

Empowering a Generation

A changemaker is someone who wants change in the world, their state, local community, or for their family and loved ones and, by gathering knowledge and resources, makes that change happen. One notable example is Yara Shahidi, star of *Black-ish* and *Grown-ish* and the mind behind *Eighteenx18*, an initiative working to register and educate young voters.

WATCH (or read) Yara's interview where she shares what it's been like to empower a generation. (Full video <https://bit.ly/2UXlyjf>) (Partial transcript <https://bit.ly/2R8Grqx>)

DISCUSS

- What are some perceptions you have about other generations?
- How might those perceptions be incorrect?
- Why is passion needed for successful changemaking?

Generations of Changemakers

History has taught us that young people have been at the forefront of movements like the Civil Rights movement and Black Lives Matter. In her *Forbes* interview, Yara shares that, *"It's really inspiring to be in a day in age where I'm one of many voices and I'm proudly one of many voices, proudly one of many faces because there are so many young people doing incredible work."*

DISCUSS

- What other youth-led movement have you seen in your lifetime?
- Have you or someone you know played a role in any major movement?

READ stories of historical and recent youth-led movements from a diverse range of geographies and topics. (<https://bit.ly/3b0sTbY>)

DISCUSS

- Did any of these other youth movements take place in your state or local community?
- Why did these youth activists decide change was needed?
- What challenges did they face in working to make change? How did they overcome them?

Inspiring Changemakers

You can inspire others! Share how previous generations have inspired you and how your generation, Generation Z, is inspiring future generations to be change agents.

POST about your own story or one that inspired you!

- Add #democracydoesntpause and tag @generationcitizen on Instagram or @gencitizen on Twitter.
- Include a call to action for your followers to retweet, repost, or send their own message.
- Tag a future changemaker or [@yarahshahidi](https://twitter.com/yarahshahidi) on Twitter or Instagram - they may respond!