

# Chelsea Human Rights Commission

- **Make periodic public reports/recommendations to City Council on ways to improve city programs and ordinances**
- **Research and formulate programs of community education**
- **Study any complaints that are filed and report to City Council**
- **Refer complaints concerning instances of discrimination to City Attorney**

## **Current HRC Commissioners:**

Lynn Fox, Dave Gilbert, Dan Kaminsky, Susan Morrel-Samuels

# Human Rights Commission Survey Results

## **Individual Survey Responses: n=690**

Survey opened: 4/18; Survey closed: 7/18

Survey opened to H.S. students, staff, parents: 9/18

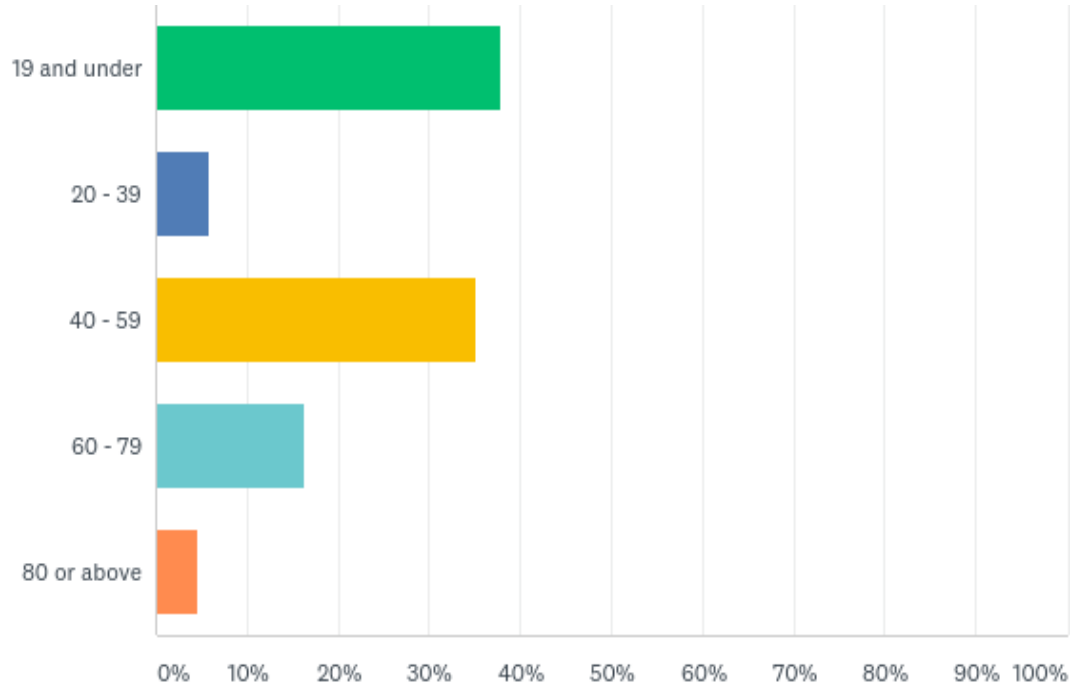
High School survey closed: 10/18

## **Organizational Survey Responses: n=11**

religious, health care, hospitality, finance, social service

