

Report of the consultation performed with children and adolescents regarding the fulfillment of their rights

Sponsorship NGO Forum and SOS Children's Villages International



Ecuador - May, 2016



PRESENTATION

"They listen to us, but they ignore us"

"Something that caught my attention in this document is that Ecuador has never presented a report with the voice of girls, boys and adolescents. This means that until now no Girl, Boy or Adolescent has been consulted and be part of a report to be presented to the Committee".

(Phrases from adolescents CN-NNA, 01-2016)

As a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in March 2016, Ecuador presented a new Country Report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the progress made in fulfilling the commitments made in this International Legal Instrument and on The Observations made by the Committee with respect to previous reports.

Within this framework, the Sponsorship Non-Governmental Organizations Forum: Aid in Action, Compassion International, ChildFund International, Children International, Kindernothilfe KNH, Plan International, and World Vision, jointly with SOS Villages, we are pleased to make the results available to the public of the "Consultation to girls, boys and adolescents regarding compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Facultative Protocols in Ecuador."

The purpose of this document is to contribute to the analysis of the policies and actions undertaken by the Ecuadorian State, by the society and by the families in favor of the rights of girls, boys and adolescents by presenting their frank, open, spontaneous, forceful opinions without any adult-centric mediation. In this document, and from their daily experiences, girls, boys and adolescents evaluate the fulfillment of their rights in the environments where their childhood and adolescence takes place.

This protagonic exercise, in which more than 2,000 girls, boys and adolescents from 22 Ecuadorian provinces participated, is a powerful input to identify public policies and daily actions to respond to their demands and needs in such a way as to make Ecuador a country In which the full exercise of the rights of girls, boys and adolescents is recognized and where they are promoted as subjects and social actors.

“We are not the source of the problems, we are the resources needed to solve them.

We do not represent an expense, we represent an investment.

We are not only young people; we are people and citizens of this world.

Until others accept their responsibility with us, we will continue fighting for our rights.

... We promise to treat each other with dignity and respect.

We promise to be open and sensitive about our differences.

We are the children of the world and despite our differences, we share the same reality.

... You call us the future, but we are also the present.”

Children Declaration, held during the opening of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in favor of children, May 8, 2002

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I. Introduction

In the context of the presentation by the Ecuadorian State to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child of the V Report on the Compliance of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the civil society organizations are preparing their Alternative Report. On this occasion, the challenge is to promote the presentation of a report that collects the voice of children and adolescents, for which the Sponsorship NGO Forum supported a process of consultation to make these voices heard, in order to collect a report of the perception of this group of population regarding how they see, feel and perceive the fulfillment of their rights in Ecuador.

This document contains the results of the consultation process, where over 2,000 children and adolescents participated and who are part of the projects and services implemented by these organizations.

The Report of the Consultation explains the purpose of the organizations and presents the methodology used for the consultation. Subsequently, the Report briefly describes the process, characterizing the children and adolescents who participated in it.

The fourth chapter presents the results obtained in the consultation. This chapter is divided into five sections:

The first section, besides explaining the purpose of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the paradigm shift in relation to the recognition of children and adolescents as subjects of rights, briefly presents some of the reflections made by adolescents in the focus groups, within the framework of the methodology.

The following four sections explain the results obtained from both the focus groups and the survey, organized into the four groups of rights provided in the Convention: Survival, Development, Protection and Participation. In each one, there is a quick description of the groups of rights, the findings of the consultation and, finally, the conclusions related to the rights that correspond to each of the groups, in which a critical analysis is made regarding these results.

Finally, some conclusions and general recommendations are presented.

II. Objectives and Methodology of the consultation

The consultation promoted by the NGO Forum, aimed to “Have the perception and opinion of children and adolescents regarding the fulfillment of their rights in Ecuador, as necessary information for the preparation of an Alternative Report on Childhood and Adolescence in Ecuador, to be submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.”

In order to achieve the stated objective, the NGO Forum agreed to consult 2,300 children and adolescents who are part of the groups or communities that work with sponsoring organizations who are part of the Forum.

In order to guarantee the view from the children and adolescents, an Advisory Committee was formed, composed by children and adolescents of different ages, representatives who participate in activities supported by members of the Sponsorship NGO Forum that commissioned the consultation and those organizations that joined the process (SOS Children’s Villages).

The methodology proposed to collect the information of the children and adolescents ensured a participatory and respectful process of their voice and opinion. In this sense, two mechanisms were proposed:

1. Consultation through **focus groups**

The focus groups were to be conducted with a minimum of 300 teenagers between 12 and 17 years of age in different provinces of the country. The working methodology in the focus groups was built and validated through the Advisory Committee, which is part of the Support Guide for technical teams.

Each focus group had a maximum duration of 4 hours, comprised by technical teams from the Forum organizations, as well as those who joined the consultation process.

The result of the focus groups was documented in a report, which shows:

The results from each focus group detect trends and identify the emphasis of the findings. The results for each group of rights clearly identify the repetition frequencies. The consolidation of opinions expressed during plenary sessions by each one of the rights groups.

Verifies the number of participants and provides focus group documentation and evidences.

2. Consultation through a **Survey to children and adolescents**

This survey collected the perceptions and opinions of children and adolescents in four areas of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, based on questions built and validated with delegates from the Sponsorship NGO Forum, and with the Advisory Committee of children and adolescents. The survey was conducted with 2,000 children and adolescents, between 5 and 17 years of age, throughout the country.

The survey which contains sixty-six main questions, some of which are disaggregated into several sub-themes depending on the need to analyze the opinion that children have about rights, was conceived with mainly closed-ended questions. It should be noted that many of the questions gave to the children and adolescents surveyed the possibility of selecting more than one answer. The processing of the survey results in a database with the answers and the information processed in SPSS files.

With the result of the processing of the focus group and survey information, the Report of the Consultation to children and adolescents was created, organized according to the four groups of rights provided in the Convention: Survival, Development, Protection and Participation.

III. Brief description of the process

The process began with the identification of the topics to be included in the survey. Key to the process was the participation of adolescents who are enrolled in the Sponsorship NGO Forum members' activities. First they learned about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the monitoring tools that the Convention provides. Then they defined in general terms the rights and issues that should be considered.

It should be noted that the methodology developed in the workshop with this group, was used to work with the focus groups in the consultation process.

We prepared the survey based on the support of the adolescents who participated in the workshop. Then we presented it to the Sponsorship NGO Forum to get feedback and revisions from the Advisory Committee.

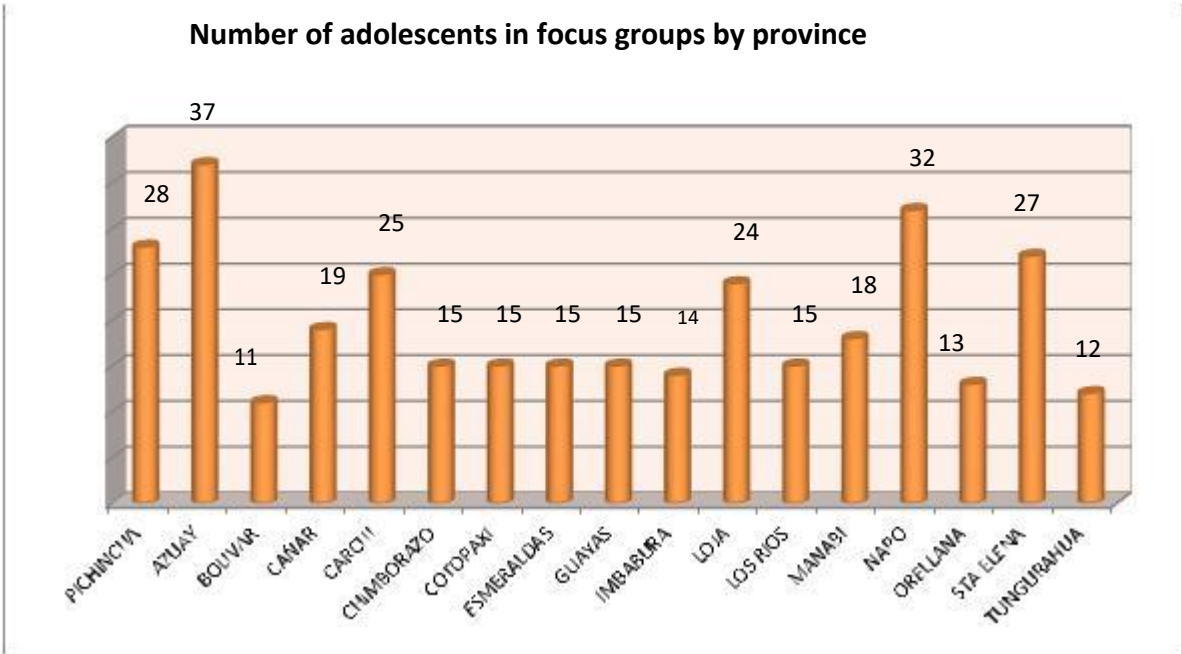
A Consultation Guide for the Technical Teams of the participating organizations was prepared for the process, which provided technical and logistical guidance for the development of the focus groups and surveys. For this Guide, virtual training to selected Technical Teams was provided. These teams developed the process in the different provinces.

On the other hand, the participating organizations defined their responsibilities for the consultation, both for the focus groups and for the implementation of the survey. Plan International was the organization responsible for the collection of the information. The NGOs that were part of the Forum, and those who joined the process, developed 21 focus groups, where several *aide-memoire* and other evidences.

Characterization of children and adolescents participating in the consultation process

A total of 2,340 children and adolescents participated in the consultation process, of which 335 were part of focus groups, and 2,005 through surveys.

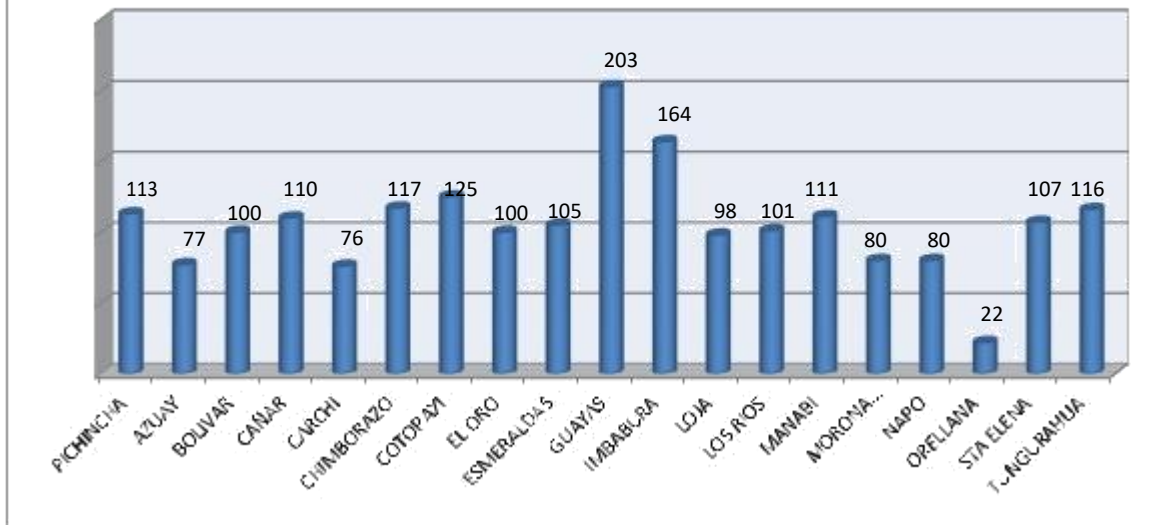
The provinces with the largest participation of adolescents in focus groups were Azuay, Napo, Pichincha, Santa Elena, Carchi and Loja.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero - DECIDE Studies Corporation

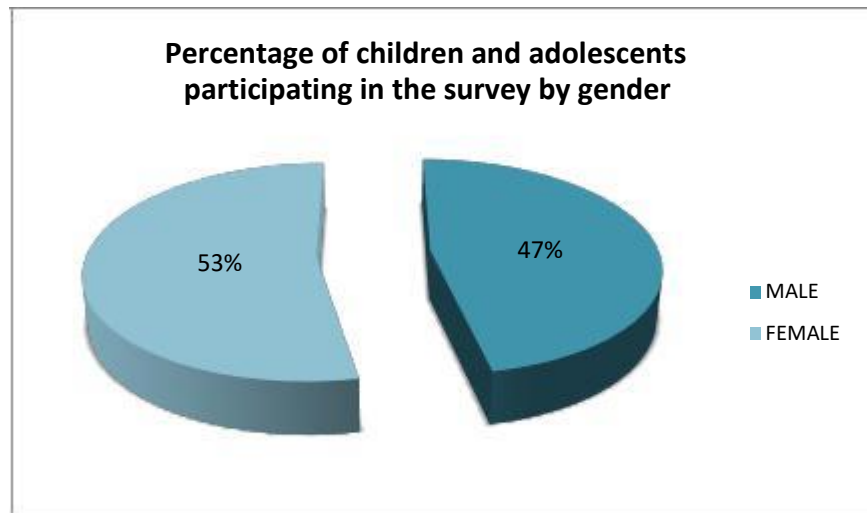
The provinces with the highest number of children who participated in the survey were Guayas, Imbabura and Cotopaxi, followed by Chimborazo, Pichincha and Manabí.

Number of children and adolescents surveyed by province



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Of the total of children and adolescents participating in the consultation process, 53.2% were female, and 46.9% were male.

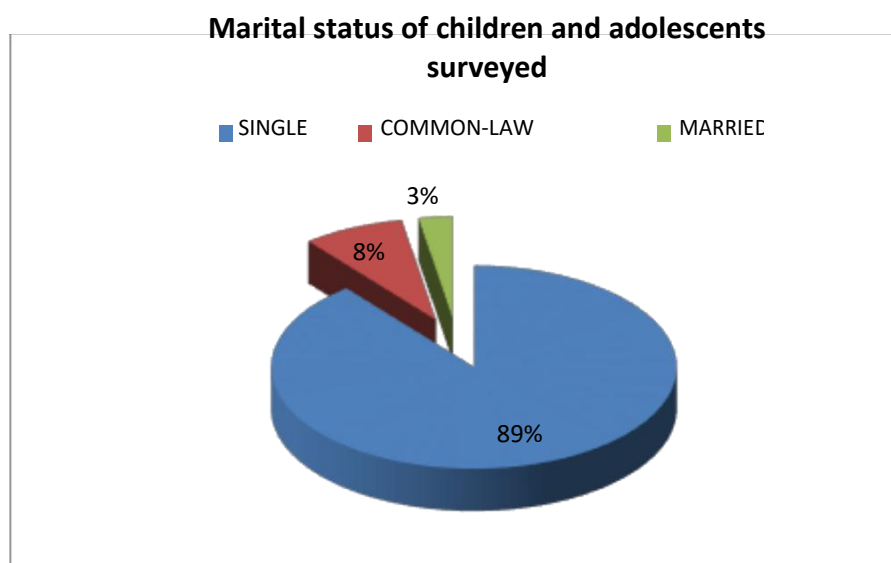


Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero - DECIDE Studies Corporation

In focus groups, ethnic self-definition of the participating adolescents was asked. 67% identified themselves as *mestizos*, 20% as indigenous, 7% as Afro-Ecuadorians and 5% as *montubios* (*coastal indigenous*).

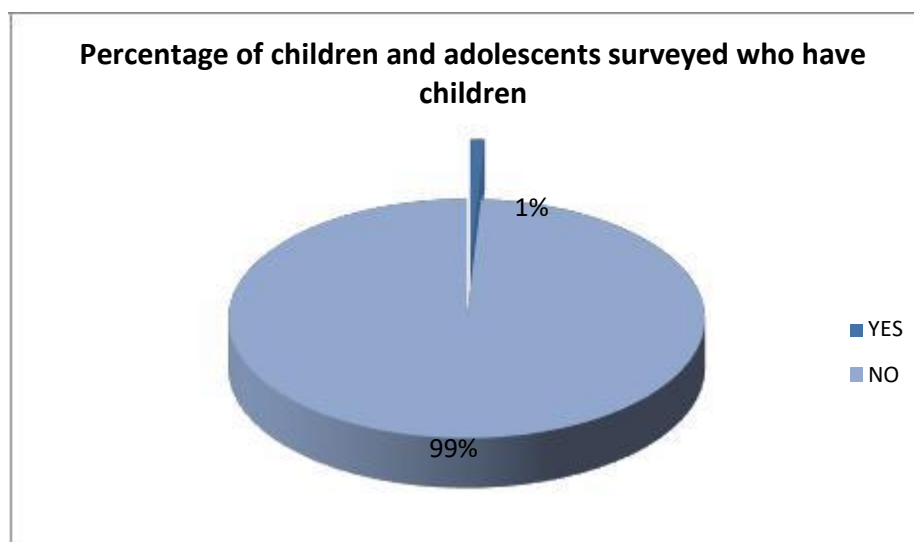
On the other hand, some personal information of the children and adolescents was requested, allowing to further identify the participating group:

89% of the children claim that they are single, but there is a significant 11% (221 of the total), who live under a common-law partnership or are married.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Likewise, 1% (20 of the total) state that they have children.



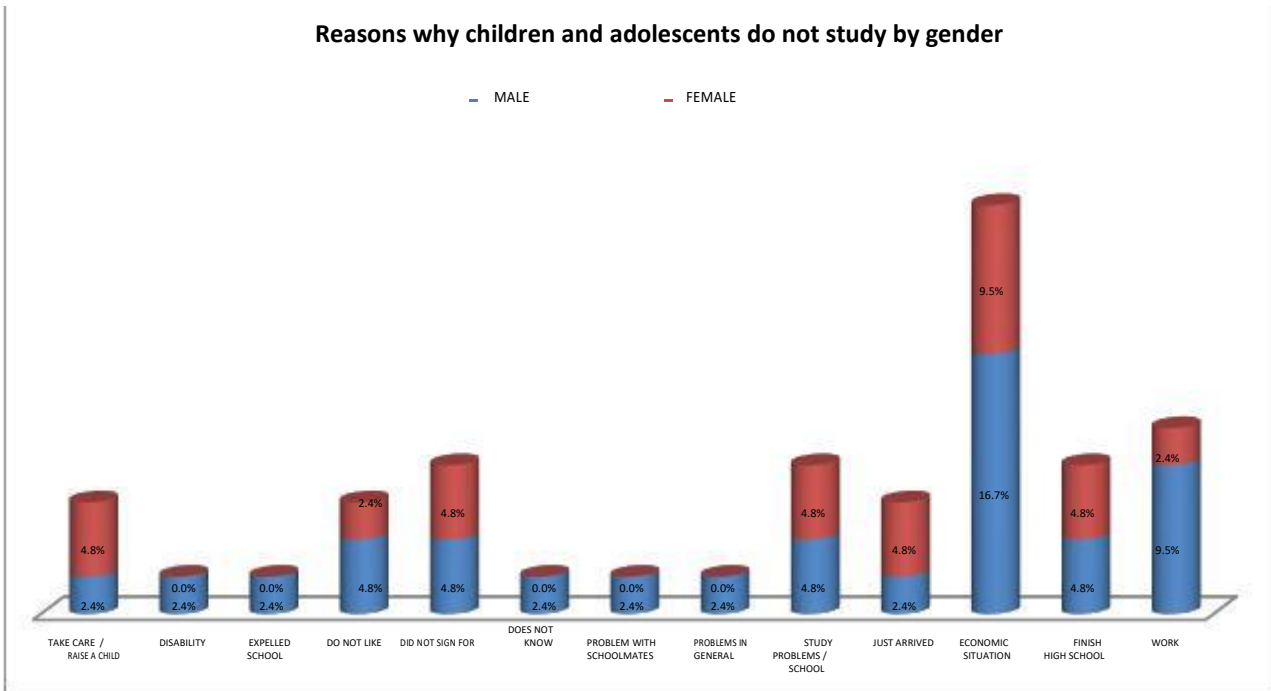
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

97.8% of the total respondents answered that they were studying when they were asked about it. 52.2% were female and 45.5% male. 0.8% of female and 1.4% of male were not attending school.

