

## **“Being 100”: Social Justice Youth Development Among Black Youth**

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### **Abstract**

Scholars and community leaders have voiced concerns about the recent decrease in youth civic engagement. This is a concern because research indicates that participating in civil society during adolescence promotes effective decision making, strategic thinking, and other components of democracy. Extant scholarship on youth engagement primarily considers mainstream forms of civic engagement. There is a dearth of information on urban African American youth’s understanding of and participation in civic and community work. This study will address the gap by using social justice youth development theory to center the voices of African American youth in describing their own experiences with activism.