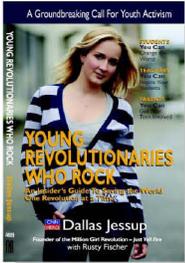


Young Revolutionaries Who Rock

An Insider's Guide to Saving the World One Revolution at a Time

Questions & Answers



You made your mark on the world through Just Yell Fire, an empowerment and self-defense training video for girls. The idea spread like wildfire, eventually sparking a Million Girl Revolution, and now, you're sharing your experiences in a book called Young Revolutionaries Who Rock. Why did you decide to write this book?

Dallas Jessup: Because I believe Kids can change the future and I've written about 10 of them who are doing it in amazing ways. If the country needs Hope and Inspiration – meet these kids; If President Obama is calling for Help – It's up to my generation to step up.

The book is really a call to action, letting everyone know a young person really can have a big social impact and exactly how to do it.

What advice would you give to the youth out there who want to make their own mark on the world but don't know where to start?

Dallas Jessup: It all starts with figuring out what makes you really really angry. I was angry that predators were taking girls and that most of these kids didn't know it was okay to fight back or how to get away. I wrote about a 13 year old cancer survivor in the book who was angry that minorities were getting left behind in the national bone marrow registry.

That's how you know what cause you should take on. It's not your mom's charity; it's what makes YOU angry. Then you use your outrage to change the world by mixing it with something you love to do: In the book I wrote about a 9 year old boy who raised awareness on World Aids Day by throwing 2057 baskets – that's one for every child who would lose a parent to AIDS that day. That's where you start.

How did you find these amazing young revolutionaries?

Dallas Jessup: I met a lot of them at awards ceremonies. Organizations like Do Something give community service kids plaques and scholarships but what's really cool is we get to connect with other kids who are doing something big. We all look for ways to help each other out and work together.

I met Vasanth, from the book, at the Caring Awards in DC and he invited me to tour rural India speaking out against modern day slave traders in the sex trafficking industry. Two months later I was in front of thousands of college girls at twelve schools in India doing exactly that. I have the world's most amazing job and it's something I can do even though I'm still in school!

What are some of the lessons you've learned in your journey to becoming a young revolutionary?

Dallas Jessup: Several lessons.

Just because you're a kid doesn't mean you can't do something important.

You can't be scared to ask for help; I've found people and companies will step up whenever you ask them to support an important cause. Celebrities like Josh Holloway and Evangeline Lilly from LOST jumped in to help my cause as did Google, Doritos, a large law firm and others - all I had to was ask.

You can't be intimidated by the size of the problem. I've taken on the problem that 1 in 3 women will be sexually assaulted, we're putting those predators out of business; Chad in my book took on AND BEAT Big Tobacco in their home state...Everybody loves an underdog and you shouldn't underestimate us.

In your book, Young Revolutionaries Who Rock, you highlight ten other truly inspirational young people. Tell us about some of them.

They're all amazing but a couple stand out:

Vasanth Kuppaswamy was a normal 11 year old South Carolina kid until he learned that most kids in rural India couldn't go to school and for those that did, the teachers had given up hope. The luckiest ones were trained to become servants or shepherds; their schools had dirt floors, maybe a single fan for the 100 degree heat, and teachers were simply defeated. That's when Vasanth got angry and started a Revolution. Thousands of kids have benefited.

Pat Pedraja was a kid with cancer until he learned that minorities were getting left behind in the national bone marrow registry. That day he got angry and became a Young Revolutionary. He's saving lives because he got angry and did something.