With regard to the reasons why this group does not go to school, some of the answers were:

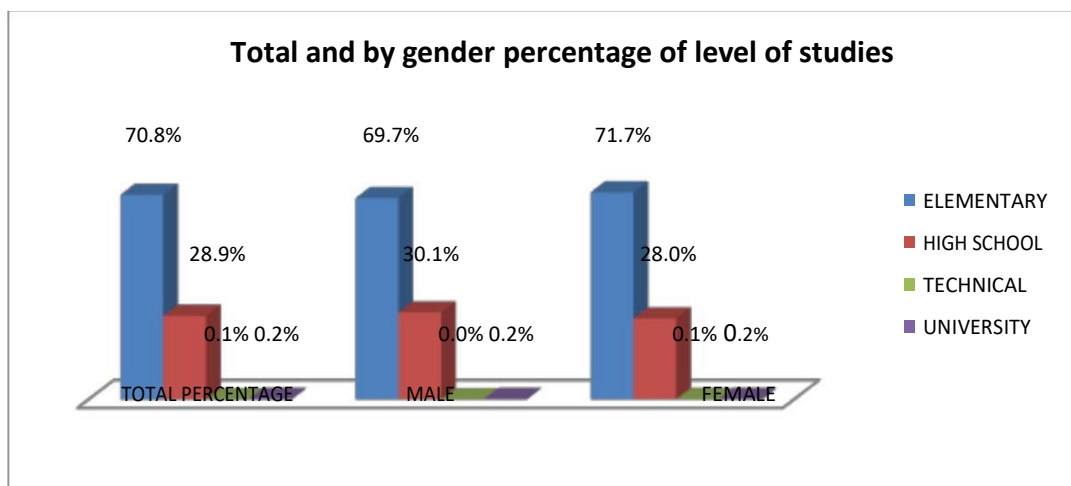
- 26.2% responded that because of the economic situation.
- 11.9% said that the reason they did not study was because of work.
- 9.5%, i) they could not sign in for school, ii) they had problems with the studies or in school, and iii) because they finished high school.

- 7.1% stay home with their child
- There are other reasons, such as: they do not like to study, 7.1% declare being expelled from school, to have some kind of disability, problems with schoolmates or they just do not know the reason, each category with 2.4% of the total.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

70.8% of respondents are enrolled in basic education, and 28.9% in high school.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

With similar percentages, it is observed that 69.7% of male children and male adolescents study in elementary school, compared to 30.1% who are in high school, and 0.2% in University. In relation to female children and female adolescents, 71.7% are in elementary school, 28% in high school, 0.1% in technical level and 0.2% of them in University.

Detailed information on the work situation of the children and adolescents surveyed has been developed in section 4.4 of this report, however, for the purpose of identification of the group, it should be noted that 14.9% of all male children and male adolescents who answered the survey said they work compared to 7.4% of female, and 63.6% of male said that they perform domestic work compared to 70.3% of female children and female adolescents.

IV. Results of the consultation

4.1. Knowledge of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

"...Before, no one has asked our opinion about this."

In the nineties, when the Convention on the Rights of the Child was promoted with unparalleled passion and energy throughout Latin America, Emilio García Méndez mentioned that this represented the Copernican Revolution for the children around the world. While several thinkers and rights activists criticized him for the supposed excess of his comment, it is clear that the Convention came to seal with a golden stamp a century in which the rights of children gradually conquered a full recognition by the States and societies of the world.

Just as Copernicus and Galileo muted the religious and conservative world of their time, proving that Earth was not the center of the universe and opened important paths for the development of science, the rights of children and adolescents opened new and unsuspected paths for the development of democracy, citizenship and different perspectives for the life and education of children as free and worthy beings.

"The Convention allows to change the definition of the problems that children and adolescents have within our society. The rights of children and adolescents are not less important than the rights of adults."

Today, 26 years after the approval of the Convention, amidst complex moments for Ecuador, its inhabitants and especially for their children and adolescents, and when the civil society in Ecuador is ready to elaborate in a democratic and participatory manner the V Alternative Report on the compliance of our country with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, it is good to listen very carefully the voice of the children and adolescents living in Ecuador and to analyze their feelings and ideas in order to learn lessons and listen to demands that they leave.

“It is important that a report with the voices of children and adolescents of our country may be presented.

It is important to present parallel reports that collect the voice of children and adolescents.

It is important to present a report about the voice of children and adolescents which has never been presented in Ecuador.

In 1989, the children’s rights committee was formed, however a study about our opinion has never been conducted, our voices are not always heard, instead they tell us to shut up.”

What is the Convention on the Rights of the Child?

For children and adolescents, the Convention is not just some trivial thing. Once they know its meaning, principles and its rights, the Convention becomes an important law for their lives. For them, knowing that there is a “world law” that addresses their rights and that forces the states to fulfill them, it has a special relevance. For adolescents to treat their rights in a law must be a responsible act to be taken seriously by governments, families and communities, to speak seriously about their rights.

The over 300 adolescents who participated in the focus groups understood easily the importance of the Convention. They even went from the initial “surprise” of acknowledging that there is a global “law” for their rights which forces the participating States to comply with them and report their compliance. This point is interesting because unfortunately very few people and very few children know about the Convention, its content, its scope, the “Copernican revolution” and what that represents, limiting its fulfillment and demand. That is why it would seem necessary to reuse this international legal framework as a source of principles and rules that oblige the participating states to comply with them and to guarantee the rights involved.

“As no one knows about the Convention on the Rights of the Child, logically, none of the participants knew that there was a Committee of the Rights of the Child, nor when they meet, nor who could join.

It’s a topic they have not heard before... ”

Results in focus groups and surveys show hundreds of ideas and reflections. Though the children and adolescents lack a “legal and technical” precision, the Convention on the Rights of the Child is a topic that motivates them, that activates their minds and allows them to think about their lives, their relationships with their parents and families, school life, their community relations and, especially, the emotions that are present in their daily lives. They see and hear many things, they face unknown challenges, they encounter pain and suffering that their friends and acquaintances experience, they feel many frustrations in their daily lives, but they also talk about their dreams with a lot of energy, how they expect a life of love and happiness, with a family without violence, without discrimination of anyone.

Although their ideas intersect with the questions asked or requested work, it is clear that the topic of children's rights, lights their hearts and minds since it is a situation that invites them to say words that they feel are invisible, and that are not heard or appreciated by the adult world. The important thing is that they are there, they struggle to burst out and they could express it during the consultation, even minimally.

An initial idea of great relevance is about the respect that they consider that the children deserve. Respect for them refers to very valuable aspects in their lives: consideration, esteem, attention, affection, love, and recognition. Respect for them, for their life, and for their emotions, is a preponderant value that they strongly consider.

Likewise, it is impressive how freedom, the right to be heard, to be taken into account, not to be discriminated against for any reason, to be able to participate in the family, community and social life has a strong significance in their lives. Our children, we can say with total certainty, are annoyed by the passive role to which they are subjected to in the social life ruled by the adult world. They want to talk, be heard and participate. That combination of respect, freedom and democracy is very strong and has a great ethical significance.

The Convention, which appears as an unknown "law", of which they know little, immediately acquires for them a transcendence of first order because then they find ideas, proposals, obligations, which they intuitively desire for their lives. The Convention implies that children are subjects of right, which speaks about superior interest, which orders that they should be protected by the states, families and societies and that must promote the development of all their human capacities, with relevance of first order for their lives.

"It is a law that involves several states, to respect the rights of the child.

We have not heard much about the Convention, we thought that rights were born in Ecuador and that the government and the people who worked there were the ones who wrote the laws.

The breach of our rights is when the government or organization does nothing to ensure that the rights that are in the laws and in the Constitution are fulfilled."

The Convention is a law that must be respected and fulfilled. The Convention, as a law that forces the adult world and themselves, encourages them to think about the need to demand the states or governments to guarantee their rights. Children quickly assume that because the Convention is a law that sets out commitments and obligations for their country, they cannot be breached or forgotten. The Convention is a law that must be fulfilled.

"The Convention on the Rights of Children is special because it recognizes children and adolescents as human beings."

This idea is of special transcendence. A law that sees them as human beings; it fills them, as people, with satisfaction and pride. It is a law, they feel, that puts them in a relevant place, which thinks of them as free human beings, with the right to express opinions, to grow in environments in which their abilities and capacities are fully developed.

"The rights of children and adolescents are as important as other rights, or perhaps more..."

It is clear that for children, a law has value and therefore the Convention is relevant for them:

"The right is fulfilled or not fulfilled, there are not exceptions.

Failure to comply with our rights is when the State or organization does nothing to enforce the rights that are in the laws and in the Constitution

Ecuador, as part of the Convention, has an obligation to respect, protect and ensure the fulfillment of the rights of children."

The idea, expressed by adolescents, that the Convention states that children are not the property of their parents is powerful. They are not objects but subjects. It is not easy to appreciate these thoughts so directly. Neither property nor objects but human beings, free, with rights, wanting to enjoy life in all its fullness. At the same time, they dream of a family, with loving parents, and a safe space of love and mutual appreciation an abundant combination of humanity.

"The Convention changes the idea that children are the property of their parents, they are no longer taken into account as objects and must be respected and recognized as people with rights.

Their rights should be prioritized. A child is no longer owned by his parents, a child always depends individually on his parents, relatives, friends, but now the adolescents have the ability to choose what they want for themselves without forgetting that there are people older than them and they should always consider their opinions, and without forgetting that children deserve critical attention around the world. For instance, in case of the Syrian war, children are the ones who suffer, adults suffer because children die. The news programs show that children are the affected, children suffer traumas. There are problems that are much harder, they see the benefit approach of the countries but we do not see the conflict that this causes within our society."

From this perspective, the Convention takes on a greater meaning: being a law that involves everyone, it also invites us to dream about a world where children can grow up and develop fully.

Another key idea that children clearly assume, is the obligation of the States to guarantee their rights.

“If people were more aware of the rights of children and adolescents, it would no longer be the child's obligation to demand their rights. Adults should be responsible and must be aware of enforcing the rights of children.

Because it defends all rights and responsibilities. It is concerned to fulfill the rights of children and adolescents.

... It is also of no avail that there are many rights established in the convention if they are not fulfilled.”

What is the Committee on the Rights of the Child?

“It is important because it requires the governments to deliver on what they promised. There must be someone to watch over the States and their improvement.

This Committee was created out of necessity, to examine the compliance of the States regarding the rights of children and adolescents.”

Which are the obligations that Ecuador has for being part of the Convention on the Rights of the Child?

For the adolescents consulted, it is very clear that the Convention generates obligations for the participating States. The small phrase of one of the participants: “To comply with what has been said” is very decisive. The word given by a country when signing the Convention has to be fulfilled in a complete way. An international commitment is not a game, neither to assume its responsibilities.

“Comply with what has been said.

Governments have the obligation to harmonize their laws and policies to respect and defend the rights of their citizens.

We must know our rights to demand that they be fulfilled. Everyone has to live without any type of discrimination

All laws that exist in Ecuador must be consistent with the obligations under the Convention.”

In the consultation, family is of the utmost importance. Adolescents fully understand that it is not only the government that has responsibilities for the rights of children. Parents also have to fulfill these mandates. There is a relationship that may seem contradictory however the adolescents express it very well. They want love, protection and security from their parents but at the same time they require respect and acceptance to their lives, their identities, their desires for autonomy and freedom.

“This agreement is very important so that no one abuses children and adolescents, not even their parents.”

These ideas and feelings expressed by adolescents invite us to think about the responsibility that the adult world has to fulfill due to the commitment assumed by Ecuador.

As some adolescents have mentioned, the Convention implies a change of thinking. This mental change demands new relationships between the world of children and the world of adults. The Convention would have to apply again public policies, programs, institutionalism, budgets and at the mind of national and local authorities.

The opinion of children should be clearly heard in the Alternative Report.

“The opinion and decisions taken by adolescents should be taken into account by adults.”

These initial reflections of the consultation report open the space for a detailed description of the results found by each of the rights groups.

4.2. About the survival rights

Brief description

This right group is related to the necessary conditions that every child and adolescent needs to ensure a “dignified” life, this implies having the necessary spaces, resources and contributions that ensure the completeness, not only of life, understood as physical life (to maintain the life), but includes conditions related to life in the family, family relationships, the right to know their parents and the prohibition to separate them from them care, affection, good treatment, good nutrition and health care.

Recognition of these social rights requires a State action, as they generate positive obligations (obligations to do), which are made effective through the provision of free, permanent and timely services, such as support for families to ensure the fulfillment of their role of care and protection, health services and attention of children and adolescents, and care during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum, and access to social security.

The generation of these minimum conditions ensures not only the preservation of the lives of children and adolescents, but also evidence that survival rights ensure a dignified life.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Rights
of
Survival | of | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Right to life and a decent life• Right to have a family, family life, to know their parents, not to be separated from them• Right to health, health services, pre-natal and post-natal care• Right to breastfeeding, food and nutrition |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|

- Right to social security
- Right to a healthy environment

Main Findings

Right to life

Right to life is related to the right to a “good life” by respecting the different perspectives and being loved by other people.

From the point of view of the children and adolescents participating in the focus groups, the family and the adults fail to comply with the right to life.

- The protection of the right to life is mainly related to abortion. They identify that the right is protected by the State, because there are laws against abortion and indicate that it is breached by mothers and families who decide an abortion or not to welcome the newborns. There are the following statements:

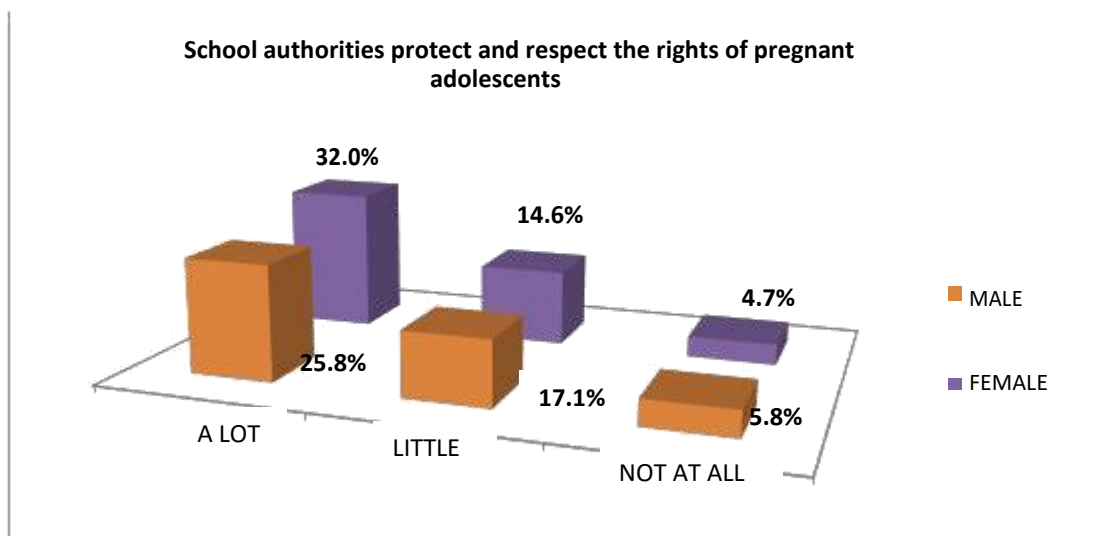
“If it is fulfilled when the girls or mothers of families receive their children. Not when they have an abortion or ingest some substances.

It is not fulfilled, when there are mothers who do not wish to have their children. There are occasions when young girls get pregnant and for that reason they decide to lose their child.

Because every child has the right to be born, some girls do not finish pregnancy because of fear or doubts about the future of that person. Many girls do not have their children.”

- They also point out that there is discrimination against pregnant adolescents: “It is not fulfilled because in some institutions do not accept young pregnant women, also teachers and school authorities reject them.”

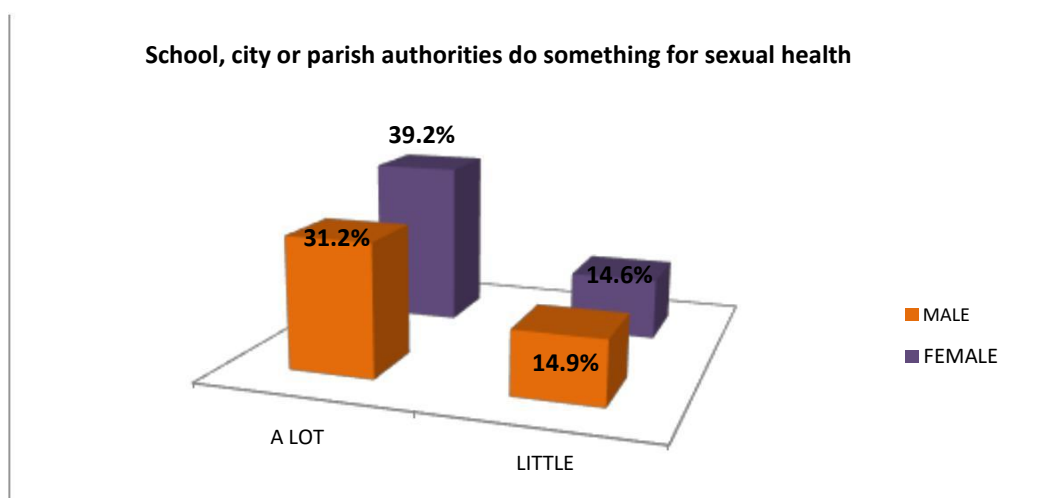
In the survey, 25% of all respondents say that one reason for which girls and adolescents have stopped studying is pregnancy. When consulting them if they consider that the authorities of the school respect the rights of pregnant adolescents, 57.9% (that is, 1,160 respondents, of which 642 are female) affirm that they are very respected, 31.7% (636 respondents of which 343 are female) consider that there is just a little respect, and 10.5% (211 of the total, of which 94 are female) consider that there is not respect at all.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero - DECIDE Studies Corporation.

- In addition, they say that to prevent this, sexual and reproductive health education is needed to reduce teenage pregnancies.

In this regard, in the survey, 70.4% (1,412 respondents of which 786 are female) affirm that both the authorities of the educational units and the authorities of the cities and/or parishes do something for sexual and reproductive health of children and adolescents.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero - DECIDE Studies Corporation.

Right to live in their family, family coexistence, not to be separated

In general, in focus groups, children and adolescents point out that this right is fulfilled, because they are part of a family and live with their families. However, they consider that it is not a right that is fulfilled for all the children and adolescents of the country, because there are orphaned children and those who live in the street:

“It is not totality fulfilled, since some children do not have family, therefore they do not have home and it has been seen in the streets at night that children walk alone, and they should be adopted.”

On the other hand, they point out that the separation of the parents brings suffering to the children and obstacles in their development, so they consider that it is necessary to raise awareness to families for a better communication.

The lack of parental responsibility, in the “legal recognition” of the children, limits this right to family coexistence.

