



# THE CHANGE AGENT

Adult Education for  
Social Justice: News,  
Issues, and Ideas

## The Change Agent CALL FOR ARTICLES Theme: Do You Care What You Wear?

For the next issue of issue of *The Change Agent*, we have decided to explore fashion! Why? Fashion is a topic that can be both fun and serious. What we wear communicates something about us as individuals and the groups to which we belong. What we wear can lead to cultural and generational conflicts. There is also an economic and environmental aspect to what we wear. This topic allows writers and illustrators to address the topic in all sorts of ways, including using narrative writing, memoir, poetry, illustrations, and cartoons. Please use the below questions as possible writing prompts.

### Sample Questions to Consider:

- Is style a form of personal self-expression or do your clothes express something about your community, your background, or your religion?
- Describe your fashion style. Why do you wear what you wear? What does it say about you?
- How do style questions play out differently for boys and girls/men and women?
- As a parent, how do you deal with differences you might have with your kids over clothes? Or, tell a story about a time your parents disapproved of what you were wearing. What was really going on?
- What about when society or different institutions, like schools, dictate what people can and cannot wear?
- What do you know about the fashion industry? What role does it play in determining "style"? Do you think you think the industry *responds* to people's wants or *creates* people's wants?
- Consider the hidden costs of cheap clothes.
- Compare current attitudes towards clothes to previous generations' attitudes about clothes. How do we treat clothes? Do we repair them? Expect them to last?

Instead of long and general essays, we would like to see stories that are specific and detailed. Limit the scope of your story, but tell it fully. Suggested length is 200-1200 words. **All articles must be received by May 3, 2010.** Please include in all articles and emails the contact information for the student and/or the teacher. Final decisions are made by *The Change Agent* editorial board. A \$50 stipend will be paid to each student whose work is accepted for publication. **Please submit illustrations, cartoons, and graphics on this theme too! Please send material (preferably by email) to:** [cpeters@worlded.org](mailto:cpeters@worlded.org); Cynthia Peters, World Education, 44 Farnsworth St., Boston, MA 02210 617-482-9485

The mission of *The Change Agent* is to provide news, issues, ideas, and other teaching resources that inspire and enable adult educators and learners to make civic participation and social justice concerns part of their teaching and learning. It is published by the New England Literacy Resource Center.

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