



Children and Rights in the Global South

Friday 25/11/2011

8:30 am to 12:45 pm : Salle du conseil

1:45pm to 5:30pm : Auditoire Marx

Bâtiment B31 ISHS
Boulevard du Rectorat 7
4000 Liège-Belgium

The recent socio-political and socio-economical transformations of “Southern societies” as well as their new cultural configurations tend to deeply modify the status of children and the roles that adults give them. They seem to have become key-agents who have to be taken into account in daily decisions, whether it is for protecting and respecting them or for considering their capacity of influence. At the same time, Medias, international organisations and NGO’s, as well as social sciences, have never been so concerned by children in these societies and all of them play a role in their increasing visibility. In 1989, the United Nations’ adoption of the “International Convention on the Rights of the Child” seems directly linked to this renewed interest in children; it has considerably contributed to make them the greatest focus of attention. Although some observers, institutions and researchers have been unconvinced by the implementation of this legislation and keep a critical look at it, it has been adopted by the majority of the countries; numerous national governments have promulgated their own laws regarding child protection; it has become one of the main frames of reference for NGO’s and international organizations linked to childhood. Thus, the legislation of children rights appears nowadays as a global moral frame which is currently shaping childhood and children in the South.

This workshop focused on Children Rights in Southern societies aims at improving our understanding on children, their rights and the effects of these rights in Southern societies. Beyond a dichotomy between local processes and global dynamics, this workshop aims at studying the way by which they influence each other by interlacing different professional point of view, experiences and observations. Far from seeing research and development field as two self-contained worlds, we perceive here dialogue between researchers and stakeholders as a tool to make better our respective approach of children in the Global South.

8:30-9:00 Arrival

9:00-9:30 Introduction

Opening Remarks

Prof. Marc Poncelet (Université de Liège-Pôle Sud)

“Childhood and Rights in the Global South”

Géraldine André and Lucille Gretry (Université de Liège-Pôle Sud)

9:30-12:45 Session 1

First Part

Chair and discussant: *Charles Edouard de Suremain (Chargé de recherche en anthropologie, UMR 208, IRD-MNHN, Paris, France)*

9:30-10:00 Children’s rights in legal sciences: state of the art and current debates

Ellen Desmet (Research and policy advice-Children's Rights Knowledge Centre, Belgium)

10:00-10:30 Living Rights: Theorizing Children's Rights in Development

Olga Nieuwenhuys (Senior Lecturer-Department of Geography, Planning and International, Development Studies, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

10:30-11:00 Les droits des enfants et Terre des Hommes : partir des représentations existantes

Frédéric Baele (Responsable de Terre des Hommes Mozambique)

11:00-11:15 Questions and discussions

11:15-11:30 Coffee Break

Second Part

Chair and discussant: *Lucille Grétry*

11:30-12:00 Réflexions sur la situation des enfants de la rue dans la ville/province de Kinshasa

Rémy Mafu (Coordinateur du Réseau des Educateurs des Enfants et des Jeunes de la rue, Kinshasa, RDC)

12:00-12:30 Child Soldier in Sierra Leone

Prof. Myriam Denov (Associate professor, School of social work, McGill University, Canada)

12:30-12:45 Questions and discussions

12:45 -13:45 Lunch

13H45-16H45 Session 2

First Part

Chair and Discussant: *Joséphine Wouango*

1:45-2:15 Children Rights from Young Lives

Jo Boyden (Director Young Lives Research Centre and Reader in Development Studies)

2:15-2:45 La petite fabrique des droits des enfants

Chantal Denner (Gestionnaire de projets de solidarité internationale dans les secteurs de la justice des mineurs, la protection de l'enfance, la lutte contre le VIH/SIDA)

2:45-3:15 Du droit à l'éducation à l'injonction de scolarisation : le paradigme

scolaire

Bernard Schlemmer (Directeur de recherche émérite, CEPED, UMR 196 (Paris Descartes, Ined,IRD)

3:15-3:30 Questions and discussions

3:30-3:45 Coffee Break

Second Part

Chair and Discussant: *Marc Poncelet*

3:45-4:15

Children's Work between Local and Global Influences in Ghana and DRC

Géraldine André (Chargée de recherches FRS-FNRS-Pôle Sud et Lasc, Université de Liège)

4:15-4:45

Exploitation ou trafic d'enfants mineurs au Burkina Faso ? Vers un usage social du droit des enfants

Sabine Somé (Doctorante au Centre d'études africaines (Ceaf), EHESS)

4:45-5:00 Questions and discussions

Conclusions

5:00-5:30 Conclusion

Prof. Elodie Razy (Université de Liège, LASC)

5:30 Closing Remarks

Géraldine André, Lucille Grétry et Joséphine Wouango

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