“Fathers: there are many dysfunctional homes. Fathers separate and leave mothers alone with the care of their children.”

A limitation for family coexistence is, according to the focus groups, the lack of availability of parents, limiting the affection that children need. They attribute these situations to working hours.

“The State establishes very long working hours and you cannot live with the family.”

Migration is identified as a problem that limits the right to the family. This situation is identified, including parental abandonment of children, as well as a lack of care of some grandparents of their grandchildren.

“Because some parents abandon their children by going to work in the United States or Spain, they forget.”

They also point out, a lack of attention of the State to the children and adolescents who do not have homes: “Special protection and assistance, if they are deprived of their family environment. It is not fulfilled, because there are only few orphanages in distant places.”

In the survey, when consulting children and adolescents about with whom they live and who cares for them, it was possible to indicate more than one option. The frequency of the responses shows that they live with their mother, father, parent’s partner or siblings, which accounts for a pre-eminence of the nuclear family.

WHO DO SURVEYED CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS LIVE WITH

WHO THEY LIVE WITH	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
FATHER	1,234	6	4
MOTHER	388	1,156	55
PARENT’S PARTNER	136	53	776
SIBLINGS	70	259	14
GRANDPARENTS	60	8	93

UNCLES OR AUNTS	11	45	30
WITH A FOSTER FAMILY	14	30	6
IN A SHELTER	40	3	3
SPOUSE	4	25	1
GUARDIAN	6	3	
OTHER	19	3	6
DOES NOT ANSWER	23	414	1,017
TOTAL	205	205	205

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation.

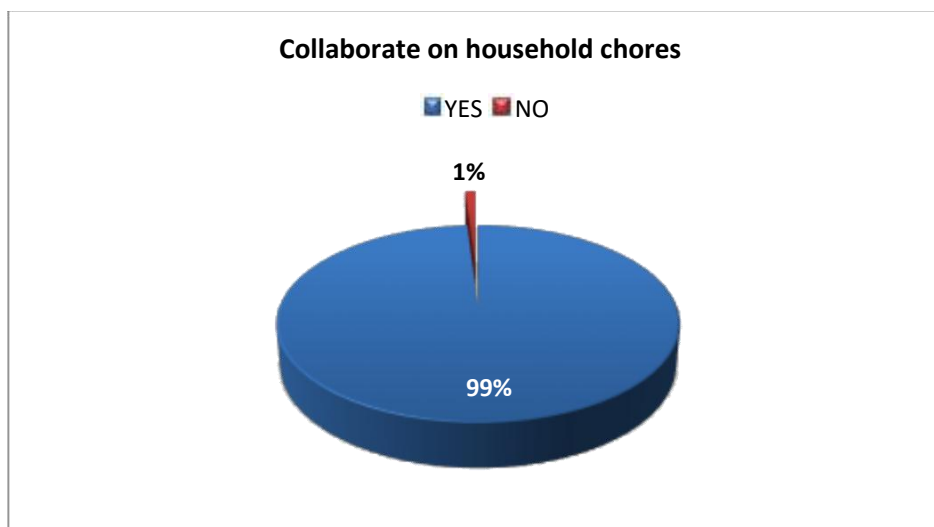
On the other hand, when asking children and adolescents, according to the options indicated in the previous point, who takes care of them, the trend described above is maintained because the frequency indicates that it is their parents and siblings who take care of them. It should be noted, however, that grandparents have responsibilities for care, although they do not necessarily appear to be living with children.

WHO TAKES CARE OF SURVEYED CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

WHO TAKES CARE OF THEM	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
FATHER	1,133	2	
MOTHER	485	1,022	1
PARENT'S PARTNER	116	30	20
SIBLINGS	41	137	315
PARENT'S PARTNER CHILDREN	8	2	7
GRANDPARENTS	74	92	107
UNCLES OR AUNTS	14	36	53
TEACHERS	53	11	7
SHELTER PEOPLE	12	23	2
SPOUSE	2		1
GUARDIAN	2		
OTHER	2	3	
IN-LAWS	1		
COUSIN		1	
DOES NOT ANSWER	62	646	1492
TOTAL	205	205	205

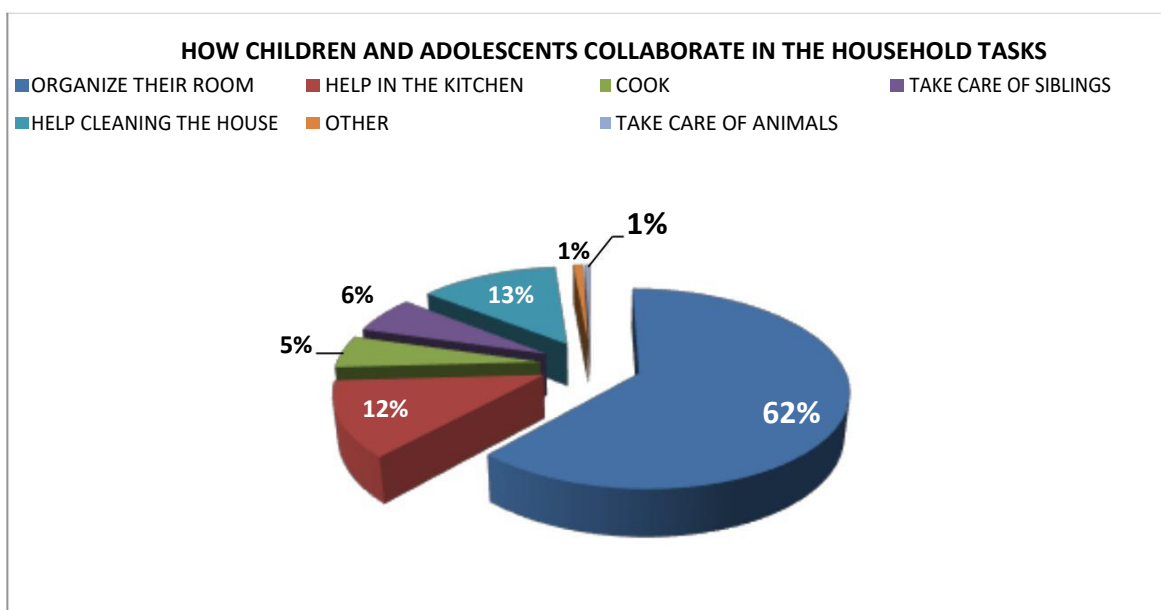
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation.

About the collaboration in the household chores, 99% of the respondents answer affirmatively.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation

Of the total number of respondents, 62%, that is more than 1,200, say that they collaborate in organizing their own room, followed by 13%, 252 of the total respondents, help to clean the house, and 12% who are 240 respondents, help in cooking, in addition 5%, who are 104 respondents, cook at home, and 6% (121 of 2005) take care of their siblings.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation

Right to health, health care, breastfeeding, social security

The perception of the focus group participants is that there are many children and adolescents who are ill and that health professionals are “incapable.”¹ They point out that adolescents are not taken care of, saying that “they are not sick.”

¹ Focus group information processing document.

They say that the breach of the right to health of children and adolescents is due “to the difficulties that children have in accessing the services offered by the State and by the limited personnel in the public institutions as well as certain Ministries as in the area of health.”

On the other hand, they indicate that also the non-compliance of their rights is because their parents do not demand them.

They say that in hospitals and health centers, the attention is precarious and they do not have enough medicines, in addition, service to patients is poor and they are not assisted on time.

“What good is it to have immense hospitals with incapable doctors?”... “In the health area, patient care is bad since there are not enough medicines for the people who are being treated.”
“They make us wait a long time in the health centers, doctors do not help fast.”

In some of the focus groups, they indicated that they have access to health services, don't have any difficulty in being assisted and even receive free medication. However, in some distant localities, they do not receive medicines, which are expensive and cannot be purchased.

“There are communities that do not have health centers nearby, there are no hospitals nearby, medicines are expensive and if someone gets sick, people cannot buy medicines.”

They say that there are public hospitals and health centers, but these do not provide services that are required or they are closed, they also indicate that health centers are far away and patients have to travel to other locations.

“At Garcia Moreno, the right to health services is being violated because the Health Sub-Center is closed. It is open to public only one or two days a week. The rest of the week there is a sign on the door that says “No attention,” the Center does not see the need.”

Regarding the health care of the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security (IESS, according to its initials in Spanish), it is noted that there is a lack of delivery service of medicines, they also say that the service is not good.

“The attention of IEES doctors is not good. In health there is no good treatment for patients.”

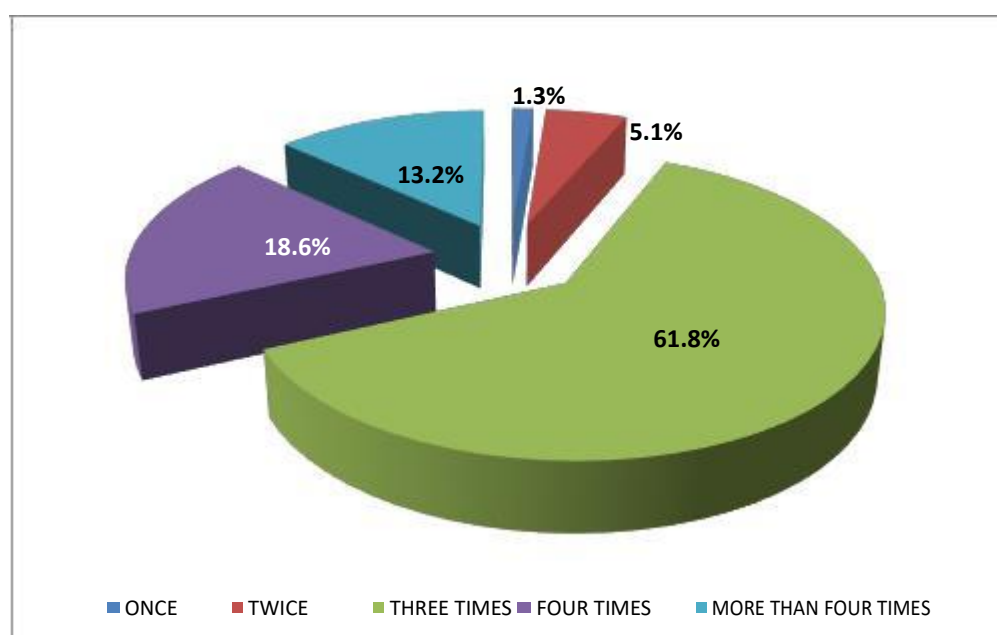
Right to food, to good nutrition

In focus groups, the participants identify the right to food, good nutrition and access to healthy food. They say that nutritious food is not always available in schools, and that when they leave their homes they eat cheap or junk food.

They point out that regarding food and nutrition it is required for children and adolescents to assume responsibility, care and education, taking into account an appropriate age for it.

“We must be responsible for our diet, we must educate ourselves, as long as we have an appropriate age, however children will not be able to do it, for example a 5 year old.”

In the survey, adolescents were consulted about how many times a day they eat. The results show that 61.8% of the total of respondents, that is about 1,240, eat three meals a day, 18.6%, that is 373 children and adolescents of the total of respondents eat four meals daily, and only 13.2%, which are 265 of the total, eat more than four meals every day, which are recommended by a good diet and nutrition, especially on this stage of development.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero DECIDE Studies Corporation

In relation to the meals they eat, it was found, according to the response frequencies chosen in three options that they mainly eat traditional meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner.

KIND OF FOOD	FREQUENCY OPTION 1	FREQUENCY OPTION 2	FREQUENCY OPTION 3
BREAKFAST	1,391	4	276
MID-MORNING SNACK	98	311	131

LUNCH	146	920	
MID-AFTERNOON SNACK	80	82	
DINNER	69	111	783
DOES NOT ANSWER	221	577	815
Total	2005	2005	2005

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.

Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero DECIDE Studies Corporation

Regarding the nutritional content of the three main daily meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner, which should include carbohydrates, vegetables, fruits, proteins and fats in a balanced way, 79.5% of the total respondents (that is 1,594) indicate that breakfast complies with all nutritional content, 85.6% (1,716 of the total) believe lunch complies and 82.6% (1,656 of the total) believe that dinner complies.

Regarding the reasons for not having access to a good diet and nutrition, economic constraints were identified as the main problem:

“The main problem is that we do not have money to buy healthy food, for example in the school snack bar, junk food is cheaper.

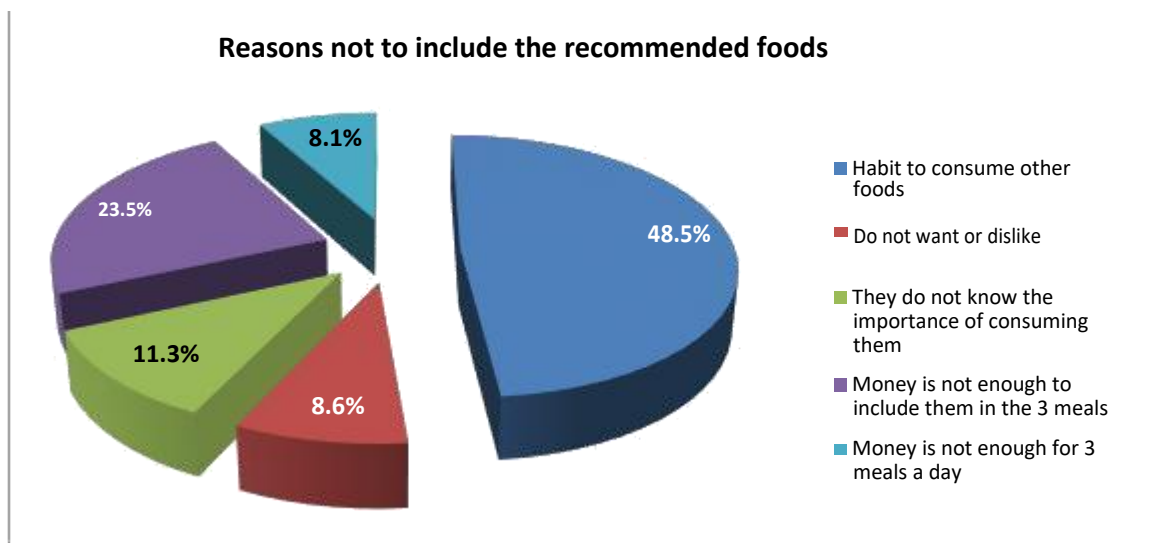
In most cases it is not fulfilled because in the case of the people who do not have money to buy food, sometimes they go to bed without having eaten properly.

Because they do not have a stable economic condition, because the salaries are not sufficient or there is no work.”

Other reasons mentioned are that parents do not prioritize their income for food, but rather are allocated to other activities, in addition, they indicate that there is little knowledge about the subject and do not give it importance.

Parents sometimes do not guarantee, they prioritize money for other things, the father prefers to drink alcohol. There is little knowledge and importance on behalf of parents.”

In this regard, the results of the survey coincide with the focus group’s comments. 48.5% state that they are not used to eating nutritionally balanced foods, and 11.3% say that the importance of consuming this combination of foods is not known. On the other hand, and in relation to the economic issue, 23.5% indicate that money is not enough to include this combination of foods in the 3 daily meals, to which must be added that 8.1% of the total respondents claim that the money is not enough to have 3 meals a day.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero DECIDE Studies Corporation

Right to a healthy environment

This right, according to the perception of focus groups, is not met, and the reasons identified, as well as those responsible for this breach are several:

- From the responsibility of the authorities: adequate garbage collection services are not provided, the environment and nature are not protected in the construction of infrastructure works by the State.

“Authorities like the mayor do not provide garbage collection.

When building a hydroelectric plant, water and other natural resources are not considered to be contaminated.”

- From the responsibility of the citizens: the air is polluted when smoking, throwing garbage in the streets, cutting down trees and forests:

“People smoke and pollute the air we breathe. The same community throws garbage, and there is logging.

We fail, throwing garbage in the wrong areas.”

Conclusions



On the right to life, we see a very slight identification of this, as a right that encompasses more than the fact of the material life only. In focus groups in a superficial way, it is proposed that this right implies the right to live well.

There is an important questioning about abortion as responsibility of women (adolescents or adults) who become pregnant and decide to have an abortion; however, it is necessary to ensure education in sexual and reproductive health and the responsibility that the State, families and society have in preventing abortion from education and support.

It is suggested that one of the reasons that abortion is considered is because there is discrimination against pregnant adolescents. It is also recognized that in schools, authorities and teachers respect the rights of adolescents, and that there is concern about sexual and reproductive education in the authorities of cities and parishes.

These perceptions show an advance in education and local public policy, in two lines: i) protection of rights to pregnant adolescents; and, ii) prevention of adolescents' pregnancy through public policies of sexual and reproductive education.

- ✓ It is important to emphasize the clear visibility given to the fact of living in a family, however, the understanding of what the family is, oriented to the traditional family, nuclear, which involve father, mother and children, there is no further understanding.

There is an important questioning about the decision that adults make to seek work in other countries (migration) and about the extended working hours, due to the implications that these facts have on the separation of fathers/mothers and children, and for the short time that they can dedicate to them, relating also to lack of affection.

- ✓ From children and adolescents interviewed, it is important to note that most of them live and are cared by their relatives (father, mother, siblings and grandparents).

The help in household chores is a practice that is evident in almost all the interviewees, being the main form of collaboration, the organization of the bedroom; however there are other forms of "collaboration" such as cooking or taking care of siblings, which, without representing a high percentage, involve activities with a higher level of responsibility.

- ✓ In relation to the right to health, in some cases it is recognized that there are health services that can be accessed as well as health centers (hospitals and health centers).

In the perception of focus groups, access to health services is not adequate or timely, there is also a lack of specialists and free medication, and the attention of health professionals is poor, there is no good treatment. IESS health care is perceived as bad in every way.

- ✓ In relation to the food and nutrition of children and adolescents, the surveys show that most of them do not eat five meals a day, and in addition there are a significant number of them who do not complete the three meals a day as minimum. The main reasons identified are, on the one hand,

the customs and lack of family/parental knowledge regarding the nutritious combination of foods, and on the other hand, the economic situation, poverty of the families.



In relation to the right to the environment, there is a breach both from the authorities as from the citizens and the children and adolescents themselves. They believe that the access to this right depends on the protection that should be carried out in a jointly responsible way from all the scopes.

4.3. About the development rights

Brief description

This group of rights, which is articulated to those of survival, is related to what both the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Constitution of the Republic establish as the primary responsibility of States, that is to ensure the comprehensive development of the children and adolescents in Ecuador, and this comprehensive development goes through the recognition of rights such as recognition of the individuality of children and adolescents, as subjects of rights, through the right to their identity, to have a name and identification, that is being registered and have their own documents. Hand in hand with these rights are those rights that give children and adolescents a sense of belonging, such as the right to a nationality, culture and cultural identity, which has particular considerations when it comes to the rights of the indigenous peoples and nationalities, Afro-Ecuadorians, *montubios* (coastal indigenous), as “minorities” whose rights have a special protection from the State.

Within this framework, the right to education, as part of the development rights group, is such a broad right that implies access to scientific and academic knowledge, as well as the learning and development of the responsible exercise of rights and construction of an active citizenship. The right to education also includes the responsibilities of the State in guaranteeing the educational services, educational establishments in incorporating this broad approach to the right to education, parents and family in the accompaniment of the educational process. It also includes specific prohibitions against mistreatment in the educational sphere, imposing unforeseen sanctions, and violating the general principle of due process.

