

What's Wrong with Kids These Days:

Start with a better question

Dr. Jim Harris

Discussion Guide

Instructions: Separate participants into groups. Try to keep the groups as close to five as possible, as too large groups can hinder discussion.

Discussion Question 1: When you hear, “What’s wrong with kids these days?” What issues immediately come to mind? Write down the problems that come to mind. Do not edit yourself; this is an exercise in honesty (5 minutes).

Instructions: Discuss at least two issues you wrote down with your group members (10 minutes).

Instructions: Watch the TEDx talk until (10:30):

<https://youtu.be/5EPxwJwUPs4?si=uqdRpFt6Z9477JK5>

Discussion Question 2: After considering the difference in the questions, “What’s wrong with kids these days” versus “What do kids need these days”. Pick at least three of the issues you wrote for Question 1 and reframe those issues as needs (5 minutes).

Instructions: Discuss at least two issues with your group members and how you reframed them as needs (10 minutes).

Instructions: Watch the remainder of the TEDx talk:

<https://youtu.be/5EPxwJwUPs4?si=uqdRpFt6Z9477JK5>

Discussion Question 3: When thinking about the importance of acceptance as understanding the unique difference that a kid may have, can you think of some topic areas that you could improve your understanding of the unique challenges that kids face these days (i.e., trauma, technology, drugs, etc.)? List at least three topics in which you could increase your understanding (5 minutes).

Instructions: Discuss at least one topic area with your group members and how you might improve your knowledge in this area (10 minutes).

Discussion Question 4: When considering the importance of growth as helping provide kids with experiences to be the best version of themselves, list two things you are currently doing professionally or personally to help kids grow socially and emotionally. (5 minutes).

Discussion Question 5: While thinking about growth, list two things you could start doing professionally or personally to help kids grow socially and emotionally. (5 minutes).

Instructions: Discuss at least one thing you are currently doing with your group to support kids' social-emotional growth and one thing you could start doing (10 minutes).