



# THE CHANGE AGENT

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

## CALL FOR ARTICLES: Play (Issue #49)

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

**THEME:** Play is an important part of every culture. We learn by playing. We connect with others, challenge ourselves, relax, and have fun. In this issue of *The Change Agent*, we invite students to write (playfully or seriously!) about a topic we are all familiar with. Writing prompts below.

- Share a favorite game you played as a child. What was special about it?
- What was your experience with play as you were growing up?
- How is play different for your children compared to how it was for you as a child?
- What do you observe about how children play these days in general? For example, are they mostly alone or with others? Also, consider the role of toys, video games, and other electronics. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the technological “advances” in toys?
- What do you think about how toys are sometimes targeted for girls or boys?
- Have you seen toys that promote stereotypes? If so, how do you talk to your children about them?
- Children are exposed to a lot of pressures around play. For example, toy commercials pressure children to ask their parents to buy toys. School culture may pressure children to play sports. How do you talk to your children about pressures around play?
- As an adult, do you spend time playing? If so, what do you play and why? If not, why not?
- Have you ever felt “addicted” to a game? Or seen someone be addicted to a game? Explain.
- Not everyone has equal access to play. For example, some schools might not have space for children to play while other schools have elaborate playgrounds. Or some families may spend a lot of hours working and not have time for play. What is your experience with access to play? Or write about what you think about this topic in general terms. Should a community or a society support play for all people? If so, how?
- In your adult education classroom, does your teacher use play to help you learn? How?
- Have you ever worked in a play-related industry, for example, a factory that made toys or a toy store? Discuss.
- Research toy imports. What is the environmental and human impact of cheap toy imports?

**DEADLINE AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS:** May 3, 2019. **Make sure to include contact information.** Send to: [cpeters@worlded.org](mailto:cpeters@worlded.org). Learn more at: [changeagent.nelrc.org/write-for-us](http://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 May 3, 2019. 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](mailto: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/>