Part of this development is the right of children and adolescents to play and recreation, which must be incorporated in educational spaces as well as family and community. It is important to remember that these rights allow children and adolescents to empower their abilities, skills and knowledge, as well as ensuring healthy growth, both emotionally and psychologically.

These rights require from the State, not only the existence of adequate means to achieve compliance, but also the possibility to access these means and the necessary mechanisms to guarantee and protect timely and quality access.

This group of rights also includes a series of specific considerations regarding children and adolescents with disabilities, in a situation of human mobility, in a particular way with refugees and peoples and nationalities which are oriented in order to ensure their access and inclusion on equal terms and without discrimination.

Development Rights

- Right to identity, name and identification
- Right to nationality
- Right to culture and cultural identity
- Right to education
- Cultural rights of peoples and nationalities
- Right to play, to recreation and to rest

Main Findings

Right to identity, name, identification and nationality

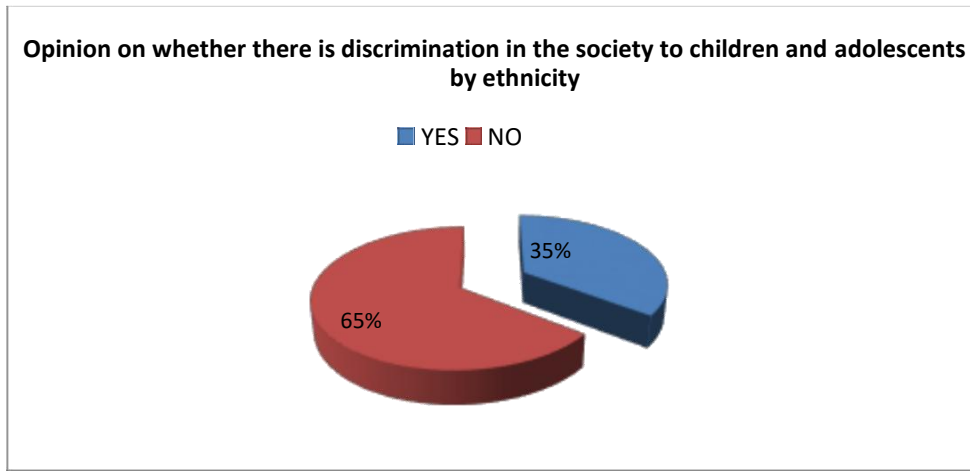
Adolescents say that those rights are fulfilled because: “We all have a name and surname with which we identify and form part of a nationality.” In spite of this common criterion, they mention as a problem the Civil Registry Office Registration which is a responsibility of parents.

The States guarantees the birth registrations through the Civil Registry Office, however parents do not always do so. *“From my point of view being in a shelter, I realize that there is a violation to the right to identity, for example, when a child with no names comes in here, the organization is responsible for naming the child, I do not see that correct because couples are responsible for the life they have brought.”*

On the other hand, they mention that this right is also violated when parents do not want to legally recognize their children, they do not assume their responsibility and deny them saying that “they are not their children.” In that sense, it is specified that all children and adolescents have the right to a name and a surname, to know where they come from and specially to know who their parents are.

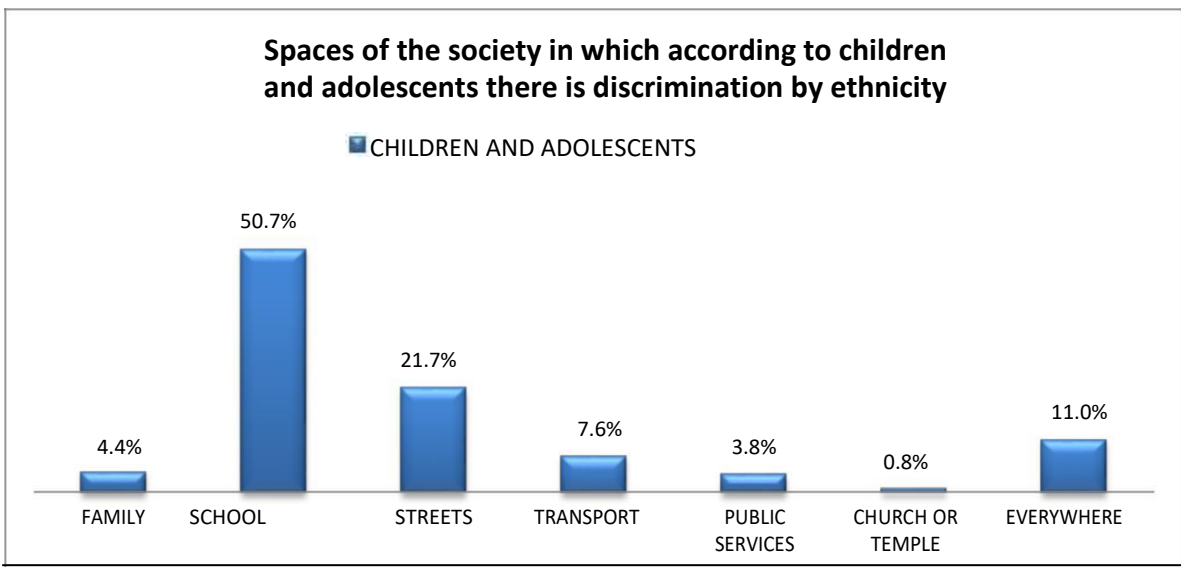
Right to culture, cultural identity and cultural rights of peoples and nationalities

In the survey, the children and adolescents were consulted if they consider that there is discrimination of children and adolescents in the society by ethnicity, if so, where does it occur and who does it. 35% believes that it does exist compared to 65% who believes it does not.



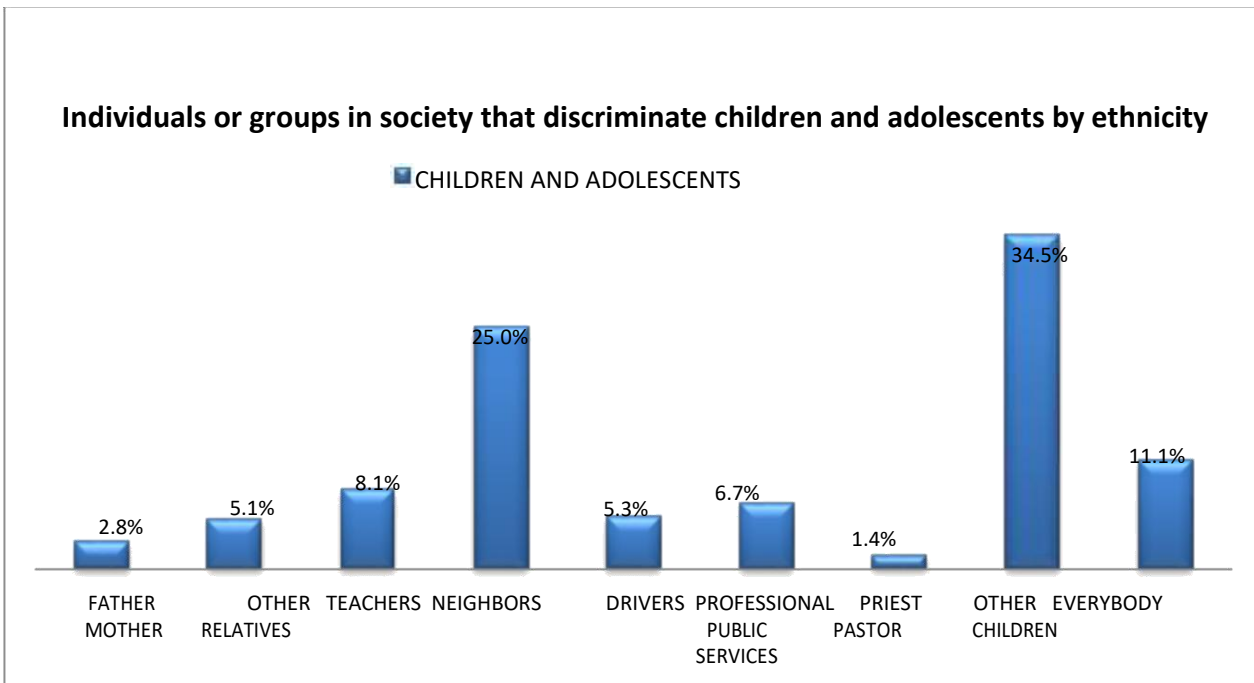
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation

50.7% of those who answered affirmatively believe that this discrimination occurs in schools compared to 21.7% who believe in occurs in the streets and 11% who believe it occurs everywhere. The mention of ethnic discrimination in transportation, public services, family and church/temple is less than 10% each.



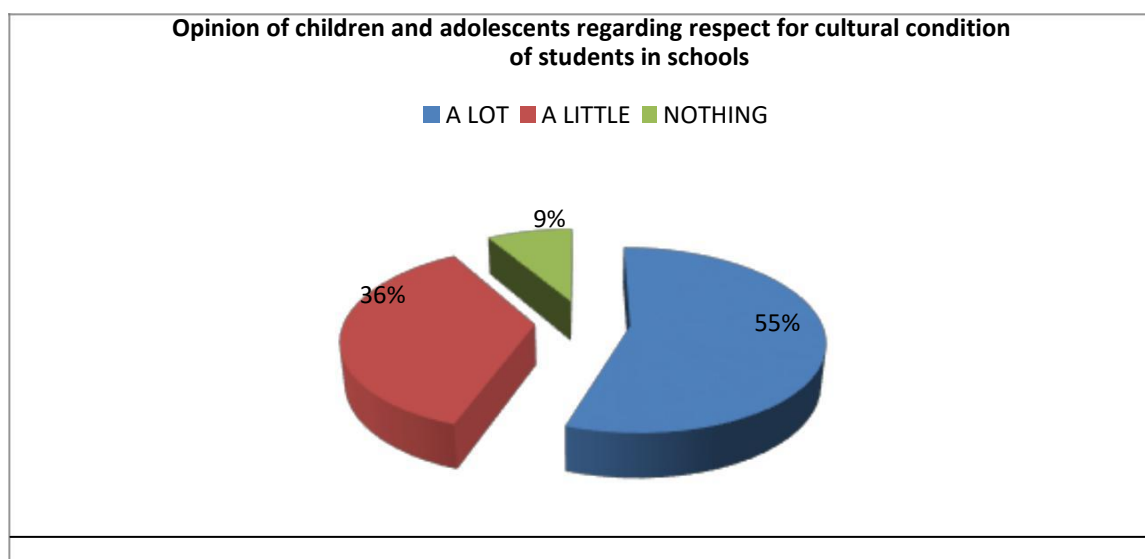
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation

Regarding who discriminates by ethnicity in society, 34.5% of children and adolescents pointed to other children, 25% mentioned neighbors and 11.1% believe that everybody discriminates. For other options the percentages is less than 10% each.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation

On the other hand, when consulting children and adolescents about whether there is respect for the cultural condition of the students in the school or educational unit, 55% believe that there is a lot of respect, compared to 36% who say that there is little and 9% who consider that there is no respect.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo - DECIDE Studies Corporation

In the same line of focus groups, adolescents mention that sometimes the right to education is not fulfilled due to racism, when children and adolescents are forced to leave school. They also say that “Education does not give importance to cultural patterns of our territory, instead schools teach history of other territories.”

In agreement with the results of the survey, adolescents believe that young people violate the right to non-discrimination because there are people who are different and they are not respected. They believe that they should not be criticized for having a different skin color or for dressing differently. Some aspects are listed below:

“We, as ethnic groups, feel discriminated in the schools by how we dress.”

“There are people who say that because we are black we are thieves.”

“There is discrimination by the way you dress and how you express yourself”

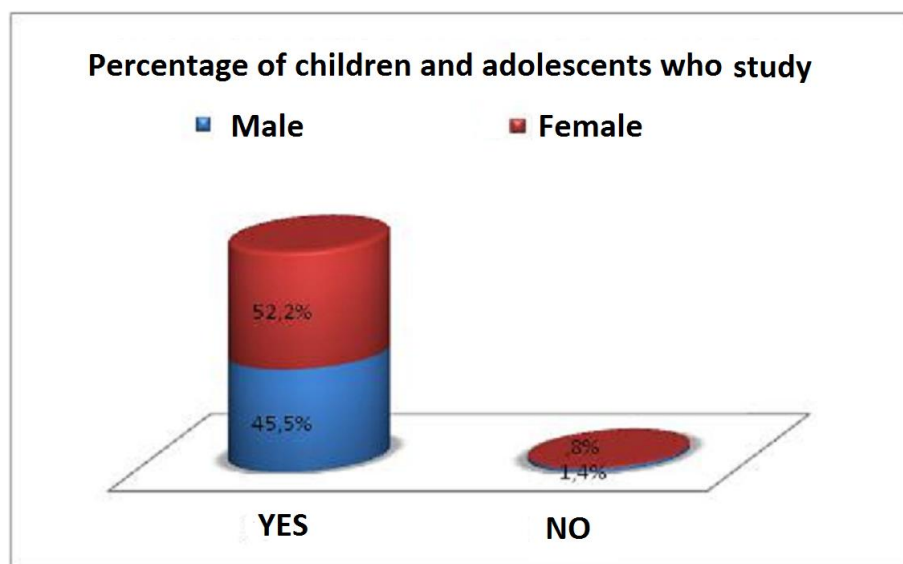
“Groups are made when they are equal, they do not want to mingle with the indigenous people. They say nothing because of fear of being rejected.”

“People from different cultures are not treated in the same way.”

Educational rights

In focus groups this is one of the rights where adolescents are more participative. Generally speaking, they believe that this is a right that is fulfilled to the extent that the majority of children study, but there are conditions that limit the quality of education, they mention that teachers are not always trained, they are insufficient and teach several subjects, they do not teach them with practice, they send homework that students cannot perform because teachers did not explain subjects properly during lessons and education does not fit to reality. They believe that a proof of this is the difficulty of enrolling in university, *“this right is fulfilled until school, but to enroll University we are inhibited because we have to obtain a certain score.”*

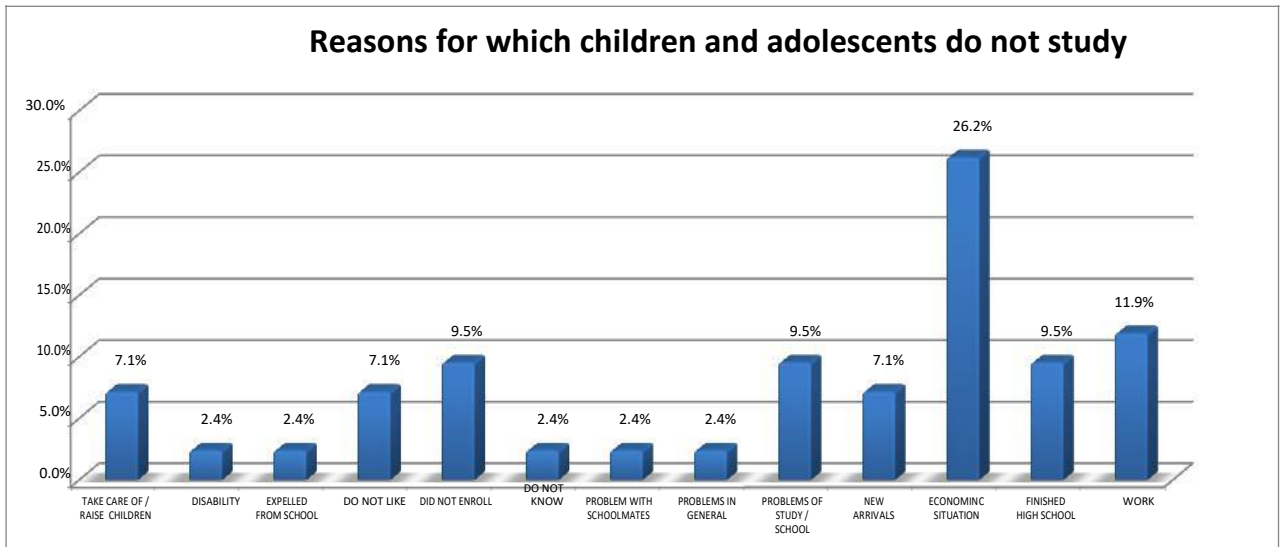
These aspects that are highlighted in focus groups coincide with the results of the survey. 97.7% of children and adolescents consulted go to school and the majority of those who do not point to economic situation as the main reason (26.2%).



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.

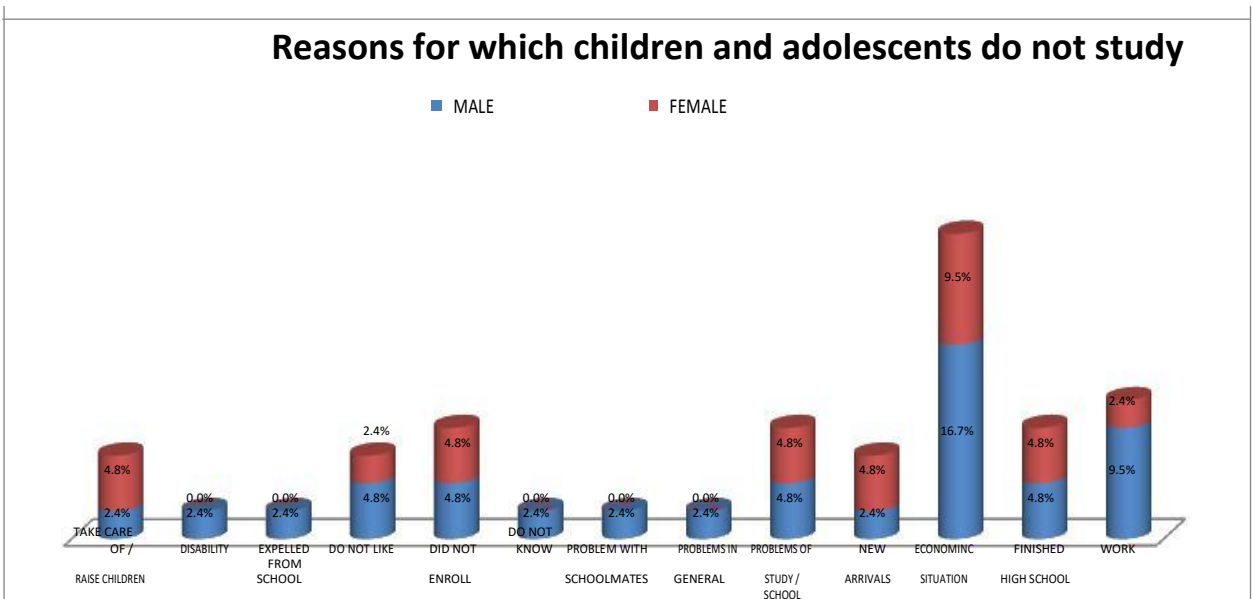
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Other reasons they say they have stopped studying are: work (11.9%), problems in the study (9.5%), did not enroll school (9.5%), completed high school (9.5%) and to raise their child (7.1%).



