

## ACCEPTANCE-BASED YOUTH WORK ADDRESSES YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADOLESCENTS

- » from a wide range of milieus and scenes
- » who define themselves as cliques or congregate in groups
- » who are not reached adequately by other youth work or no longer reached by them at all
- » for whom public spaces have become their main centre of activities and where they spend their leisure time



## WE PROVIDE

- » Outreach youth work projects throughout Bremen
- » In a context of cliques and scenes e.g.: youth policy lobbying, gender-sensitive work, help with starting work, advice on the subject of migration, conflict mediation
- » Initiatives and projects with young people from different youth scenes and parts of the city across cliques
- » Services for young refugees focussing on integration and meeting people
- » Social group work
- » Acceptance-based work with right-wing extremist young people and cliques
- » Assistance e.g. for parents and relatives of young people in the context of right-wing extremism and religious extremism: information, material and advice
- » Presentations, workshops and information on what the teams' work focuses on and everything to do with youth cultural milieus
- » Projects in cooperation with schools and other institutions



## STREETWORK

- » Using streetwork as its method, VAJA enters into the world of young people, making contact and helping them cope and organise their lives.
- » Some help is given directly, e.g. through counselling. VAJA also acts as a link to conventional services and institutions involved in social work, which are often rejected by young people. Additionally, the work always focuses on activating young people's self-help capacity.
- » VAJA regards streetwork as an interventional but above all, preventative method of youth work. By creating a sense of belonging, participation and recognition, it strives for the (re)integration of young people into local societal and social contexts.

## YOUTH POLICY INITIATIVE

- » VAJA is represented in working parties, youth policy bodies and the professional public in order to create a local and national lobby for young people.
- » The problems faced by young people are closely connected to developments in the whole of society.
- » Part of VAJA's objective is to keep on publicising and discussing this connection.



S T R E E T W O R K



Akzeptierende Jugendarbeit  
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[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VAJA.BREMEN](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VAJA.BREMEN)

# STREETWORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN BREMEN



VAJA – ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE ACCEPTANCE-BASED YOUTH WORK  
[WWW.VAJA-BREMEN.DE](http://WWW.VAJA-BREMEN.DE)



## THE ASSOCIATION

The Association to promote acceptance-based youth work was established in 1992. Since then, it has become the biggest provider of streetwork / outreach youth work in Bremen. Six teams are involved in outreach in the city area. The services provided by VAJA also include two advice centres.

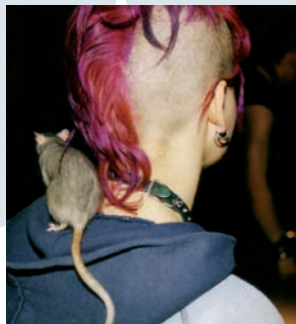
## OUTREACH

The **lifeworld of young people** is at the centre of what we do.

We go where young people meet up e.g. playgrounds, shopping centres, bus stops, parks



## ACCEPTANCE-BASED



**Acceptance is a method** of accessing young people. Intolerant, problematic and self-damaging attitudes and behaviours are changed over the course of a social education process, not at the beginning.

## FOCUS ON CLIQUES AND SCENES

For many young people, the clique is the **most important agent of socialisation**.

This is where perceptions and attitudes are shared and strengthened. Positive and negative clique processes are included in the work.



## FOCUS ON RELATIONSHIPS



**Trust is the prerequisite** for supporting young people in their everyday lives.

This is the only way to confront them with other attitudes, behaviours, conflict solution strategies, leading to a process of change.

## FOCUS ON COMMUNITY

**Working with lots of institutions** is a key condition for our work. This is the only way to have a positive impact on the lifeworlds of young people, develop new provisions and use existing resources more effectively.



Photo: Jens Hagens Fotografie

# OUR TEAMS



## STREETWORK / OUTREACH YOUTH WORK

### Regional Team East

Outreach youth work in East Bremen  
rost@vaja-bremen.de

### spot.

Streetwork.Prevention. Orientation.Taking Part.  
spot@vaja-bremen.de

### Regional Team South

Outreach youth work in South Bremen  
sued@vaja-bremen.de

### Team sub-culture

Streetwork with sub-cultures  
sub@vaja-bremen.de

### Regional Team Central/West

Outreach youth work in Central / West Bremen  
mitte-west@vaja-bremen.de

### connect

Prevention and Integration through outreach work with young refugees  
connect@vaja-bremen.de

## ADVICE

### Specialist and Advice Centre kitab

Advice network for families, professionals and affected persons in tackling religious extremism  
kitab@vaja-bremen.de

## SPONSORS & PARTNERS

VAJA is sponsored by:

Die Senatorin für Soziales, Jugend, Integration und Sport



VAJA is a member of the umbrella association:



kitab:

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