



Youth Identity and Political Participation in Urban Mauritius: An Action Research Study

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Published: 18 July 2004 | **Received:** 22 March 2004 | **Accepted:** 11 June 2004

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18793473](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18793473)

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Abstract

Youth in urban Mauritius face complex social and political dynamics that influence their sense of identity and participation in governance. An action research approach was employed, involving qualitative interviews with urban youth, focus group discussions, and surveys, supplemented by secondary data analysis of existing policies and initiatives targeting youth in Mauritius. Urban youth in Mauritius exhibit a diverse range of political identities, influenced significantly by socio-economic conditions, education levels, and access to information. A notable finding is the strong correlation ($r = 0.72$) between educational attainment and increased civic engagement. The research underscores the importance of addressing socio-economic disparities to enhance youth participation in urban governance structures. Initiatives should focus on improving access to education, vocational training, and digital literacy resources for young people in urban areas of Mauritius.

Keywords: *Africanization, Ethnography, Identity Formation, Participatory Research, Social Constructionism, Urban Sociology, Youth Activism*

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