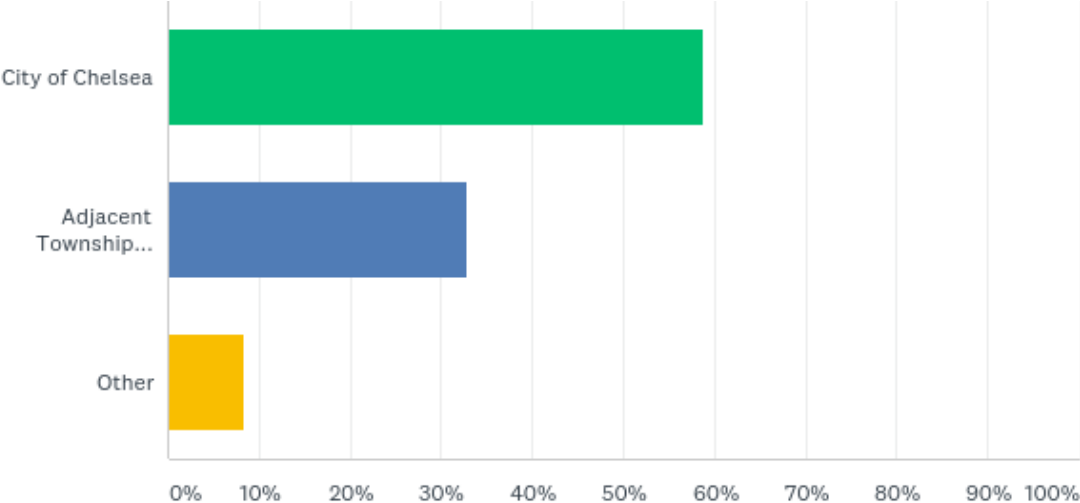
# Please select your age range

Answered: 683 Skipped: 7



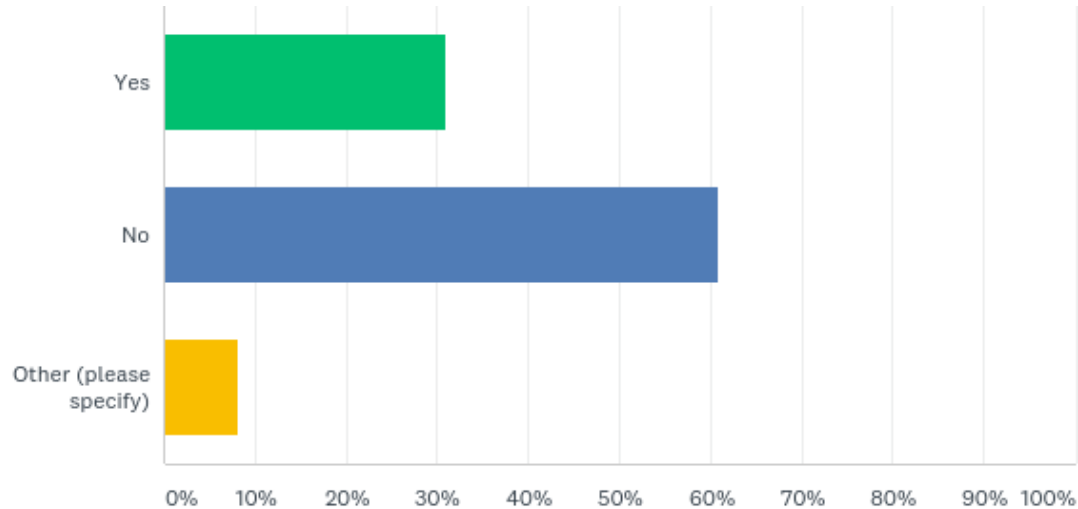
# Please select your residency

Answered: 684 Skipped: 6



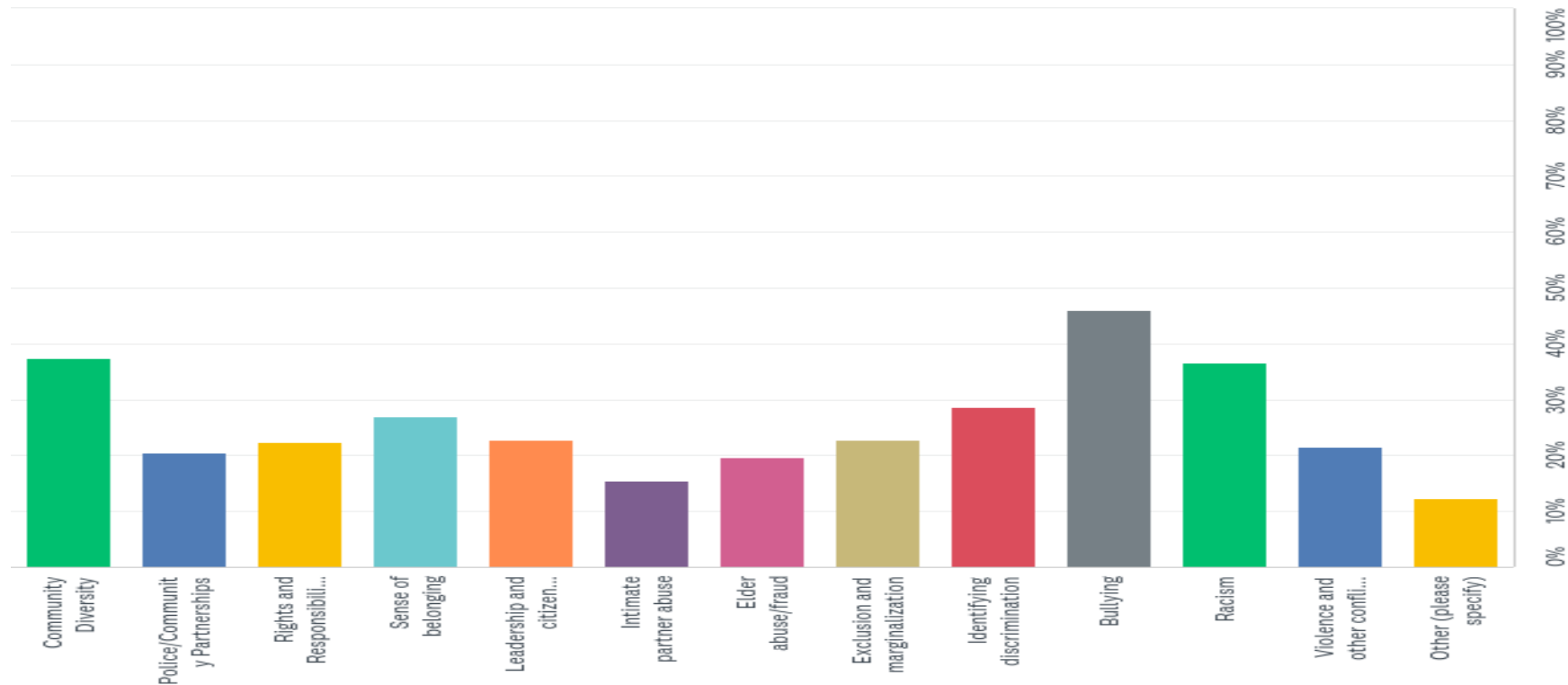
# Have you been involved in specific activities or services that focus on human rights and social justice issues?

Answered: 686 Skipped: 4



# Which of the following human rights and social justice priorities do you think should be a focus of the Human Rights Commission?

Answered: 690 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Community Diversity	37.54%	259
Police/Community Partnerships	20.43%	141
Rights and Responsibilities	22.46%	155
Sense of belonging	26.96%	186
Leadership and citizen engagement	22.90%	158
Intimate partner abuse	15.51%	107
Elder abuse/fraud	19.57%	135
Exclusion and marginalization	22.75%	157
Identifying discrimination	28.70%	198
Bullying	45.94%	317
Racism	36.52%	252
Violence and other conflict resolution	21.45%	148
Other (please specify)	12.32%	85
Total Respondents: 690		

# Top Five Priorities\*

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Bullying	46%
Community Diversity	38%
Racism	37%
Identifying Discrimination	29%
Sense of Belonging	27%

\*Respondents could choose three priorities

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## What does Chelsea do well to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“Give students many opportunities to participate in clubs of their choice.”

“Create safe and inclusive environments for students at school.”

“We do well at community involvement and leadership opportunities.”

