



# Youth Identity and Political Participation in Urban Ethiopia: A Scholarly Reflection

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## Abstract

Youth identity formation is increasingly recognised as a critical factor influencing political participation in urban settings across Africa. The analysis draws from qualitative interviews and focus group discussions conducted among young people aged 18-30 in urban areas of Addis Ababa. The findings highlight the importance of integrating youth identity into urban political education and community development initiatives. Urban policymakers should consider incorporating cultural heritage education into their curricula and fostering inter-community dialogue to enhance civic participation.

**Keywords:** *Ethiopia, Urbanization, Youth Activism, Identity Politics, Critical Theory, Postcolonial Studies, Social Movements*

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