

MONOGRAPH

LATIN AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH, VOLUME 18 NUMBER 2

MAY - AUGUST 2020

Latin American and Caribbean children and youth: violence, migrations, displacements, stigmas and re-existences.

The Latin American Journal of Social Sciences, Childhood and Youth, the Network of Post-graduate Studies in Childhood and Youth (RedINJU) and the “Youth and Children: political and cultural practices, memories and inequalities in contemporary settings” invite you to participate in the monographic issue of the Journal titled: *Latin American and Caribbean children and youth: violence, migrations, displacements, stigmas and re-existences*¹. The purpose of this monographic issue will be to generate renewed discussion among researchers, public policy makers and managers of social organizations that have been producing knowledge and generating transformations and impacts for children and young people in Latin America and the Caribbean. Specifically, this monographic issue aims to disseminate and socialize knowledge and reflections produced by the international postgraduate programs that are members the RedINJU, the Youth and Childhood working group, the Clacso Network and other researchers.

Articles on the following topics are requested:

1. Violence, stigmas, migrations and resistances.
2. Inequalities, challenges to democracies, memories and re-existences.
3. New strategies for the mobility of girls, boys and young people through migration and displacement in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This monographic issue seeks to facilitate debates and actions in terms of the topics focused on in the three postgraduate schools that form the network. These universities analyze

¹ Website <http://revistaumanizales.cinde.org.co/>

children and young people in relation to the Latin American and Caribbean context and knowledge production practices, public policy and social mobilization.

The starting point is the recognition of the Latin American and Caribbean context, in which the presence of multiple forms of violence, social inequalities and challenges to democracies have been historically naturalized.

In this context, there are children, young people, families and communities that abandoned their homes, were forced to leave everything, stripped of their native lands. They set out on journeys without any specific destination, taking with them the few possessions they had left when they were ordered to vacate their lands and drop their tools. They are wanderers, travelling beings, with their roots ever more distant from their current existence. They left in times of war or as a result of different expressions of violence when sovereigns came to occupy their territories. Staying meant dying; becoming wanderers meant that they continued to exist.

This population left their countries and were forced to join the caravan, climb on the back of “The Beast” train, cross borders, take hidden roads and evade the police. They migrated, but they did not do it because they wanted to. Their migration is not free. When they decided to leave their territories, their tears stayed behind. They said goodbye and knew that it would be an uncertain journey. Today they travel in groups, they are caravans without a carnival. They become visible, they arrive and they congregate at the final border in Latin America. They talk about the people on the other side of the border who wish to tear down the walls. and, in their countries of origin, the structural violence, that continues after armed conflicts and multiple forms of violence. They are the subjects of neoliberalism, of economic marginalization, of the precariousness of their lives, of the multiple intolerances that attack our diversities, of the loss of confidence, of the rupture of the social fabric. Now there are thousands trying to insert themselves into the streets of cities that do not want them, that do not love them, that have publicly despised them. Despite all of this, they are still trying. They are forced migrants, their memories are there to understand their maps, not just of their trajectories, but also of the conflagration of their communities.

Those who could decided to continue to exist. So today, among the misery belts in the cities, they learn the rhythm of another life. In their anonymity they recreate their ways of living

without belonging anywhere. From the silences that have found a home in their bodies, the need arises to rethink what has happened to them.

In these contexts, hegemonic narratives have been constructed, legitimized and reproduced about children and young people and their socializing agents. This has occurred based on the perspective of the violation of rights, which generally positions them in terms of passivity. There is a subsequent need for protection from the risks they generate and the contexts in which they participate, due to the effects of what they have experienced and the compassion perspective that Bustelo criticized so much. In these narratives, the experiences, knowledge, needs and expectations of key social actors have been left to one side. Some are considered dependent and immature (as is the case with children), others assume them as social actors who are considered dangerous, apathetic and contentious (as is the case with young people).

This has led to children and young people being narrated as victims and, in some cases, as perpetrators in contexts involving war or multiple forms of violence. This situation means that they are dependent on and passive towards adults. In the history of violence, these subjects have had a reproductive leadership, but they have not been assumed as political subjects who have generative and agency capacity. They are seen as part of "those others", who compromise the new understanding of "security" that has legitimized violence against children and, in the case of youth, has led to extreme phenomena such as juvenicide.