“Having a Human Rights Commission.”

“Treat everyone equally in the eyes of the law.”

“Very active churches and community services groups.”

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## **What does Chelsea do well to promote and protect human rights and social justice?**

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“Chelsea District Library programs, displays.”

“Avalon Housing initiative to provide housing.”

“We are building awareness...there is at least an openness to discuss.”

“Opportunities for Chelsea citizens to have their voices heard, be welcomed into and make a difference in their community.”

“I believe most Chelsea people and businesses are welcoming and fair.”

“Screening at Dr’s Offices for suicide, abuse, etc.”

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## **What does Chelsea do well to promote and protect human rights and social justice?**

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“Chelsea forms a lot of committees and meetings to “fix” issues, but I’m not aware of any action that has been taken.”

“As a resident, I don’t see any obvious promotion to protect human rights and social justice. More is needed!!”

“Didn’t know Chelsea had such problems.”

“Chelsea is fine the way it is; in fact its commitment to “social justice” is a little over the top at times.”

“Total waste of money.”

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## What does Chelsea do well to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“Nothing, students and citizens run rampant with racial slogans and symbols covering our town, students harass others openly while in class and nothing is done.”

“Feel like Chelsea applies token effort to combating social justice issues, in other words, they act like they try, but don’t actually do anything.”

“Nothing that I have seen.”

“I don’t know of anything Chelsea does, but don’t think we have a problem.”

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## What could Chelsea improve upon to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“...expose kids to multiculturalism earlier on and present having many cultures positively. Chelsea focuses a lot on white and European American culture...”

“Provide students with resources to educate themselves on racial prejudice as well as other prejudices that are well seen in our community.”

“Not being so oblivious to obvious issues of homophobia and anti-feminism comments from students and bullying of students.”

“Listening to what students say and TAKE ACTION.”

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## What could Chelsea improve upon to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“I love living in Chelsea – my one disappointment is a lack of cultural and racial diversity.”

“Take an good look at your town, better yet try to gain entrance to most downtown shops and restaurants. If you walk with canes, braces or are wheelchair bound – awful curb cuts, little accessible parking – so many buildings with steps.”

“Better education on suicide and help that an individual and family can obtain.”

“More affordable housing options/ ordinance for tenants rights.”

“We need housing options for young families, young adults and the working poor. We are gentrifying and it isn’t healthy.”

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## What could Chelsea improve upon to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“Work towards more discussions, public presentations to raise awareness.”

“Celebrate more than just Christian, midwestern events...more education about religious and cultural diversity.”

“More organized programs funded by the City.”

“Recruit a more diverse teaching staff in the schools.”

“Start with the schools, all of the schools, all grade levels, bring awareness to the staff and students through seminars, speakers, field trips, class assignments.”

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## What could Chelsea improve upon to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“Something to organize the NGOs in the area towards working together especially in the areas where we know we have strengths.”

“Interfaith dialog in public spaces, open discussions of elder abuse, etc.”

“Would like to see the official city of Chelsea be more visible and pro-active reaching out to minority groups and dealing with issues like gun violence.”

“This survey may be the answer. However, people feel their rights aren’t being served is what will hopefully be shared.”

“Ability for individuals to address concerns, social justice in a safe environment, anonymous call line, etc.”

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## What could Chelsea improve upon to promote and protect human rights and social justice?

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“So. Many. Things. Chelsea could promote a pride parade. Chelsea could hire city officials who help, or are at least aware, of social injustices. Seeing racist posts on employees FB pages is not encouraging.”

“No need for Chelsea to improve.”

“Don’t think we have a problem.”

“We all can improve.”

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## Survey Results Available on the City Website

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**<http://city-chelsea.org/city-council>**

As the Human Rights Commission moves forward we will use these results to formulate our annual plan to present to Council.

HRC meetings are posted – we usually meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Weds of each month at 6pm in the City board room

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