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

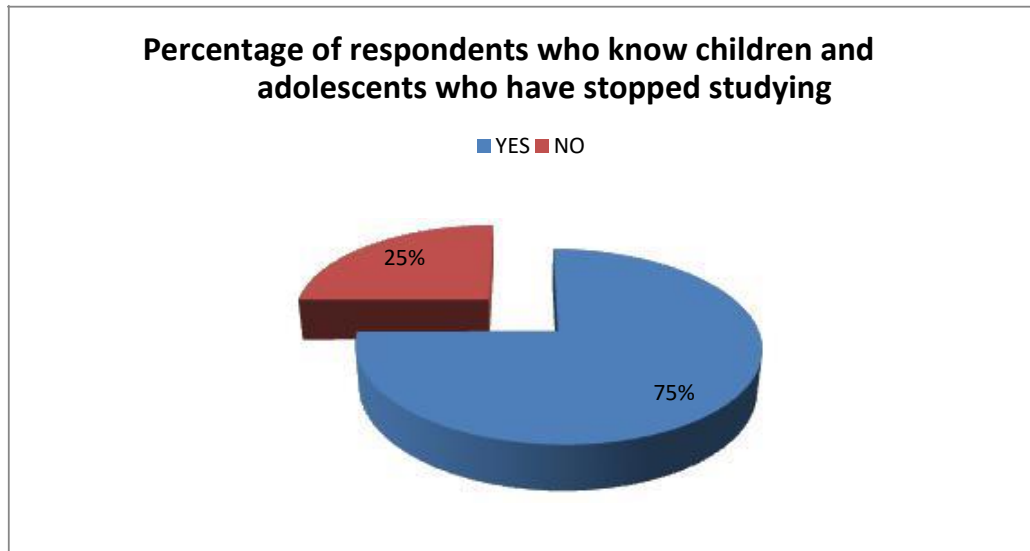
By disaggregating the information on the reasons for not studying by gender, it can be seen that in a higher percentage of cases, men do not study due to economic situation and work.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

About this topic in focus groups it is mentioned that it is the lack of importance that some parents give to the education of their children as well as the economic difficulties that prevent them from being able to support their children because they are not able to acquire the school materials they require.

In contrast to the particular situation of each children and adolescents consulted, the survey included a question about whether they know about other children and adolescents who have stopped studying and the results reveal that 75% of them do know someone.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

The reasons for not studying according to the children and adolescents surveyed who selected multiple options, the most mentioned are in the following order: difficulties in studying, because of work (the two reasons for the percentages and frequency of repetition), pregnancy, change of address, problems with consumption and drugs dealing, and becoming a parent.

REASONS WHY CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WHO RESPONDENTS KNOW AND HAVE STOPPED STUDYING		
OPTION	REASON	PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
OPTION 1	CHANGE OF ADDRESS	21.3%
	PREGNANCY	25.0%
	BECOMING A FATHER / MOTHER	4.1%
	FAMILY BELIEVE THAT WOMEN STUDY ONLY UP TO CERTAIN GRADE	2.6%
	DIFFICULTIES IN STUDIES	19.9%
	PROBLEMS TO GET ADMISSION	2.1%
	SCHOOL HAVE BEEN CLOSED	.3%
	SCHOOL IS FAR AWAY	.7%
	TRAVEL TOO MUCH TIME TO ARRIVE TO SCHOOL	1.2%
	BECAUSE OF WORK	4.4%
	HAD TO STAY HOME BECAUSE OF HOUSEHOLD CHORES	1.6%
	PROBLEMS WITH CONSUMPTION AND DRUGS DEALING	3.1%
	EMERGENCY SITUATIONS	.3%
	DO NOT KNOW	8.9%
OTHER	4.4%	

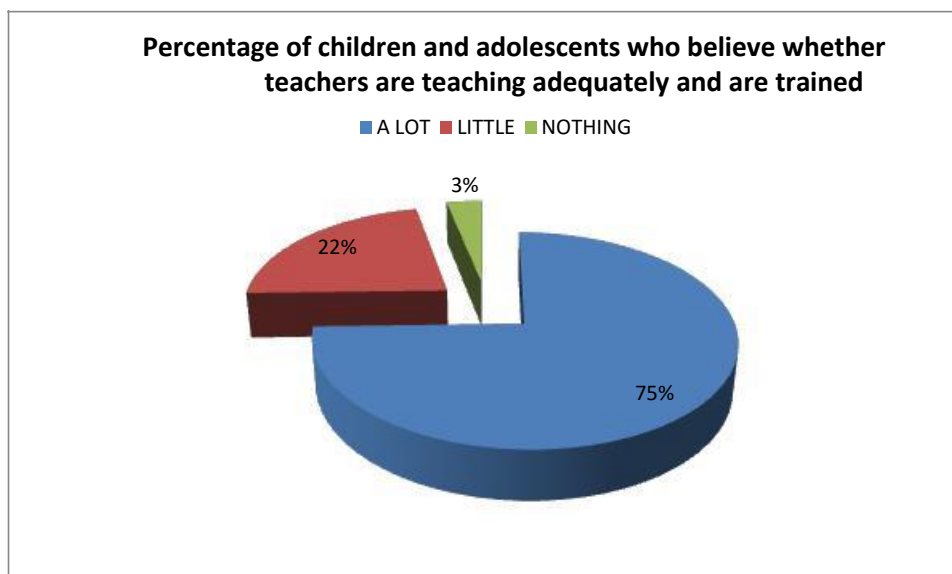
REASONS WHY CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WHO RESPONDENTS KNOW AND HAVE STOPPED STUDYING		
OPTION	REASON	PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
OPTION 2	CHANGE OF ADDRESS	.2%
	PREGNANCY	7.7%
	BECOMING FATHER / MOTHER	10.1%
	FAMILY BELIEVE THAT WOMEN STUDY ONLY UP TO CERTAIN GRADE	4.0%
	DIFFICULTIES IN STUDIES	21.5%
	PROBLEMS TO GET ADMISSION	3.9%
	SCHOOL HAVE BEEN CLOSED	1.7%
	SCHOOL IS FAR AWAY	4.5%
	TRAVEL TOO MUCH TIME TO ARRIVE TO SCHOOL	4.9%
	BECAUSE OF WORK	14.3%
	HAD STAY HOME BECAUSE OF HOUSEHOLD CHORES	7.9%
	PROBLEMS WITH CONSUMPTION AND DRUGS DEALING	6.4%
	EMERGENCY SITUATIONS	2.9%
	DO NOT KNOW	2.7%
OTHER	7.4%	
OPTION 3	CHANGE OF ADDRESS	0.0%
	PREGNANCY	0.0%
	BECOMING FATHER / MOTHER	6.0%
	FAMILY BELIEVE THAT WOMEN STUDY ONLY UP TO CERTAIN GRADE	1.4%
	DIFFICULTIES IN STUDIES	15.1%
	PROBLEMS TO GET ADMISSION	7.8%
	SCHOOL HAVE BEEN CLOSED	2.3%
	SCHOOL IS FAR AWAY	7.3%
	TRAVEL TOO MUCH TIME TO ARRIVE TO SCHOOL	7.8%
	BECAUSE OF WORK	18.8%
	HAD STAY HOME BECAUSE OF HOUSEHOLD CHORES	6.9%
	PROBLEMS WITH CONSUMPTION AND DRUGS DEALING	15.1%
	EMERGENCY SITUATIONS	4.1%
	DO NOT KNOW	1.8%
OTHER	5.5%	

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.

Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

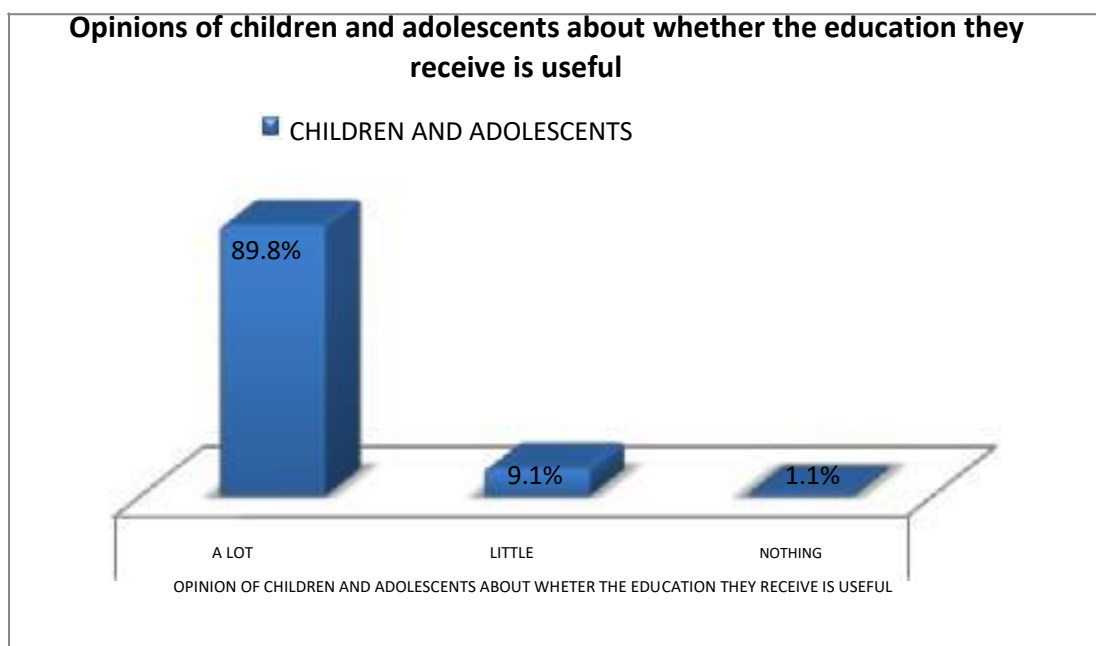
It is mentioned that there is no adequate planning, because schools are closed or merged without the opinion of the people who attend these institutions *“with the closure of schools in certain communities, many children who live in places far away from other schools are left without studying.”*

Regarding the quality of education that was mentioned in focus groups as a concern, we asked if teachers are teaching adequately and are trained to do so. 75% of children and adolescents believe that a lot, 22% a little and 3% nothing.



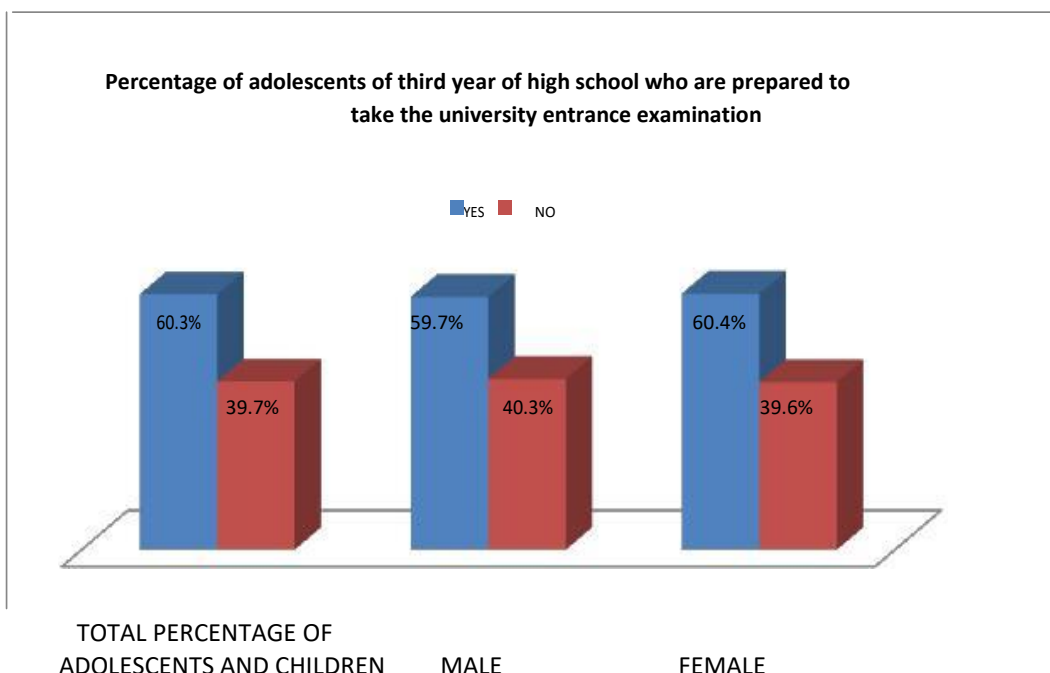
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Regarding the usefulness of education, the majority of children and adolescents (89.8%) believe that it is very useful.



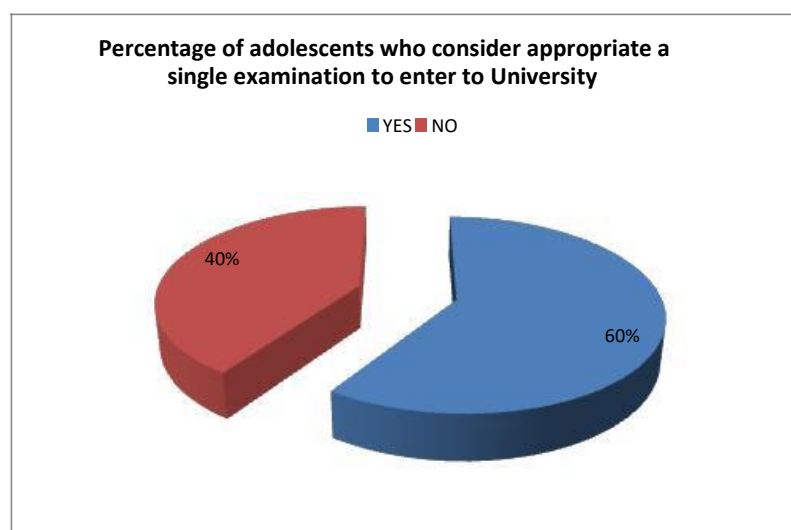
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

On the other hand, and also associated with the concern mentioned in focus groups on the difficulties of enrolling in universities after completing high school, in the surveys the opinion of the adolescents who attended the third year of high school about if they feel prepared to pass the entrance examination to institutions of higher education. The results are that 60% believe they are prepared compared to 40% that do not, without noticeable differences in disaggregating that information by gender.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

In identical percentages, adolescents consider whether it is appropriate or not that a single exam is taken to enter university.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

For those who considered that it is adequate, they felt mainly because the school or educational unit prepares the students (42.3%), because it is fairer and there are more opportunities (29% and 19.9% multiple answer) and because those who get a good score can study any career inside or outside the country (36.6%). In contrast, those who believe that it is not appropriate place as main reasons that if a student did not get a good score, it is not possible to study the careers that the student prefers and where the exam is passed by students whose families can pay courses (in the two cases by frequency of repetition and percentage).

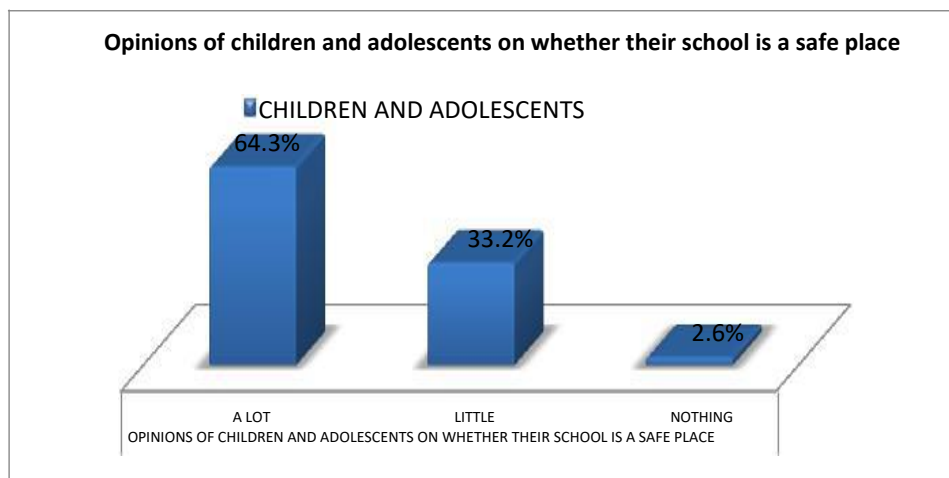
REASONS WHY CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS CONSIDER APPROPRIATE A SINGLE EXAMINATION FOR ENTERING UNIVERSITY		
OPTION	REASON	CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS PERCENTAGE
OPTION 1	BECAUSE IN SCHOOL THEACHERS PREPARE STUDENTS PRIOT THE EXAM	42.3%
	IT IS FAIRER AND THERE ARE MORE OPPORTUNITIES	29.0%
	BECAUSE IT VALUES WHO HAVE MORE CAPACITIES AND KNOWLEDGE	14.7%
	BECAUSE WITH GOOD SCORE STUDENTS CAN STUDY ANY CAREER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY	9.8%
	ENTER UNIVERSITIES THAT WERE NOT POSSIBLE BEFORE	3.1%
	OTHER	1.1%
	OPTION 2	BECAUSE IN SCHOOL THEACHERS PREPARE STUDENTS PRIOT THE EXAM
IT IS FAIRER AND THERE ARE MORE OPPORTUNITIES		19.9%
BECAUSE IT VALUES WHO HAVE MORE CAPACITIES AND KNOWLEDGE		20.8%
BECAUSE WITH GOOD SCORE STUDENTS CAN STUDY ANY CAREER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY		36.6%
ENTER UNIVERSITIES THAT WERE NOT POSSIBLE BEFORE		20.8%
OTHER		.4%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

REASONS WHY CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS CONSIDER APPROPRIATE A SINGLE EXAMINATION FOR ENTERING UNIVERSITY		
OPTION	REASON	CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS PERCENTAGE
OPTION 1	BECAUSE IN SCHOOL TEACHERS DO NOT PREPARE STUDENTS PRIOT THE EXAM	30.0%
	ONLY STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES CAN PAY FOR COURSES, USUALLY PASS THE EXAM	25.9%
	IF STUDENTS DO NOT GET A GOOD SCORE THEY CAN NOT ACCESS TO CAREERS THEY PREFER	31.3%
	AFTER BEING ACCEPTED, AUTHORITIES ASSIGN STUDENTS TO A UNIVERSITY AWAY FROM WHERE THEY LIVE	6.7%
	THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IS NOT EQUAL IN ALL SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS	5.3%
	OTHER	.8%
	OPTION 2	BECAUSE IN SCHOOL TEACHERS DO NOT PREPARE STUDENTS PRIOT THE EXAM
ONLY STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES CAN PAY FOR COURSES, USUALLY PASS THE EXAM		13.4%
IF STUDENTS DO NOT GET A GOOD SCORE THEY CAN NOT ACCESS TO CAREERS THEY PREFER		31.8%
AFTER BEING ACCEPTED, AUTHORITIES ASSIGN STUDENTS TO A UNIVERSITY AWAY FROM WHERE THEY LIVE		25.8%
THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IS NOT EQUAL IN ALL SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS		27.4%
OTHER		.2%

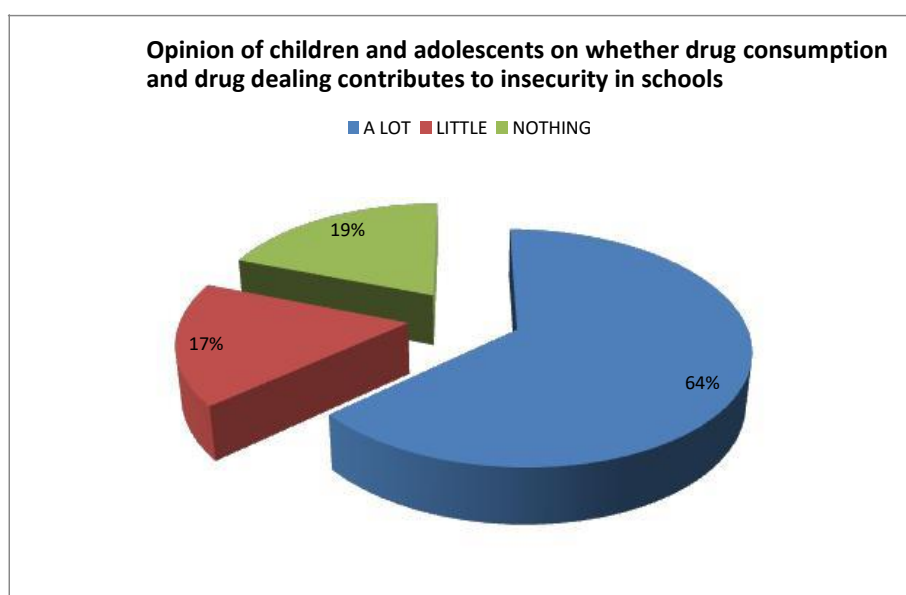
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Another aspect that was investigated in the survey is the opinion of children and adolescents regarding the school as a safe place. 64.3% believe that it is very safe, 33.2% that is a little safe and 2.6% that is not safe.



