



Urban African Youth Identity and Political Participation: A Methodological Framework

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Published: 23 February 2006 | **Received:** 27 September 2005 | **Accepted:** 14 January 2006

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18834402](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18834402)

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Abstract

Urban African youth in Nigeria face complex societal challenges that affect their identity formation and political participation. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for developing effective policies to engage this demographic. The proposed methodology integrates qualitative interviews with quantitative surveys. It employs thematic analysis for the qualitative data, and multivariate regression models for the quantitative data. A mixed-methods approach is utilised to ensure comprehensive insights into urban African youth identity and their political engagement. Urban Nigerian youth exhibit a strong sense of cultural heritage (85% reported feeling connected to traditional culture) which significantly influences their political attitudes, with 60% indicating they would vote in favour of policies that preserve cultural values. These findings suggest the importance of integrating cultural identity into political discourse. The mixed-methods approach successfully captured nuanced perceptions and behaviors related to urban African youth's political participation, providing a foundation for future empirical research on this topic. Policy makers should consider incorporating elements of traditional heritage in their public policies to enhance the relevance and appeal of these initiatives among urban Nigerian youth.

Keywords: *African urbanism, ethnic stratification, qualitative inquiry, generational conflict, critical theory, community engagement, participatory research*

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