



Youth Involvement in Legal Processes within Burkina Faso: A Qualitative Exploration

Issa Ouédraogo¹

¹ Department of Research, Official University of Bobo-Dioulasso

Published: 14 February 2010 | **Received:** 06 November 2009 | **Accepted:** 26 December 2009

Correspondence: ioudraogo@yahoo.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18917013](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18917013)

Author notes

Issa Ouédraogo is affiliated with Department of Research, Official University of Bobo-Dioulasso and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Abstract

Youth involvement in legal processes is increasingly recognised as crucial for ensuring justice and social development in societies around the world. In Africa, Burkina Faso faces unique challenges and opportunities related to youth participation in legal systems. Qualitative research methods were employed, including semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis. Data collection was conducted in urban and rural areas to capture diverse perspectives and experiences. Findings indicate that while young people in Burkina Faso have a keen interest in legal processes, they face significant challenges such as limited access to information and resources, cultural barriers, and inadequate legal education. However, there are also notable themes of resilience and innovative solutions emerging from their engagement with the legal system. The study highlights the potential for youth-led initiatives to improve legal outcomes in Burkina Faso, suggesting that targeted interventions could significantly enhance the effectiveness and inclusivity of the justice system. Recommendations include developing educational programmes tailored to young people's needs, fostering community-based solutions, and integrating youth perspectives into policy-making processes. These steps are crucial for realising a more equitable legal environment in Burkina Faso.

Keywords: *Africanization, Contextual Jurisprudence, Ethnography, Legal Culture, Youth Mobilization, Participatory Research, Critical Pedagogy*

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