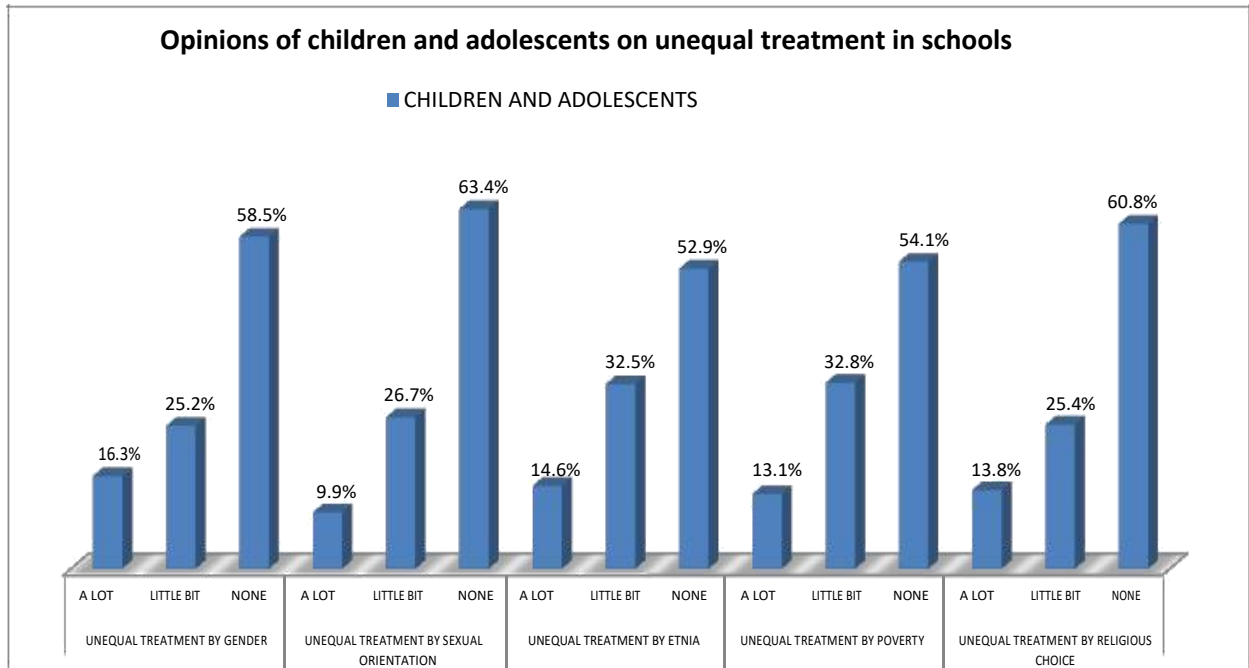
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

About drug consumption and drug dealing, 64% of children and adolescents believe that this contributes to insecurity in schools.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

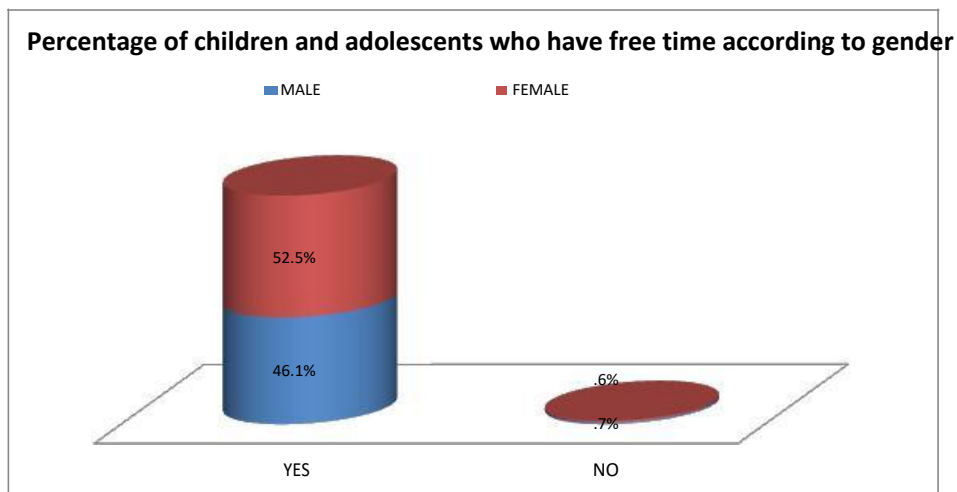
Finally, it was consulted in the surveys on the unequal treatment of students because of different conditions. The results indicate that, in higher percentages, children and adolescents believe that unequal treatment is mainly due to ethnicity and poverty (47% and 46% who qualify as a lot and little respectively). Inequalities by gender, sexual orientation and religious choice are 41%, 37% and 39% respectively.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

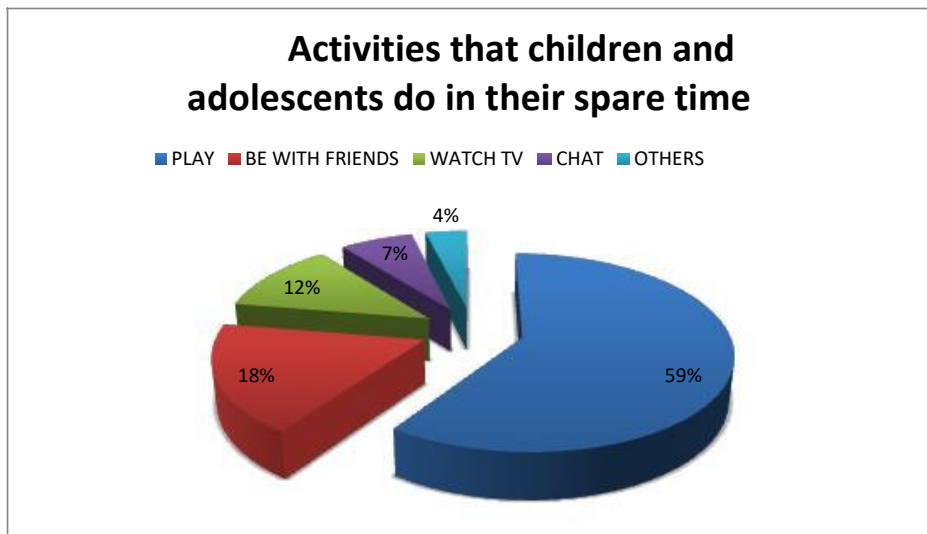
Right to play, to recreation and to rest

In the survey, children and adolescents were asked if they have free time, 96.6% answered affirmatively. The main activity to which they spend that time is playing (59%).



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

In focus groups, adolescents repeatedly mentioned three factors for which the right to play and recreation is limited: a) the allocation of responsibilities by the parents, they talk about the household chores that mainly fall on young girls, b) the lack of time due to school homework, and c) the lack of spaces for recreation and low diversity of options in them (they use as an example that those spaces are only for men sports).



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Conclusions

- ✓ In general, the perception of children and adolescents consulted about the fulfillment of this group of rights is positive, especially since almost all are enrolled in education. Nonetheless, there are indications that identify and characterize some important findings.
- ✓ Regarding the rights to identity, name, identification and nationality, adolescents consider that they do comply with them, but they criticize parents who do not legally recognize their children or deny their paternity.
- ✓ In relation to the rights to culture, cultural identity and cultural rights of peoples and nationalities, there is a perception in focus groups that cultural differences are not respected, since in several spaces children and adolescents are questioned by the way of dressing and are treated differently or discriminated because of being of an ethnic group. Although the majority of respondents believe there is no ethnic discrimination in society, 35% believe that there is.

In addition, they identify schools and streets as main areas in which this discrimination take place, which corresponds to the people or groups of people who discriminate other children and neighbors. This relationship is ratified to the extent that less than 10% believe that teachers are discriminate, so that in the school space, it would be the schoolmates themselves who do it.

The vast majority of participants are in school, but 75% stated that they know a child who is not in school. There is a marked difference between the causes of non-study. While the economic situation is the main reason for which children and adolescents surveyed do not go to school,

the circumstances why “others” do not refer to difficulties in studies, work, pregnancy, change of address and problems with drug consumption and drug dealing.

The reasons for “other” children and adolescents to stop studying are because school are distant, schools closed or long commutes which reaches the third option of multiple answers 17%, which agrees with the opinions expressed in focus groups regarding inadequate planning when closing or merging schools.

Although teachers’ capacity is questioned, three-quarters of consulted children and adolescents responded that they believe that teachers are teaching adequately and are trained. In addition, 9 out of 10 estimate that the education they receive is useful.

The difference between those who believe they are prepared or not to take the university entrance exam narrows in relation to the aforementioned aspects, because 6 out of 10 students believe that they are prepared and 4 out of 10 believe that they are not. The reasons for considering it is appropriate to take a single exam are when school prepare students for the exam, there are greater opportunities and those who obtain a good score can choose any career; while the negative ones are related to the impossibility to study the careers they choose and students who pass are those whose parents are able to pay courses.

Finally, although 64.2% of children and adolescents surveyed believe that the school is a safe place, 35.8% consider that it is not. Also 64% believe that drug consumption and drug dealing contribute to insecurity.

- ✓ Regarding the right to play, recreation and rest the vast majority of children and adolescents answered in the survey that they have free time. It is necessary to emphasize that in the focus groups three main causes that limit play and the recreation are: household chores, school homework and lack of safe spaces.

4.4. About protection rights

Brief description

The sense of the rights of protection proposed in the Convention on the Rights of the Child is related to the obligation of the State to guarantee protection to children and teenagers from any type of situation or condition that threaten or violate the rights of children and adolescents. In this sense, we find two types of norms foreseen in the Convention, included in national regulations, both the Constitution and the Children and Adolescents Ecuadorian Law:

First groups recognize specific rights that guarantee a dignified life and a comprehensive development of this group of population, among them we find:

- The right to personal, physical, psychological, sexual, emotional and affective integrity, the right to personal liberty, dignity, honor, good reputation, the right to privacy, sanctity of their home and all forms of communication.

These groups of rights, which are part of the universal rights, require a special consideration regarding children and adolescents, when being recognized; generate an obligation to the State, society and to families to not violate them. This implies that no one, without an order of competent authority, may open the students' backpacks, or check their personal belongings, at home or anywhere.

- For the recognition of certain specific rights for children and adolescents related to "special" situations in which they may find themselves, the Convention on the Rights of the Child has provided the right to "reserved information" regarding those children who are victims of violation of their rights (mistreatment, sexual violence, child trafficking, drug dealing, child labor, among others), prohibiting all forms of dissemination of information that allows their identification and in relation to adolescents in conflict with the law, prohibiting the dissemination of information, the publication of criminal process, and their criminal records.

A second group, which establishes the right to special protection of children and adolescents who are in situations or conditions of threat and violation of their rights, mistreatment, physical, psychological or sexual violence, child trafficking, separation of their parents, migration, abduction, narcotic abuse, and all those situations that imply discrimination.

It also includes the protection of adolescents in case of committing crimes, and specific rights that ensure a fair trial, in case of repressive proceedings from the State is replaced by an educational action, which has the purpose of a social and family reinsertion.

It should be noted that in this group of rights, the government should sign Optional Protocols of the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to child trafficking, child prostitution, the use of children in pornography, as well as the involvement of children in armed conflicts.

Rights of	• Right to personal integrity, in terms of physical, psychological, sexual, emotional and affective;
Protection	

- Right to personal liberty, dignity, reputation, honor and image;
- Right to privacy and to the inviolability of their home, and any form of arbitrary interference in their private life;
- Right to reserved information on adolescents in conflict with the law and on criminal records;
- Right to reserved information on children and adolescents who are victims of violations of their rights;
- Right to protection and special attention to children with disabilities, children of people in jail, disasters and armed conflicts, refugees;
- Right to protection against all forms of exploitation, child trafficking, pornography, abduction, moving or illegal retention;
- Right to protection against economic exploitation and child labor;
- Right against all forms of physical, psychological, emotional or sexual abuse or mistreatment;
- Right not to participate in armed conflicts;
- Right to a fair trial, re-education, and social and family reintegration.

Main Findings

Right to protection against all forms of violence, mistreatment and sexual violence

In focus groups, adolescents argue that mistreatment is one of the most common problems, and that it is present both in family and in educational establishments, they also identify physical and verbal abuse in the streets and public spaces. Some of the statements contained in the reports of focus groups are detailed below:

“Many adolescents live in situations of violence in schools, but teachers do nothing. Mistreatment exists in some educational establishments. There are very rude teachers. Teachers sometimes insult and beat children.

In schools there is bullying and the parents mistreat us.

Street people, parents, and teachers disrespect children through verbal and physical abuse. Children are mistreated by their parents.”

In cases of domestic violence, according to focus groups, children and adolescents are affected and are not even allowed to interact with their friends. There is lack of protection and negligence in their care.

“We do not want to be yelled at, parents scream loudly at us.”

Children and adolescents consider there is a lack of commitment on behalf of the police and the communities to handle child mistreatment, and that it is necessary that schools provide good discipline while respecting the dignity of children and adolescents.

They say that teachers are not informed about many rights; children and adolescents require training to overcome situations of violence and abuse.

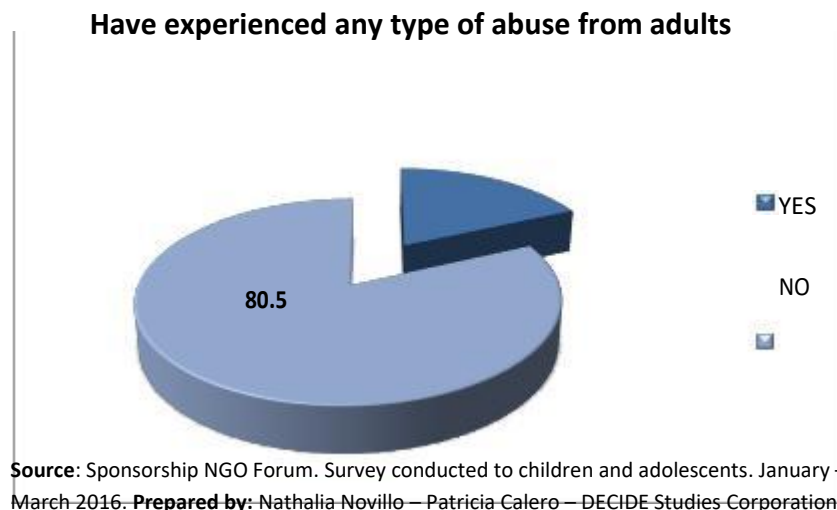
Regarding sexual violence, they affirm that there is little attention from parents who leave their children to the care of adults, without considering that the people close to the children and adolescents are the mainly responsible for sexual violence.

“Parents leave their children alone; they do not know that close relatives are those who abuse children and adolescents.

Sometimes mothers’ new partners are the ones who molest their children.”

On the other hand, surveyed participants consider that the judicial system is slow and does not respond quickly to victims of sexual abuse.

However, in the survey we found that the percentage of children and adolescents surveyed who had experienced some form of abuse from adults was relatively low, 17.9% (representing 359 of the total respondents), compared to 80.5% who reported not having experienced any kind of abuse from adults.



When verifying the response given by the children and adolescents in the survey regarding what forms of physical violence they experienced and how many times in the year, we found that 13.3% of the respondents had been beaten. Of the total who answered the question about the times they were beaten, 133 children or adolescents said they were attacked between one and nine times in the last year, 17 said between ten and twenty-five times, and 1 of them at least fifty in the last year.

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
BLOWS	YES	266	13.3
	NO	1,739	86.7
Times a year	1.00	35	
	2.00	38	
	3.00	23	
	4.00	15	
	5.00	15	
	6.00	4	
	8.00	1	
	9.00	2	
	10.00	13	
	12.00	3	
	24.00	1	
	50.00	1	

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
SHOVES	YES	217	10.8
	NO	1,788	89.2
Times a year	1.00	30	
	2.00	21	
	3.00	14	
	4.00	14	
	5.00	14	
	6.00	5	
	7.00	3	
	10.00	11	
	12.00	1	
	13.00	1	
	20.00	2	
	30.00	1	

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

About 11% of the surveyed say they have been shoved. Of the total responding to the number of shoves, 112 received between one and ten in the year, 4 between 12 and 20, and 1 of them up to 30.

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
PINCHES	YES	153	7.6
	NO	1,852	92.4
Times a year	1.00	20	
	2.00	18	
	3.00	11	
	4.00	4	
	5.00	10	
	6.00	2	
	7.00	1	
	8.00	3	
	9.00	1	
	10.00	11	
	20.00	2	
Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
HAIR	YES	104	5.2
PULLING	NO	1,901	94.8
Times a year	1.00	21	
	2.00	10	
	3.00	8	
	4.00	4	
	5.00	5	
	6.00	1	

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
KICKS	YES	119	5.9
	NO	1,886	94.1
Times a year	1.00	16	
	2.00	12	
	3.00	8	
	4.00	3	
	5.00	3	
	6.00	3	
	9.00	2	
	10.00	6	
	30.00	1	
	50.00	1	
	94.00	1	

7.00	1
8.00	1
10.00	3
12.00	1
20.00	2
50.00	1

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

Other forms of physical abuse include pinching, kicking and hair pulling. In that regard, 7.6%, 5.9% and 5.2% of the children and adolescents surveyed say they have received these forms of abuse and although they are not so frequent, at least one or two children or adolescent suffer these kinds of physical violence almost daily.

Regarding verbal abuse, the percentage of children and adolescents who claim to have received it remains at levels similar to the previous one. Thus, the table below shows that 13.6% and 14% of respondents reported having received insults and shouts respectively, 9% had been mocked, 8.4% criticized and 6.4% humiliated with jokes.

Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
INSULTS	YES	273	13.6
	NO	1,732	86.4
Times a year	1 to 5	92	
	6 to 20	24	
	21 to 50	15	
	50 to 100	2	

Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
MOCKERY	YES	180	9.0
	NO	1,825	91.0
Times a year	1 to 5	53	
	6 to 20	27	
	21 to 50	3	
	50 to 100	1	

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
CRITICISM	YES	168	8.4
	NO	1,837	91.6
Times a year	1 to 5	52	
	6 to 20	25	
	21 to 50	7	
	50 to 100	4	

Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
SHOUTS	YES	281	14.0
	NO	1,724	86.0
Times a year	1 to 5	93	
	6 to 20	40	
	21 to 50	8	
	50 to 100	7	

Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
HUMILIATING	YES	129	6.4
JOKES	NO	1,876	93.6
Times a year	1 to 5	46	
	6 to 20	12	
	21 to 50	3	
	50 to 100	0	

Although, as in the previous case, the annual frequency of verbal violence is not high, there is a group of 4 to 17 children and adolescents who suffer this form of violence between 50 and 100 times a year, becoming a common occurrence.

