



Youth Identity and Political Participation in Urban Cameroon: An Ethnographic Exploration

Chantal Essoum¹, Victor Nkamga^{1,2}, Samuel Foung³, Juliet Akumko²

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC)

² University of Yaoundé I

³ University of Dschang

Published: 05 June 2000 | **Received:** 01 February 2000 | **Accepted:** 22 April 2000

Correspondence: cessoum@outlook.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18719597](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18719597)

Author notes

Chantal Essoum is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Victor Nkamga is affiliated with University of Yaoundé I and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Samuel Foung is affiliated with University of Dschang and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Juliet Akumko is affiliated with University of Yaoundé I and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Abstract

Youth in urban Cameroon face significant challenges related to identity formation and political participation, reflecting broader societal issues. The study employed qualitative research techniques including participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions to understand the lived experiences of young people in urban settings. Youth participants articulated diverse but often intersecting identities based on ethnicity, class, gender, and religion. Political engagement was characterized by a mix of civic duties and activism across various sectors. The ethnographic findings highlight the complexity of youth identity formation and political participation in urban Cameroon, suggesting nuanced approaches to support political inclusion and social cohesion. Policy recommendations include fostering inclusive spaces for dialogue on identities and politics, with a focus on equitable educational opportunities and community-led initiatives. Youth Identity, Political Participation, Urban Cameroon, Ethnography

Keywords: African, Ethnicity, Identity, Participation, Qualitative, Urban, Youth

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ REQUEST FULL PAPER

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge