



THE CHANGE AGENT

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

CALL FOR ARTICLES: Hair (Issue #46)

YOU MUST include in *all* articles and emails the contact information for the student and/or the teacher.

THEME: Hair! It's a major topic in many mainstream magazines. So it's time for *The Change Agent* to take a look at it, too. We all think about it—sometimes fussing over it and sometimes enjoying it. It figures prominently in definitions of beauty; we spend money on salons and barbers; students can get expelled from school because of it; laws and religious rules are made about it; and we might even make ourselves sick from the products we put on it. We're guessing everyone has something to say about hair! Prompts include:

- Share a memory from childhood about your hair or someone else's.
- What is the importance of hair in our culture? How does it get elevated or denigrated? How is hair experienced differently by boys and girls, by people of different race/ethnicities, etc.?
- Research the history of certain hairstyles. How did certain approaches to hair come into style? What do our hairstyles say about us (if anything)?
- What do some religions say about hair? What is your experience with religion and rules about hair? Research the background on religious points of view about hair (including beards). What do you think about it?
- Discuss institutional rules about hair. Some schools have policies about hair. Some countries (like France) have proposed laws forbidding women to cover their hair while at university. The military has strict rules about hair. Are these policies, laws, and rules fair? Find a real-life controversy about hair and write about it.
- How has our use of hair products changed over time? Why? What is your analysis?
- Research the issue of chemical safety and hair products. How do U.S. controls over these chemicals compare to, say, European controls? What do you think about it?
- Do you use any homemade hair products? Could you share your recipe and tell how you got the recipe?
- Have you ever worked in a salon or a barbershop? Describe what it was like.
- As a culture, who defines beauty? How do pressures get created to dye, style, and treat hair, and to reverse hair loss and balding? What should our attitudes be about hair?

DEADLINE AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS: November 3, 2017. Make sure to include contact information. Send to: cpeters@worlded.org. Learn more at: changeagent.nelrc.org/write-for-us. 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 200-1000 words. All articles must be received by November 3, 2017. Please include contact information for the student and/or the teacher in all correspondence. Final decisions are made by *The Change Agent* editorial board. A \$50 stipend will be paid to each adult education student whose work is accepted for publication.

PLEASE SEND MATERIAL BY EMAIL to cpeters@worlded.org. Cynthia Peters, Editor, New England Literacy Resource Center/World Education, 44 Farnsworth St., Boston, MA 02210 Phone: 617-482-9485 fax: 617-482-0617

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.

<http://changeagent.nelrc.org/>