Most adolescents say they have not experienced any of the forms of sexual abuse identified in the survey. 2.2% suffered sexual insinuations, 2.9% of the total respondents have been victims of fondling, 3% of sexual words, and 3.2% of touches. In some cases, there are children and adolescents who have experienced these situations more than once in the same year.

Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
FONDLING	YES	58	2.9
	NO	1,947	97.1
Times a year	1 to 5	20	
	6 to 20	5	
	21 to 50	0	
	50 to 100	0	
Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
TOUCHES	YES	64	3.2
	NO		
Times a year	1 to 5	23	
	6 to 20	3	
	21 to 50	1	
	50 to 100	0	

Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
INSINUATION	YES	45	2.2
	NO	1,960	97.8
Times a year	1 to 5	14	
	6 to 20	1	
	21 to 50	0	
	50 to 100	0	
Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
SEXUAL WORDS	YES	61	3.0
	NO		
Times a year	1 to 5	16	
	6 to 20	5	
	21 to 50	1	
	50 to 100	0	

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

In the survey, children and adolescents say that they are punished by isolation or confinement. 1.8% in a separated place and 2% indicate that in the bedroom.

These forms of violence are repeated less than 20 times in a year.

Confinement		Number of Children	Percentage
SEPARATE PLACE	YES	37	1.8
	NO		
Times a year	1 to 5	13	
	6 to 20	1	
Confinement		Number of Children	Percentage
SEPARATION FROM THE GROUP	YES	86	4.3
	NO	1,919	95.7
Times a year	1 to 5	38	
	6 to 20	4	
	21 to 30	2	

Confinement		Number of Children	Percentage
IN THE BEDROOM	YES	40	2.0
	NO		
Times a year	1 to 5	16	
	6 to 20	3	

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

The separation from a group is another form of violence, from which 4.3% of children and adolescents suffer, according to the survey.

In addition, other forms of violence identified are threats with 6.1% of children and adolescents who claim to experience it, 2.2% suffer from deprivation of food, and 5.5% deprivation of objects.

The most common spaces in which these situations of violence and abuse occur are family spaces, indicated by 54% of the children and adolescents who confirm that they live in situations of abuse or violence, followed by the school with 28% and the neighborhood with 11%.

When verifying who is responsible for the abuse, the response of the children and adolescents is related to the identified spaces. Thus, the father or mother are the main responsible according to 52% of those who responded affirmatively, followed by older siblings with 16%, and within the family, uncles, aunts and cousins with 5%. Ultimately, the family represents 73% of the persons responsible for mistreatment.

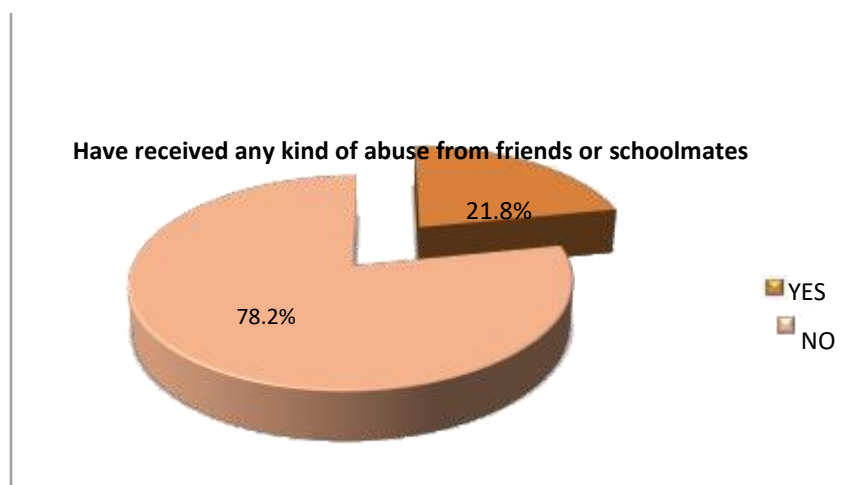
Other responsible parties are school staff who represents 8%, and teachers with 6%, these together represent 14%, neighbors are also responsible for abuse with 7%. They are followed by others with lower percentages such as bus drivers, police officers and public service professionals.

Space where abuse / violence occurs	Number of Children	Percentage
HOME	259	54%
SCHOOL	135	28%
NEIGHBORHOOD	54	11%
CHURCH TEMPLE	3	1%
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	16	3%
PUBLIC SERVICES	8	2%
STREETS / PARKS	4	1%
OTHERS	4	1%

Abusers	Number of Children	Percentage
FATHER / MOTHER	211	52%
OLDER SIBLINGS	64	16%
UNCLES, AUNTS OR COUSINS	20	5%
SCHOOL STAFF	31	8%
TEACHERS	24	6%
PRIESTS NUNS PASTORS	2	0%
POLICE OFFICERS	9	2%
BUS DRIVERS	14	3%
PUBLIC SERVICES PROFESSIONALS	3	1%
NEIGHBORS	28	7%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

Regarding schoolmates violence, that is to say, among children and adolescents, 21.8% (more than 400 of the total respondents) reported having received some kind of violence, compared to 78.2% (more than 1,500) who claim not to have suffered abuse situations from their schoolmates.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

Among the types of abuse and physical violence, those which have the highest percentage are beatings with 10.6% (212 children and adolescents) and shoving with 14.2% (285 of the total respondents), these forms are followed in order of importance by pinching, kicking and hair pulling. Because of the annual frequency of these situations which are reflected in the respondents, they cannot be described as daily, but there is a constant physical violence among schoolmates.

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
BLOWS	YES	212	10.6
	NO	1,793	89.4
Times a year	1 to 5	94	
	6 to 20	18	
	21 to 50	4	
Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
PINCHES	YES	145	7.2
	NO	1,860	92.8
Times a year	1 to 5	64	
	6 to 20	20	
	21 to 50	5	
	50 to 100	0	
Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
HAIR PULLING	YES	113	5.6
	NO	1,892	94.4
Times a year	1 to 5	51	2.5
	6 to 20	13	
	21 to 50	3	

Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
SHOVES	YES	285	14.2
	NO	1,720	85.8
Times a year	1 to 5	117	
	6 to 20	39	
	21 to 50	3	
Physical Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
KICK	YES	113	5.6
	NO	1,892	94.4
Times a year	1 to 5	37	
	6 to 20	16	
	21 to 50	1	
	50 to 100	1	

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

In relation to verbal abuse among schoolmates, we find that the main forms are mockery with 12.3% (246 of the total respondents) and insults with 11.7% (235 children and adolescents), followed by shouts, criticisms and humiliating jokes with 9.7%, 7.1% and 6.3% respectively. The frequency of these situations in some cases is high, when children and adolescents have experienced them between 50 and 100 times in the last year.

Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
INSULTS	YES	235	11.7
	NO	1,770	88.3
Times a year	1 to 5	79	
	6 to 20	25	
	21 to 50	4	
	50 to 100	5	
Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
MOCKERY	YES	246	12.3
	NO	1,759	87.7
Times a year	1 to 5	77	
	6 to 20	45	
	21 to 50	6	
	50 to 100	2	
Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
CRITICISM	YES	143	7.1
	NO	1,862	92.9
Times a year	1 to 5	46	
	6 to 20	14	
	21 to 50	3	
	50 to 100	2	

Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
SHOUTS	YES	194	9.7
	NO	1,811	90.3
Times a year	1 to 5	63	
	6 to 20	22	
	21 to 50	5	
	50 to 100	4	
Verbal Abuse Form		Number of Children	Percentage
HUMILIATING JOKES	YES	127	6.3
	NO	1,878	93.7
Times a year	1 to 5	41	
	6 to 20	16	
	21 to 50	1	
	50 to 100	1	

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

Children and adolescents surveyed identified having experienced forms of sexual violence from their schoolmates, mainly touches 2.6%, fondling and words of sexual type 2.4%, and sexual innuendo 1.6%. In some cases it is found that these situations have been experienced more than 20 times in the last year.

Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
FONDLING	YES	49	2.4
	NO	1,956	97.6
Times a year	1 to 5	19	
	6 to 20	2	
Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
TOUCHES	YES	53	2.6
	NO	1,952	97.4
Times a year	1 to 5	17	
	6 to 20	8	
	21 to 50	0	

Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
INSINUATION	YES	33	1.6
	NO	1,972	98.4
Times a year	1 to 5	14	
	6 to 20	0	
Sexual violence form		Number of Children	Percentage
SEXUAL WORDS	YES	49	2.4
	NO	1,956	97.6
Times a year	1 to 5	18	
	6 to 20	3	
	21 to 50	1	

Other forms of abuse, such as confinement or separation from a group, are also present with lower percentages, of these, the most common is separation from a group, 4.3% of children surveyed say they have gone through this on behalf of their schoolmates.

Confinement		Number of Children	Percentage
SEPARATE PLACE	YES	37	1.8
	NO	1,968	98.2
Confinement		Number of Children	Percentage
SEPARATION FROM A GROUP	YES	86	4.3
	NO	1919	95.7

Confinement		Number of Children	Percentage
IN THE BEDROOM	YES	40	2.0
	NO	1,965	98.0

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

The survey investigates the status of schoolmates at the time of the mistreatment, finding that 42% report that they were alone, 31.5% in a group and 26.5% accompanied by another person. In contrast, children and adolescents who were abused were mostly alone, 53.4%, although 22.6% said they were also in a group.

It is important to note that online social networks are identified as a form of abuse from schoolmates. Among the options they selected, the third group shows the highest percentage, 62.5%.

Schoolmates who have mistreated

Option	Situation	Percentage
Option 1	ALONE	42.0%
	ACCOMPANIED BY A PERSON	26.5%
	IN GROUP	31.5%
Option 2	ALONE	2.2%
	ACCOMPANIED BY A PERSON	28.9%
	IN GROUP	68.9%

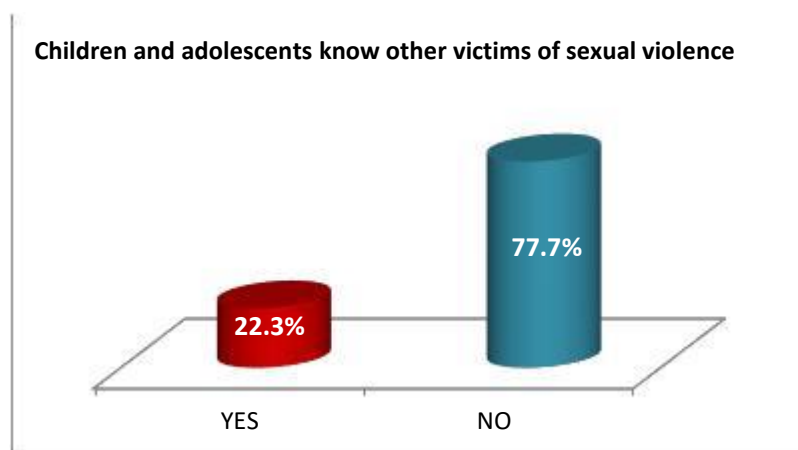
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

Situation in which they were maltreated		
Option	Situation	Percentage
Option 1	ALONE	53.4%
	ACCOMPANIED WITH MORE PEOPLE OF SIMILAR AGE	19.6%

	IN GROUP	22.6%
	BY INTERNET	0.0%
	BY SOCIAL NETWORKS	4.3%
Option 2	ALONE	14.1%
	ACCOMPANIED WITH MORE PEOPLE OF SIMILAR AGE	18.3%
	IN GROUP	46.5%
	BY INTERNET	0.0%
	BY SOCIAL NETWORKS	21.1%
Option 3	ALONE	12.5%
	ACCOMPANIED WITH MORE PEOPLE OF SIMILAR AGE	0.0%
	IN GROUP	25.0%
	BY INTERNET	0.0%
	BY SOCIAL NETWORKS	62.5%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation.

When children and adolescents were consulted about whether they know other schoolmates who have been victims of sexual violence, 22.3% respond positively.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Protection against discrimination

The perception of adolescents in focus groups is that there is discrimination in the country, and that is evident in children and adolescents. *“There is discrimination by economic position, and religion, even by the adolescents themselves, adults and authorities”*, and they argue that this situation is evident in schools, in which schoolmates exclude other people for different reasons, such as their skin color, gender or by not having no economic resources.

Children and adolescents believe that society in general is responsible for this discrimination; however, they consider that adults are the main culprits because they are the ones who instill these practices in children and adolescents. They say that parents should teach values and they accuse teachers of having discriminatory practices.

“Parents violate this right by not teaching us values.

Teachers discriminate. They should teach from preschool not to discriminate.

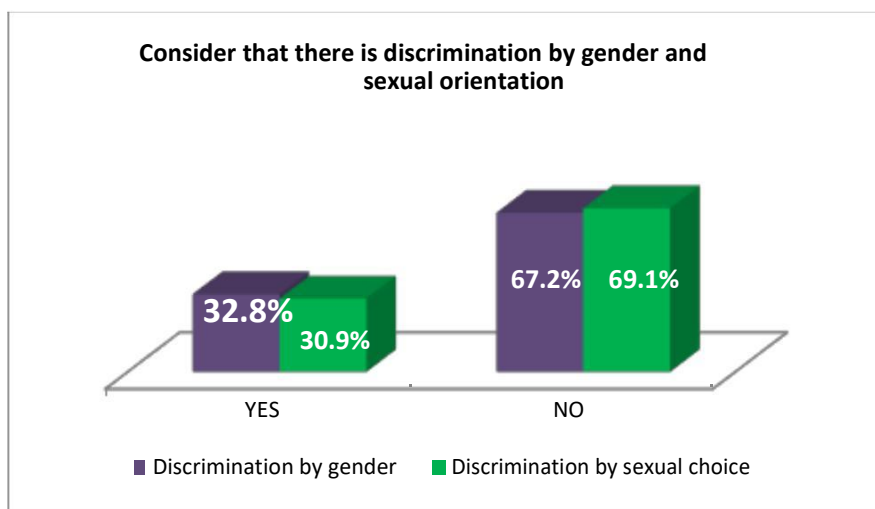
Families discriminate.

Teachers are prejudiced. All institutions including the family sometimes do not take actions to eliminate discrimination”

Focus groups argue that it is necessary to educate parents who are still “old-fashioned” and maintain discriminatory ideas and practices in relation to gender.

“Today our rights are violated with gender discrimination, for example: a boy tells his mother that he will play ball on the court and the mother lets him go. When a girl says she wants to go to do homework with a friend, parents put obstacles like “that is dangerous”, “there are men”, among others.”

The survey investigates if children and adolescents consider that there is discrimination by gender, and by sexual orientation. More than 30% say that there is such discrimination.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Children and adolescents who answered affirmatively were asked about the areas in which discrimination by gender and sexual orientation occurred, 39.2% and 36.6% respectively, answered that in educational institutions, 28.1% and 27.1% reported that in the neighborhoods, and 12% and 11.5% respectively indicated that it also occurs at home. It should be noted that 13% of the respondents answered that there is discrimination by sexual orientation everywhere.

In addition to these spaces, they point out that there is discrimination in public services, public transportation, and at church or temple to a lesser extent.

When they were consulted who are the people who discriminate by gender and sexual orientation, 30% and 25.8% respectively say that they are children and adolescents and 21.4% and 26.4% respectively point out that they are neighbors.

In addition, it is found that at home there is a high percentage of discrimination, 14.9% of parents and other relatives would do it by gender and 14.3% regarding sexual orientation.

Discrimination by gender		Discrimination by sexual orientation	
Space	Percentage	Space	Percentage
FAMILY	12.0%	FAMILY	11.5%
SCHOOL	39.2%	SCHOOL	36.6%
NEIGHBORHOOD	28.1%	NEIGHBORHOOD	27.1%
TRANSPORT	5.9%	TRANSPORT	5.3%
PUBLIC SERVICES	7.5%	PUBLIC SERVICES	4.2%
CHURCH/TEMPLE	.6%	CHURCH OR TEMPLE	1.8%
EVERYWHERE	6.7%	EVERYWHERE	13.7%
Who	Percentage	Who	Percentage
FATHER / MOTHER	7.1%	FATHER / MOTHER	5.2%
OTHER RELATIVES	7.8%	OTHER RELATIVES	9.1%
TEACHER	9.4%	TEACHERS	7.1%
NEIGHBOR	21.0%	NEIGHBORS	26.4%
DRIVERS	6.8%	DRIVERS	5.8%
PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	5.4%	PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	2.7%
PRIEST / PASTOR	.7%	PRIEST / PASTOR	1.6%
OTHER CHILDREN	30.0%	OTHER CHILDREN	25.8%
EVERYBODY	11.8%	EVERYBODY	16.2%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.

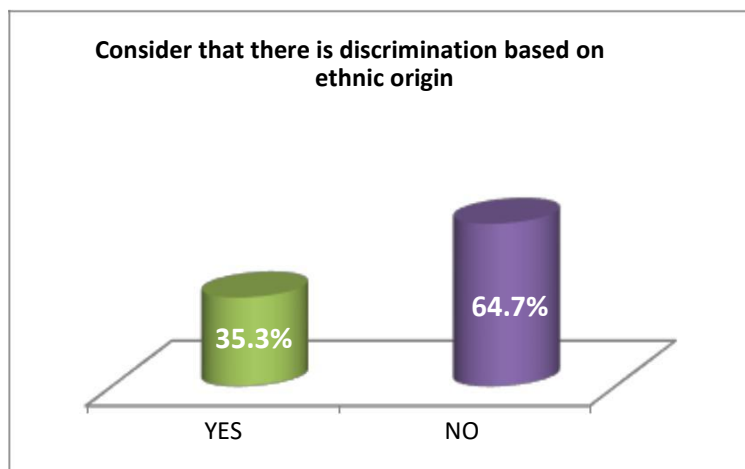
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

In focus groups, children and adolescents believe that it is necessary to educate parents in order to overcome their prejudices and to ensure gender equality.

Also in this space, adolescents point out that there is discrimination against people of different ethnicities and cultures, as well as the color of their skin.

“We, ethnic groups feel discriminated against in the schools by how we dress. Groups of the same race are formed, with the indigenous people they do not mingle. There are people who believe that being black means being thief.”

Based on the results of the survey, 35.3% of children and adolescents consider there is discrimination based on ethnic origin.



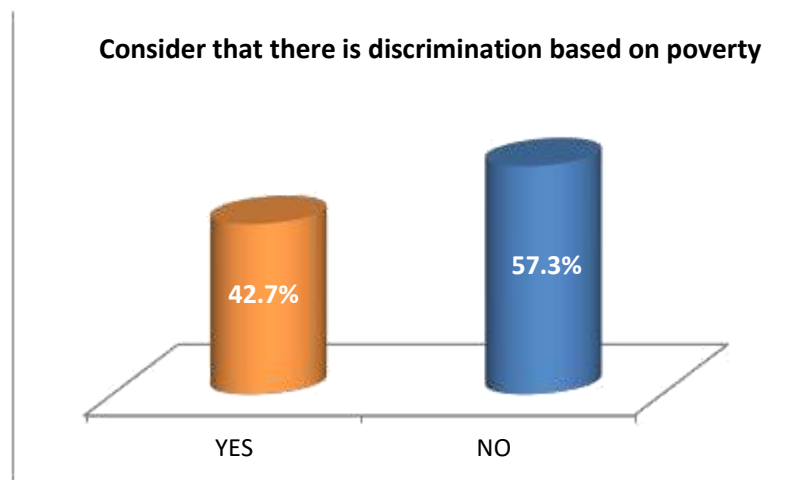
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

50.7% of those who answered affirmatively believe that this type of discrimination occurs in educational institutions, 21.7% mentioned their neighborhood and 11% say it is everywhere. In addition, there are other spaces, which have lesser percentages. Regarding who is responsible for this form of discrimination, 34.5% say that they are other children and adolescents, 25% say they are neighbors and 11.1% that is everybody. When verifying the spaces in which discrimination by ethnic origin occurs and who discriminates, we find that there is coherence.

