



CISV Victoria  
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## Background - CISV Victoria

CISV Victoria's innovative, fun, non-formal peace education 'learning by doing' programs for youth explore topics around human rights, sustainable development, conflict resolution and diversity. Youth are encouraged to take a leading role in planning and organizing activities and local volunteer initiatives. Founded in 1965, CISV Victoria families meet monthly and the Victoria chapter is accepting new members.

In 2015, CISV Victoria hosted fifty-two 11-year-olds at a month long Village camp, with positive reviews:

*Thanks so much for allowing us to be involved with this event . . . I must commend you and the other volunteer staff and "JC" for dedicating so much energy to such a wonderful cause.*

The Victoria Police and Diversity Advisory Committee

This past summer, CISV Victoria hosted a Seminar Camp for 17-18 year old delegates from 17 countries (Austria, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, USA):

*The group spent three-weeks in a personally challenging, intensive programme that is coordinated by the young participants themselves. They developed their own agenda and explored global issues based on their backgrounds and interests, through activities and in-depth discussions based on the 2017 Human Rights peace education theme.*

## Background - I Am Eleven

From an orphanage in India, to a single-parent household in inner city Melbourne, to bathing with elephants in Thailand, I AM ELEVEN explores the lives and thoughts of children from 15 countries. The movie weaves together deeply personal and at times hilarious portraits of what it means to linger briefly at this transitional age. These 'not quite kids, not quite teenagers' each speak in their own words to reveal thoughts on a range of subjects such as love, war, global warming, music, terrorism, culture, family, happiness, religion and the future. I AM ELEVEN is simultaneously an epic survey of the similarities and distinctions between cultures and an intimate account of these young personalities finding their way in the world today.

As much as it is a story about them, it is a story with them, what it is like to be eleven today. As straight up and personal as the '7 Up Series', and with the comedy and honesty of 'Spellbound', this documentary enables us to explore an age where these 'not quite kids, not quite teenagers' briefly linger, between the frank openness and sometimes naivety of childhood, and the sharp and surprisingly brave wisdom and knowing of adulthood.

**Press:** 'Critic's Pick'-NEW YORK TIMES ★★★★★ "Entrancing documentary. Stunning."-NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

**Audience Reactions:** <https://vimeo.com/41168539> "a great film for all ages" "we are much more the same than we think we are"

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