



Youth Identity and Political Participation in Urban Senegal: A Survey Perspective

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Abstract

Youth identity is a critical aspect of political participation in urban Senegal, reflecting broader African macroeconomic dynamics and social structures. The research employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating quantitative survey data from over 500 respondents across various urban centers in Senegal with qualitative interviews to gain deeper insights into youth perceptions and behaviors. Youth identified as having strong ethnic or religious affiliations were significantly more likely to participate in local governance initiatives (64% vs. 32%), highlighting the importance of cultural identity in political engagement. The study underscores the need for inclusive policies that recognise and leverage youth identities to enhance their participation in urban politics, contributing to more equitable governance structures. Policy makers should prioritise initiatives that foster intercultural dialogue and inclusivity, particularly in urban areas where ethnic and religious differences are pronounced. Youth Identity, Political Participation, Urban Senegal, Mixed-Methods Research

Keywords: *Africanization, Diaspora, Ethnography, Identity Politics, Migration Studies, Quantitative Research, Urban Sociology*

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