

Reflections on children's rights in Brazil and South America

Children, thought of in the context of human rights, have become a very important issue in South America. This has been especially true since the approval of children's rights laws in the 1990s. Before these events, most countries in the region had gone through twenty years of brutal military dictatorship and the countries were eager to see the institutionalization of democratic practices on many fronts. In the 1980s a burst of social mobilization sought to recognize people's rights. Interestingly, children became one of the most powerful foci of these social movements, especially marginalized children. So-called street children, for example, became a particular focus of attention. In this lecture I will explore the ideas behind the promise of citizenship to children, particularly in Brazil, focusing on the discourse connected to what was promised and what the law and policies actually accomplished.

Irene Rizzini

Professor at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (PUC-Rio) and Director of the International Center for Research and Policy on Childhood (CIESPI) at PUC-Rio.

This lecture is funded by The Leverhulme Trust Visiting Professorships. It is part of a series of events — 'Making rights real for children: learning from South America', jointly organised by CRFR at The University of Edinburgh and the University of Dundee. Jointly hosted by CRFR and the Global Development Academy (The University of Edinburgh).

This seminar is being hosted by the Centre for Child Wellbeing and Protection in partnership with the faculty of social sciences.

Attendance is free, however places are limited so early booking is advisable. Email crfr.events@ed.ac.uk to reserve a place.









