

Children and Youth in the Labour Process  
in Africa

*Edited by*  
**Osita Agbu**



**Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa**

© CODESRIA 2009

Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa  
Avenue Cheikh Anta Diop, Angle Canal IV  
BP 3304 Dakar, 18524, Senegal  
Website: [www.codesria.org](http://www.codesria.org)

ISBN: 978-2-86978-251-8

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage or retrieval system without prior permission from CODESRIA.

Typesetter: Sériane Camara Ajavon

Cover Designer: Florent Loso Tonadio

Printed by Graphiplus, Dakar, Senegal

Distributed in Africa by CODESRIA

Distributed elsewhere by African Books Collective, Oxford, UK.  
Website: [www.africanbookscollective.com](http://www.africanbookscollective.com)

The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) is an independent organisation whose principal objectives are to facilitate research, promote research-based publishing and create multiple forums geared towards the exchange of views and information among African researchers. All these are aimed at reducing the fragmentation of research in the continent through the creation of thematic research networks that cut across linguistic and regional boundaries.

CODESRIA publishes a quarterly journal, *Africa Development*, the longest standing Africa-based social science journal; *Afrika Zamani*, a journal of history; the *African Sociological Review*, the *African Journal of International Affairs*, *Africa Review of Books* and the *Journal of Higher Education in Africa*. The Council also co-publishes the *Africa Media Review*, *Identity, Culture and Politics: An Afro-Asian Dialogue*, *The African Anthropologist* and the *Afro-Arab Selections for Social Sciences*. The results of its research and other activities are also disseminated through its Working Paper Series, Green Book Series, Monograph Series, Book Series, Policy Briefs and the CODESRIA Bulletin. Select CODESRIA publications are also accessible online at [www.codesria.org](http://www.codesria.org).

CODESRIA would like to express its gratitude to the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA/SAREC), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Ford Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Danish Agency for International Development (DANIDA), the French Ministry of Cooperation, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Rockefeller Foundation, FINIDA, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), IIEP/ADEA, OECD, IFS, OXFAM America, UN/UNICEF and the Government of Senegal for supporting its research, training and publication programmes.

# Contents

Contributors .....	iv
1. Introduction: Children and Youth in the Labour Process <i>Osita Agbu</i> .....	1
2. Child Labour in Contemporary Africa: Issues and Challenges <i>Osita Agbu</i> .....	11
3. Getting Them Young: Child Labour in Ikot Ekpene from a Historical Perspective <i>Mfom Umoren Ekpè-Otu</i> .....	21
4. Economic Crises and Child Trafficking in Nigeria: A Comparative Analysis of the 1930s and 1990s <i>Rasheed Olaniyi</i> .....	35
5. Children Exploitation in the Labour Process: Empirical Exposition from Ile-Ife, Nigeria <i>Olu Torimiro</i> .....	63
6. Internal Child Trafficking in Nigeria: Transcending Legal Borders <i>Olumatoyin O. Oluwaniyi</i> .....	81
7. Le Phénomène ‘Vidomégon’: une autre forme de Trafic d’Enfant dans la ville de Cotonou <i>A. Ludovic Couao-Zotti</i> .....	111
8. Problématique du Travail des Enfants et les Stratégies de Survie au Congo Brazzaville <i>Ngodi Etanislav</i> .....	133
9. Étude sur le Travail des Enfants dans L’Agriculture: Région de Meknès – Tafilalet, Maroc <i>Hassan Khalouki</i> .....	151
10. Problématique de la Prostitution Infanto-Juvenile à Kinshasa: Cas des ‘Tshel’ <i>Jose Mvuzolo Bazonzi</i> .....	175
11. Enfants et jeunes dans le métier de la danse au sein des groupes musicaux modernes à Kinshasa <i>Leon Tsambu Bulu</i> .....	197
12. Conclusion <i>Osita Agbu</i> .....	225

## Contributors

**A. Ludovic Couao-Zotti** is a researcher based in Cotonou, Republic of Benin.

**Etanislav Ngodi** est Doctorant en Histoire et Civilisations Africaines, Faculté des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines, Université Marien Ngouabi, Brazzaville, Congo.

**Hassan Khalouki** est Professeur à la Faculté des Sciences Juridiques, Economiques et Sociales, Université Moulay Ismail, Meknès.

**José Mvuelo Bazonzi** est Chercheur en Economie et Développement, Centre d'Etudes Politiques (CEP), Université de Kinshasa, Kinshasa, R.D. Congo.

**Leon Tsambu Bulu** est Chercheur au Centre d'Etudes Politiques, Chef de Travaux au Département de Sociologie & Anthropologie, Faculté des Sciences, Administratives et Politiques, Université de Kinshasa, R.D. Congo.

**Mfon Umoren Ekpo-Otu** is a Lecturer at the Department of Political Science, University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

**Olu Torimiro** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

**Oluwatoyin O. Oluwaniyi** is an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Policy and Strategic Studies, College of Business and Social Sciences, Covenant University, Sango-Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria.

**Osita Agbu** is an Associate Research Professor at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, Lagos, Nigeria. He co-directed the CODESRIA Child and Youth Studies Institute, 2004.

**Rasheed Olaniyi** is a researcher based at the Centre for Research and Documentation, Kano, Nigeria.