

Imagining Futures in Youth Climate Activism

Manuela Velasquez, 2021

My research explores the ways in which young people involved in climate activism imagine and pursue their futures in relation to climate change. In times of recent climate-related crises, youth in particular have grown more vocal in arguing for drastic changes. The moment of this summer in particular presented an unmooring convergence of situations for young people – it is a time of paradigm shifts in relation to the pandemic, visceral resistance in relation to the movement for Black lives, and

frameworks. Amid sentiments of uncertainty in the present, especially augmented by the pandemic and other upending events this year, these future imaginaries do not alone carry young climate activists through the present without additional concrete action steps and plans that address the checkpoints of their immediate futures.

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