



Youths Inspiring Youth Together

Reported By: [Brenda Wood](#)

When Haley Kilpatrick was 15, she was dreaming up a mentoring program she called Girl Talk. Now, five years later, Haley is CEO of Girl Talk, Inc., and she's Good People.

"The Montel Show" just featured her as one of the top five women across America who's one voice is creating a voice of change.

And of course, her family and friends are proud. A native of Albany, Georgia, Haley virtually started a national movement with a very simple concept -- high school girls mentoring middle school girls on how to navigate their teenage years. The idea grew out of Haley's own painful experience in middle school.



Haley Kilpatrick, Founder & President of Girl Talk.

"I remember not having a seat at the lunch table, and I remember I'd go and I'd eat in the bathroom stall and shut the door, because I didn't know where I fit in," Haley said.

Intuitively, Haley knew thousands of other girls felt the same way, as was played out in movies like "Mean Girls."

So when her little sister entered middle school, Haley stepped in and set up the first Girl Talk meeting at the school. Just a 9th grader and 15 years old herself, Haley was overwhelmed when almost all the school's girls showed up. Now there're more than 10,000 girls in 21 states in Girl Talk, with more than 30 chapters in Georgia alone.

"I know what I'm doing is meaningful," Haley said. "I wake up to e-mails from parents or young girls that say, 'thank you, thank you for your idea, and thank you for having the courage to make it a reality'."

Jezebel magazine named her one of Atlanta's 50 most beautiful people. Now a junior at Kennesaw State, Haley is featured in the school's ad campaign. But in between studies, Haley's establishing her national headquarters here in Atlanta to continue fueling her passion.

"You just need to find positive, motivated high school girls to log onto our website, download the Girl Talk handbook, and start a chapter," Haley said.

Her goal is to have Girl Talk in all 50 states by the year 2010 -- and she'll probably do it. Haley Kilpatrick is Good People, who's simply blessed.

"I know that God had a big part in the success, and He uses me," Haley said.

With Girl Talk growing so fast, Haley is looking for corporate sponsors so she can now hire staff. For more information, go to their website at DesireToInspire.org.

