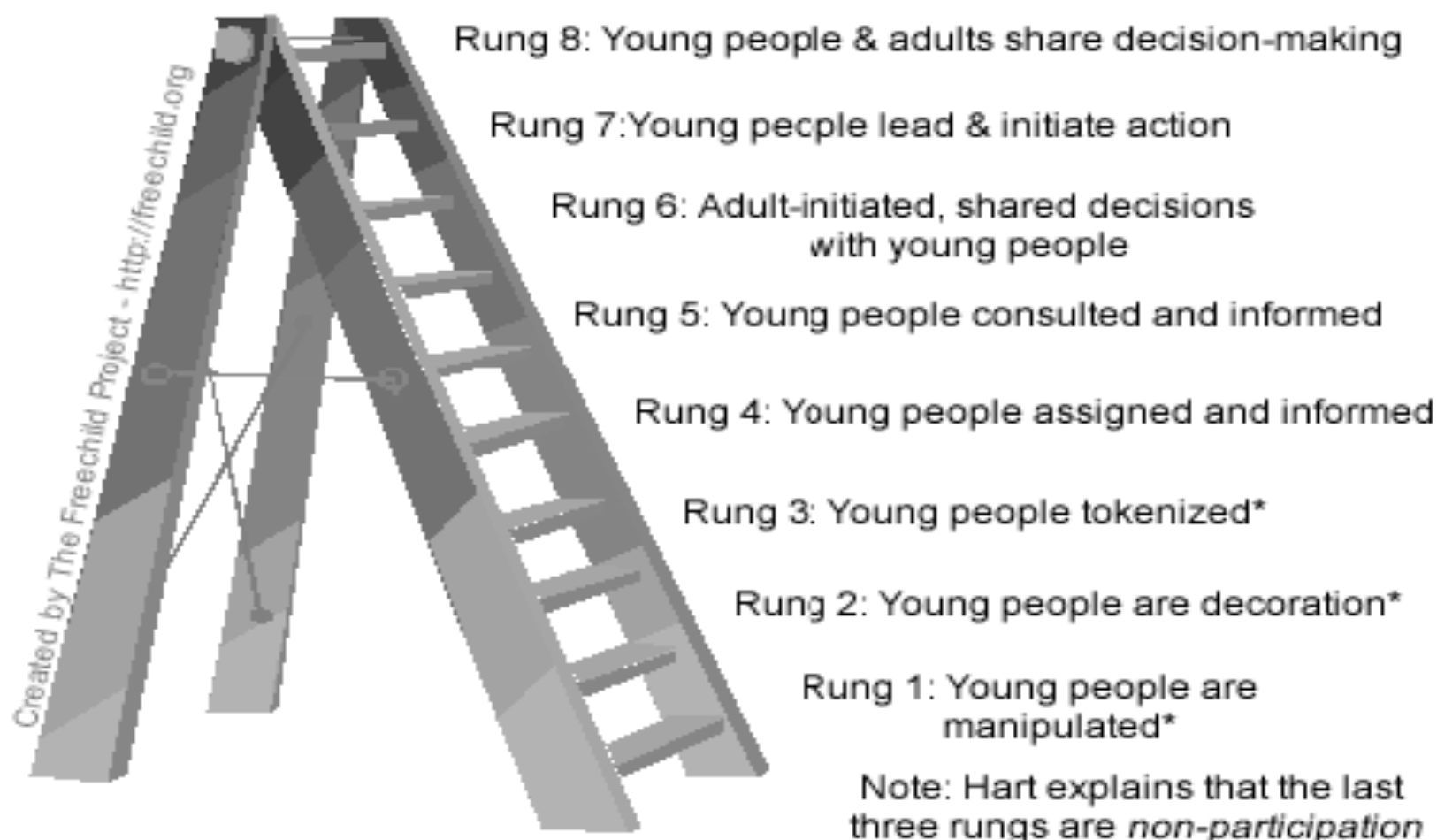


Roger Hart's Ladder of Young People's Participation



Adapted from Hart, R. (1992). *Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship*. Florence: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.

Degrees of Participation

8. Young people-initiated, shared decisions with adults	This happens when projects or programs are initiated by young people and decision-making is shared between young people and adults. These projects empower young people while at the same time enabling them to access and learn from the life experience and expertise of adults.
7. Young people-initiated directed	This step is when young people initiate and direct a project or program. Adults are involved only in a supportive role.
6. Adult-initiated, shared decisions with young people	Occurs when projects or programs are initiated by adults but the decision-making is shared with the young people.
5. Consulted and informed	Happens when young people give advice on projects or programs designed and run by adults. The young people are informed about how their input will be used and the outcomes of the decisions made by adults.
4. Assigned but informed	This is where young people are assigned a specific role and informed about how and why they are being involved

3. Tokenism	When young people appear to be given a voice, but in fact have little or no choice about what they do or how they participate.
2. Decoration	Happens when young people are used to help or "bolster" a cause in a relatively indirect way, although adults do not pretend that the cause is inspired by young people
1. Manipulation	Happens where adults use young people to support causes and pretend that the causes are inspired by young people.