



Youth Identity and Political Participation in Urban Madagascar: A Qualitative Exploration

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Abstract

Youth in urban Madagascar face complex socio-political challenges that influence their identity formation and subsequent political engagement. The study employs semi-structured interviews and participant observation to gather qualitative data from urban youth in Madagascar. Youth participants predominantly engaged with local politics, particularly those associated with traditional cultural festivals ($N=30$). This research highlights the importance of integrating cultural heritage into political education programmes for fostering inclusive civic participation among young people in Madagascar. Policy makers should incorporate youth-led cultural initiatives into their educational and community development strategies to enhance political literacy and engagement.

Keywords: *Geographic, Urban, Identity, Participation, Social Theory, Qualitative Research, Cultural Studies*

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