

# **Transforming Young Teens into Leaders & Peacemakers**

**Ulster Project:  
An International Cross-Community  
Engagement Program between  
Northern Ireland & USA**



# Ulster Project Research Study 2005-2015

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  - Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences
- Miles Hewstone, PhD, Oxford University, Oxford, England
  - Department of Psychology
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  - Department of Psychology



**UofL students collected data while in Northern Ireland.**

# RESEARCH

**FORGIVENESS**

*Positive Actions*

**EMPATHY**



**TOLERANCE**

**VICTIMIZATION**

**COLLECTIVE GUILT**

**HOPE**

*Depression*

*Anxiety*

Several UofL undergraduate students have presented at international and regional conferences, and completed their University Honors / Dept. Honors Thesis.

# APPLICATION

## Cooperative Game Playing: Building Community Workshops



**UofL students engaging with teens  
in Northern Ireland**



# Ulster Project Mission Statement



"Transforming young teens into leaders & peacemakers"



**UofL students can apply to serve as one of two young-adult counselor/leader.**

# How Does the Ulster Project Work?

- Eight teens from Sion Mills, Northern Ireland
    - 14-17 year-olds
    - Catholic and Protestant boys and girls
    - School/Church recommended
      - based on leadership potential
  - Northern Irish teens will arrive with two young-adult counselors in late June and stay to the end of July
    - 4-week program
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- Paired with and hosted by:
    - Eight Louisville, KY, USA teens same gender and approximate age
  - Two young-adult counselors from Louisville will work with the entire group
  - ALL teens and counselors meet almost daily during the host month for various activities.



# Ulster Project Experience:

## Four Areas of Focus

### Personal/Team Development



Friendship!!!



### Community Service



FUN!!!



### Worship (Faith Experience)



FUN!!!





“If we are to reach real peace in this world...  
we shall have to begin with children.”

*Mahatma Gandhi*

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**Saying goodbye after a  
successful Ulster Project**

