



*Street Mediation  
in Turku area*

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# ***Y:MCA – Empowering young people***

- One of the largest youth movements in the world with 65 million people in 120 countries
- Local and independent associations
- In Turku: Sports, music, youth work, social work & scouting
- Going towards social youth work, like street mediation



## *Street mediation in Finland*

- Brought from Norway by Children of the Station
- Today street mediators all over the country
- In Turku since 2019 as a project developing a local model for young people's mediation



# ***Our network***

The police

The  
Mediation  
Office

Schools

Youth work

Our own  
YMCA



***The need for  
street  
mediation***

Own model of mediation for  
minors and their parents

Possibility for victim-offender  
dialogue

Youth workers help young person  
in every possible way, even after  
the mediation process

***For whom?***

Young people under 15  
years old committing minor  
crimes

Pupils who bully and get  
bullied and their school  
cannot stop it

Teenagers having any kind  
of conflicts with others

Their parents



## ***How?***

Mediators meet all the parties separately and then all together, but only if it is considered secure and voluntary

The role of the mediator is to make it possible for the parties to encounter each other, not to decide what they should do

Parents are involved but their role is to support their children, not to tell them what to do

Adults do not judge or question children or teenagers



***So...***

Young people can take an active role in their own matter

They learn to listen to each other and maybe understand each other more than before

They hear about the effects of their bad actions

Some even learn to take more responsibility

They feel better after having their voice heard



# *Statistics*

- 227 minors, mostly boys aged 11-14
- 159 parents
- 75 cases
- Some groups in schools
- 10 street mediators



## ***Results***

- Conflicts have ended, except in one single case
- Everyone says that mediation was a good experience
- Everyone says that they could contribute to the matter
- Everyone says that mediation helped them
- Everyone says that they would recommend mediation to their friends

## ***What next?***

- We are still developing our model
- The cases are getting more complicated so we need extended mediations within our network
- We are already a mobile service so we meet families in their neighbourhood and keep doing so
- We have started working in a bigger team at YMCA in order to prevent bullying

***QUESTIONS?***

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