In general, the presence of violence has silenced the voices of children and young people for their own protection or for the protection of their loved ones. This has led to forgetting what has been experienced through the voices of children and young people and ignoring many factors that have emerged as protective and agency practices in their own contexts. The truth has been considered a single truth, and it is not perceived as present in the children and young people seen as dependent, immature or dangerous. As a result, their memories have been set aside in the history of our continent.

Latin America and the Caribbean are places of exiles, migrations, forced displacements and multiple expressions of violence. It's a crowd of events that can't be captured by institutional records. We'll never really know how many there are.

We consider it fundamental to recover memories understood as those meanings attributed in the present to lived experiences, constant connections between the past that was an event, meanings and practices in the present and the future possibilities that are based on these meanings and practices. Memories are interesting, not so that we remain fixed in the past, but as an exercise of narrating, and therefore redefining what has been lived. This allows for the emergence of powers, agency practices and re-existences that move away from revictimization. We know that in the case of children, and even more so in their early years, memories have been silenced for their protection. We recognize the importance of non-revictimization, but also of the exercise of reconstructing memories as learning from experience and a recovery of cultural meanings and practices.

Faced with this context, the monographic issue asks about the ways in which children and young people who live in contexts of high vulnerability and violence exercise agency over their human development with others and build and narrate their identities and political subjectivities in a generative manner so that they can mobilize transformation and agency processes. This takes into account the importance of confronting and deactivating the daily naturalization of violence rooted in inequality and poverty through joint action between governments, civil society, the international community, academia and the children, young people, families, educational agents and social organizations themselves. The direct consequences of this violence are perceived in the social dynamics of exclusion and depoliticizing. We are interested in developing analytical perspectives that aim to reconstruct the present, while at the same time informing ourselves of the past and allowing us to reflect on displacements and reconfigurations from a new point of view based on transformations in participating, building collective experiences and giving meaning to the practices of social agency among children and young people.

Consequently, the monographic issue proposes to reflect on the different forms of violence and inequalities that are present in the Latin American and Caribbean context, particularly those that are present in conditions of mobility, migration or forced displacement. In these conditions, multiple violations of rights occur and the subjectivities and identities of children and young people also emerge in processes of political socialization and agency practices. In addition, the Journal seeks to facilitate understanding of the dynamics of violence and social

mobilities and the role played by memory in the participation of children and young people. The monographic issue will contribute to the construction of perspectives and approaches used in the social sciences that are pertinent to the Latin American and Caribbean context and that guide research with children and youth in contexts of violence and mobilities. This research includes political socialization that leads to social transformation and the reconstruction of social fabric. It is important to recognize the socialization processes of children and young people in these contexts as complex by recognizing the importance of relational processes in the construction of their subjectivities, identifying the transforming potential of relationships and considering the participation of children and young people as active social agents in the construction of a country and a continent. The Journal aims to recover the agency and political mobilization processes that contribute to the recognition and redefinition of memories that highlight the voices of children and young people who have lived in contexts of violence and conflict based on their powers and their political subjectivity.

Topics for articles:

- Children and youth: violence, social mobilities, memories and citizenship.
- Children and youth: State, political cycles and public policies.
- Children and youth: social mobilizations, protests, territorial movements and mobilities.
- Children and youth: educational and formative processes.
- Children and youth: collective action, art and popular education.

The monographic issue will focus on articles based on research (including the systematization of experiences).

The dates for this process include:

Start date	Closing date	Action
30 September 2019	15 November 2019	Submission of full articles (using the Journal's OJS platform) http://revistaumanizales.cinde.org.co/

15 November 2019	30 January 2019	Peer evaluation
30 January 2020	15 February 2020	Submission of articles with suggested changes incorporated (using the Journal's OJS platform) http://revistaumanizales.cinde.org.co/
15 February 2020	2 May 2020	Editorial process and publication of Volume 18, number 2 (May-August 2020).

For this publication, the publication guidelines for the Latin American Journal of Social Sciences, Childhood and Youth will be used. For more information about these you can click on the following link:

<http://revistaumanizales.cinde.org.co/index.php/conocenos/guia-para-los-autores-y-autoras>