



Youth Identity and Political Participation in Urban Senegal: A Mixed Methods Inquiry

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Abstract

Youth in urban Senegal face evolving social dynamics influenced by rapid urbanization and changing cultural norms. A mixed methods study combining semi-structured interviews with a large-scale survey among young people in urban Senegal. Quantitative data is analysed using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis of qualitative responses. Youth who strongly identify with their cultural heritage are more likely to engage in political activities, with a proportion of 45% showing active participation compared to 20% among less culturally anchored youth. The study reveals significant disparities in political engagement based on youth identity, providing empirical evidence for policy interventions aimed at fostering inclusive political participation. Policy makers should prioritise initiatives that enhance cultural pride and community involvement to promote broader youth political participation. Youth Identity, Political Participation, Urban Senegal, Mixed Methods Study

Keywords: *Africanization, Cultural Identity, Ethnography, Intercultural Communication, Participatory Action Research, Qualitative Inquiry, Quantitative Analysis*

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