



# Visual Identities in Motion: Visual Culture and Youth Identity Formation in South Africa

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## Abstract

Visual culture plays a significant role in shaping youth identity formation across South Africa's diverse social landscapes. A qualitative approach was employed through participant observation and semi-structured interviews with young people aged 15-24 from various backgrounds. This commentary underscores the importance of understanding visual culture as a key element in shaping youth identity formation within diverse South African contexts. Educators and policymakers should consider integrating discussions on visual culture into curricula to enhance students' cultural awareness and appreciation.

**Keywords:** *African, Diaspora, Identity, Pan-Africanism, Postcolonial, Visuality, Youth*

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