Discrimination by ethnic origin			
Space	Percentage	Discriminators	Percentage
FAMILY	4.4%	FATHER MOTHER	2.8%
SCHOOL	50.7%	OTHER RELATIVES	5.1%
NEIGHBORHOOD	21.7%	TEACHERS	8.1%
TRANSPORT	7.6%	NEIGHBORS	25.0%
PUBLIC SERVICES	3.8%	DRIVERS	5.3%
CHURCH/TEMPLE	0.8%	PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	6.7%
EVERYWHERE	11.0%	PRIEST PASTOR	1.4%
		OTHER CHILDREN	34.5%
		EVERYONE	11.1%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Poverty is also a cause of discrimination, according to adolescents in focus groups. Surveys confirm this perception, since 42.7% affirm that this form of discrimination exists.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

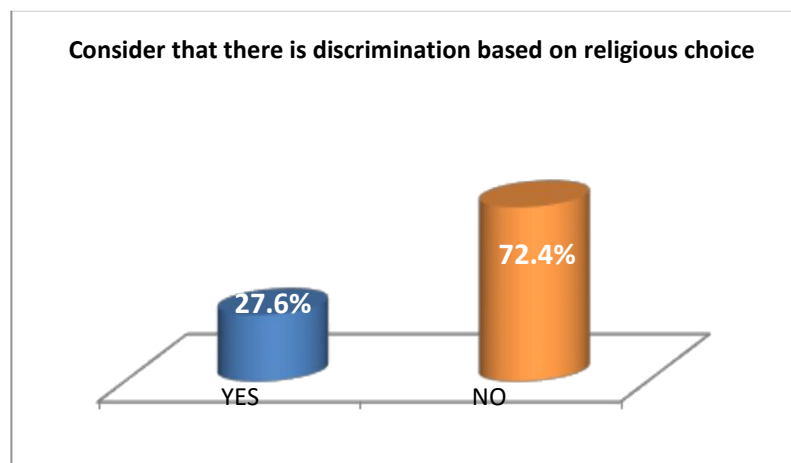
About the spaces in which this form of discrimination occurs, for those who responded positively, 45.4% affirm that this happens at school, 23.1% the neighborhood, 10% at home and 9.3% point out that it is everywhere. When inquiring about who the offenders were, 27.8% said they are neighbors, 27.2% said children and adolescents, 12% said people, and 11.8% pointed out to parents and other relatives.

Discrimination by poverty			
Space	Percentage	Discriminators	Percentage
FAMILY	10.0%	FATHER MOTHER	2.7%
SCHOOL	45.4%	OTHER RELATIVES	9.1%
NEIGHBORHOOD	23.1%	TEACHERS	9.5%
TRANSPORT	5.2%	NEIGHBORS	27.8%
PUBLIC SERV.	6.0%	DRIVERS	4.2%
CHURCH/TEMPLE	1.0%	PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	6.3%
EVERYWHERE	9.3%	PRIEST / PASTOR	1.3%
		OTHER CHILDREN	27.2%
		EVERYBODY	12.0%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

There are also other spaces and people who discriminate, with smaller percentages.

Religion is another source of discrimination identified by focus groups. 27.6% of children and adolescents answered that there is discrimination based on religious choice.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

44.1% of those who answered affirmatively consider that this form of discrimination occurs in schools, 20% indicate that it is in the neighborhood, and 12.7% in church/temple, in addition, 9.4% affirm that it is present at home. In accordance with this, 29.8% affirm that their neighbors discriminate by religious choice, while 22.4% pointed to other children and adolescents, 10.9% identify the family (father, mother and other relatives), 9.6% of respondents say that everybody discriminates, and 9.3% said that pastors and priests do.

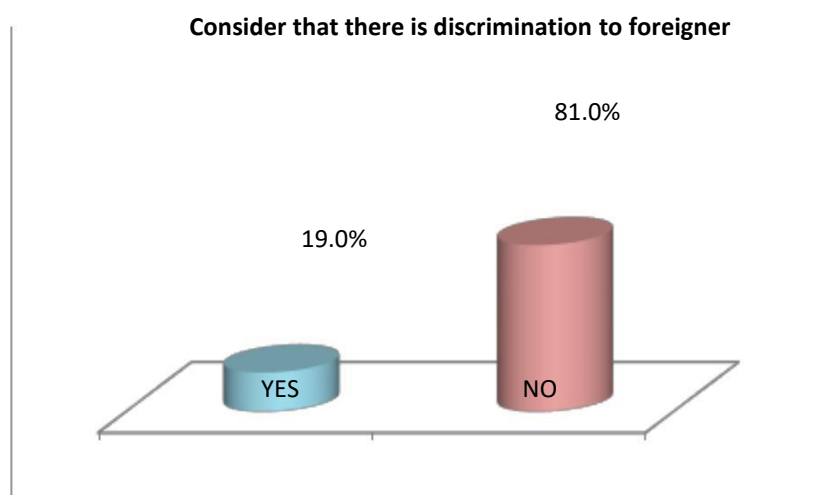
Discrimination by religious option			
Space	Percentage	Discriminators	Percentage
FAMILY	9.4%	FATHER / MOTHER	1.3%
SCHOOL	44.1%	OTHER RELATIVES	9.6%
NEIGHBORHOOD	20.0%	TEACHERS	8.3%
TRANSPORT	4.6%	NEIGHBORS	29.8%
PUBLIC SERV.	3.5%	DRIVERS	3.2%
CHURCH/TEMPLE	12.7%	PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	6.4%
EVERYWHERE	5.8%	PRIEST / PASTOR	9.3%
		OTHER CHILDREN	22.4%
		EVERYBODY	9.6%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

There is a general perception in focus groups that people from different cultures are not treated equally. At the same time, they affirm that there is a preference for foreign professionals, reducing opportunity for Ecuadorians.

“Sometimes foreigners are preferred as professionals, if we have people prepared, more opportunities should be given to them, for example to doctors.”

When asked if they consider that there is discrimination against foreigners, 19% said yes, and 81% said no.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Regarding the spaces in which children and adolescents consider this discrimination occurs, 33.7% of those who answered affirmatively say that in the educational institutions and 21.1% in the neighborhood. The other spaces have percentages ranging from 8.8% to 12.3%, although only 2.3% respond that this occur in church or temple.

Discrimination to foreigners			
Space	Percentage	Discriminators	Percentage
FAMILY	8.8%	FATHER MOTHER	2.7%
SCHOOL	33.7%	OTHER RELATIVES	11.2%
NEIGHBORHOOD	21.1%	TEACHERS	7.1%
TRANSPORT	12.3%	NEIGHBORS	24.6%
PUBLIC SERV.	11.5%	DRIVERS	9.4%
CHURCH/TEMPLE	2.3%	PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	12.1%
EVERYWHERE	10.3%	PRIEST / PASTOR	0.9%
		OTHER CHILDREN	19.6%
		EVERBODY	12.5%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Those who discriminate against foreigners, 24.6% of the children and adolescents say are the neighbors, 19.6% say they are children and adolescents, 12.5% of the total respondents say everybody discriminate.

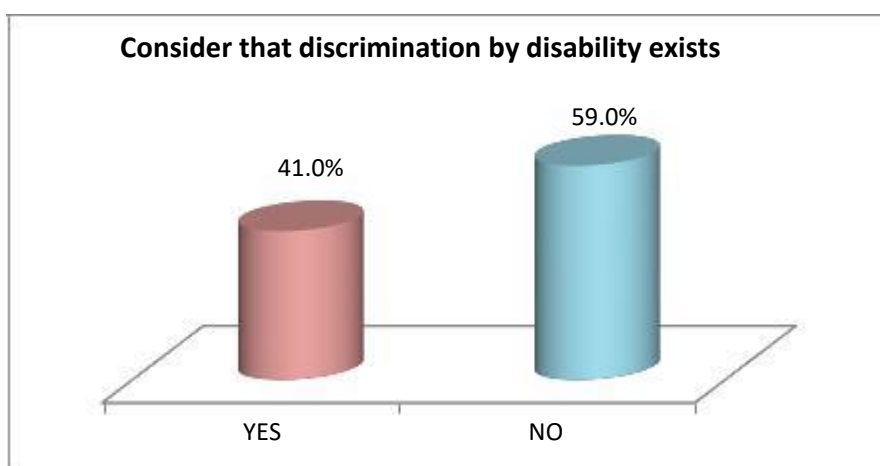
Adolescents in focus groups state that there is discrimination on the basis of disability in the educational spaces and in the neighborhood. *“Even teachers make fun when students have a physical defect.”*

They consider that there is significant progress with the bonus that government gives for people with disabilities but they consider that specialized assistance and medical personnel are lacking and that there is no adequate support for children and adolescents with disabilities, mainly in remote villages and rural areas.

“The institutions do not reach all children with disabilities, they are only present in large cities and in urban centers.”

According to the perception of adolescents in the focus groups, there is no access to educational institutions for children and adolescents with disabilities, as well as there is discrimination against them by other children, adolescents and adults.

According to the survey, there is discrimination against children and adolescents due to disability, 41% of the total says that exists, compared to 59% who say it does not.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

46.2% of the adolescents, who responded positively to this question, consider that this discrimination occurs in educational spaces, while 18.1% consider it happens in the neighborhood, also in transportation 11.9%, and, 12.8% believe that in all spaces. As for people who discriminate by disability, 31.4% said it is from other children and adolescents, 20.7% said neighbors and 16.1% said everybody.

Discrimination by disability			
Space	Percentage	Who	Percentage
FAMILY	6.1%	FATHER / MOTHER	1.7%
SCHOOL	46.2%	OTHER RELATIVES	7.8%
NEIGHBORHOOD	18.1%	TEACHERS	4.7%
TRANSPORT	11.9%	NEIGHBORS	20.7%
PUBLIC SERV.	4.4%	DRIVERS	11.2%
CHURCH/TEMPLE	0.5%	PUBLIC SERV. PROF.	5.8%

EVERYWHERE	12.8%	PRIEST / PASTOR	.6%
		OTHER CHILDREN	31.4%
		EVERYBODY	16.1%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.

Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Discrimination has different manifestations. Focus groups affirm that there are spaces where children and adolescents are discriminated against. They also affirm that the appearance or the way people dress or express themselves, or the way of thinking is discriminating factors.

“There is discrimination by the way you dress, how you express yourself, I do something that my dad and my mom do not like and that is why my parents do not love me. If someone sees a hippie, they call him pothead.”

Protection against Child Labor

In focus groups there is the perception that not all children and adolescents work, despite this, they point out that they have to work together with parents on agricultural tasks and help at home. They also affirm that there are situations in which they are forced to carry out activities in the house or do work that is very heavy for their age.

“They force children to work on farms or cut grass or do other jobs very heavy for their age.”

As stated in this report about the right to live with the family, 99% of the children and adolescents surveyed say that they collaborate in housework. 62% collaborate organizing their room, 13% in cleaning the house, and 12% help in the kitchen. In addition, there are other activities that have smaller percentages such as the care of siblings, cooking, caring for animals and others.

In focus groups, adolescents repeatedly argue that parents force children and adolescents to work, and consider that this reduces the possibility of being happy, in addition to being exposed to situations of serious risks such as kidnapping, discrimination, sexual violence, and school dropout.

“Parents send children to work then they suffer from discrimination and abuse, parents do not guarantee protection.”

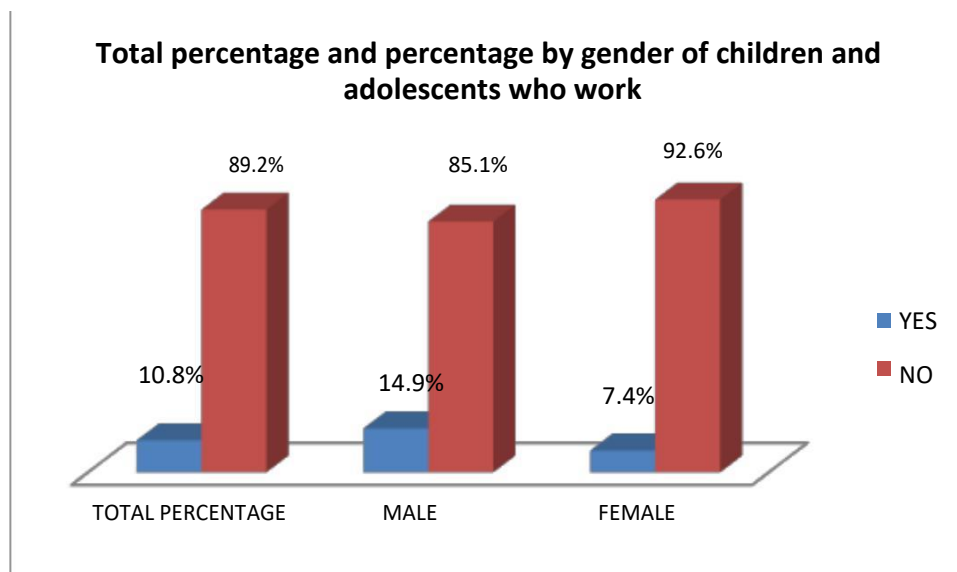
Parents do not let them have a happy childhood because they are sent to work.

There are children working in the street because their parents force them to do it.”

On the other hand, they consider that sometimes, children and adolescents must work because there is lack of money in the house. They say that people who hire children and adolescents are responsible for this situation, and affirm that they do not know the risks involved by this.

In the survey, child labor is investigated by asking on the one hand if the surveyed children and adolescents work themselves, and on the other hand if they know children and adolescents who work.

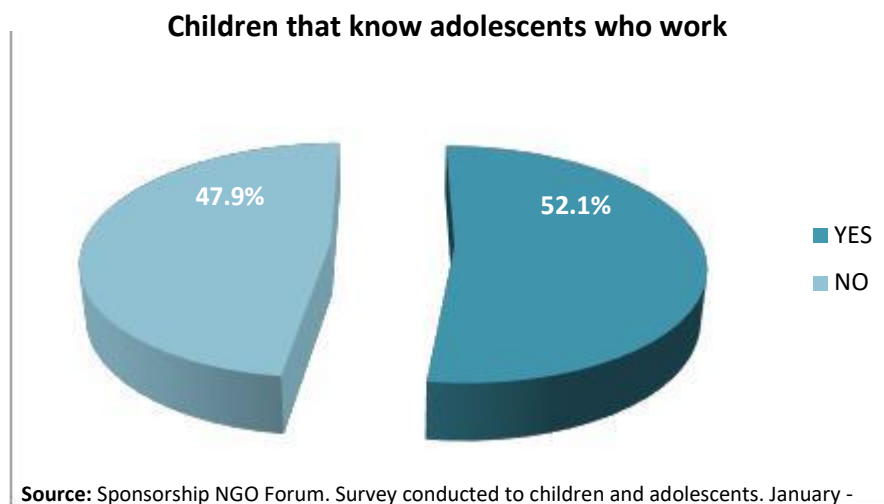
When consulting them if they work, 10.8% answered that they do. Of this percentage, 14.9% are male and 7.4% are female.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.

Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

On the other hand, when consulting if they know children and adolescents who work, 52.1% of the respondents answered that they did.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

It was also asked about how the respondents knew the children and adolescents that were working. According to respondents who answered affirmatively and selected multiple options,

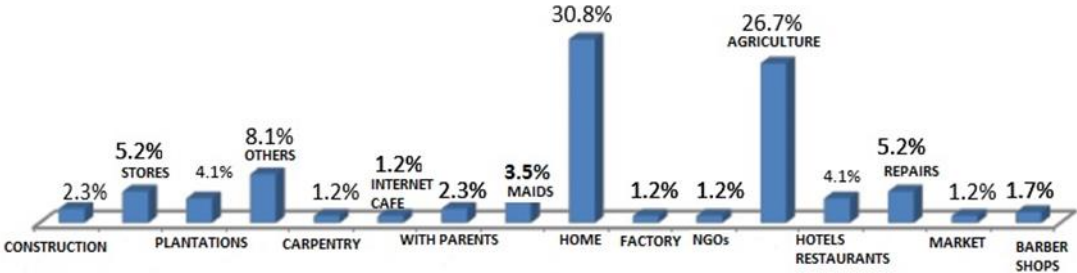
The results show: schoolmates, neighborhood friends, acquaintances, family members and strangers.

Children and adolescents who work are:		
Option	Space	Percentage
Option 1	FAMILY	24.1%
	NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDS	36.8%
	SCHOOLMATES	15.9%
	ACQUAINTANCES	12.9%
	STRANGERS	9.4%
	OTHERS	.9%
Option 2	FAMILY	.2%
	NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDS	17.9%
	SCHOOLMATES	40.0%
	ACQUAINTANCES	31.3%
	STRANGERS	10.7%
	OTHERS	0.0%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

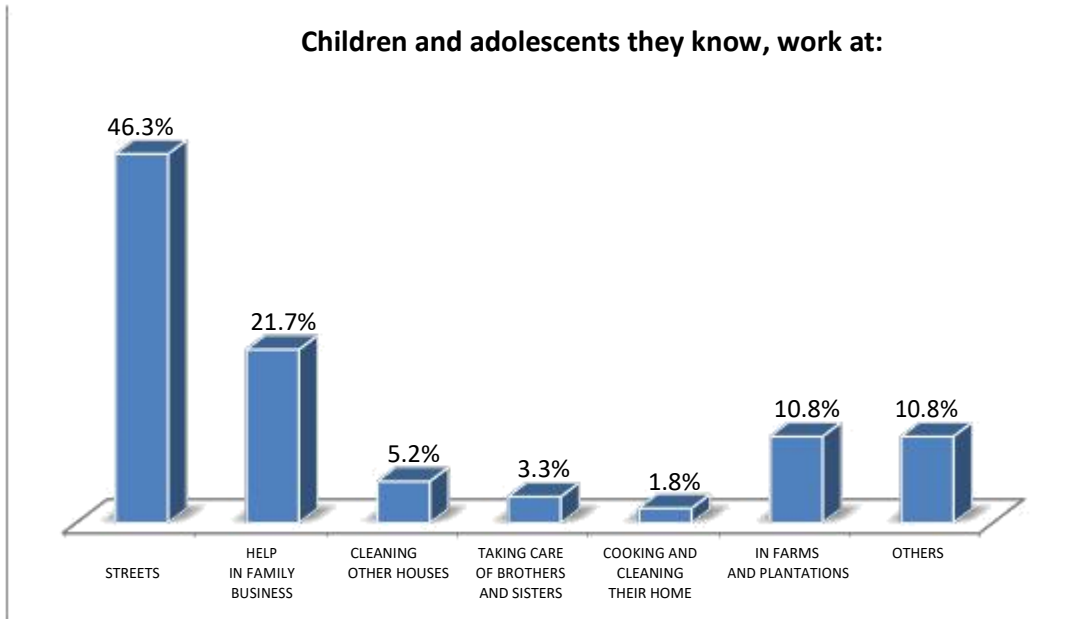
When consulting where they work the answers absolutely varied, however, 30.8% indicated that they work at home and 26.7% in farms. That is, in activities related to domestic work or in collaboration with the family.

Children and adolescents work at:



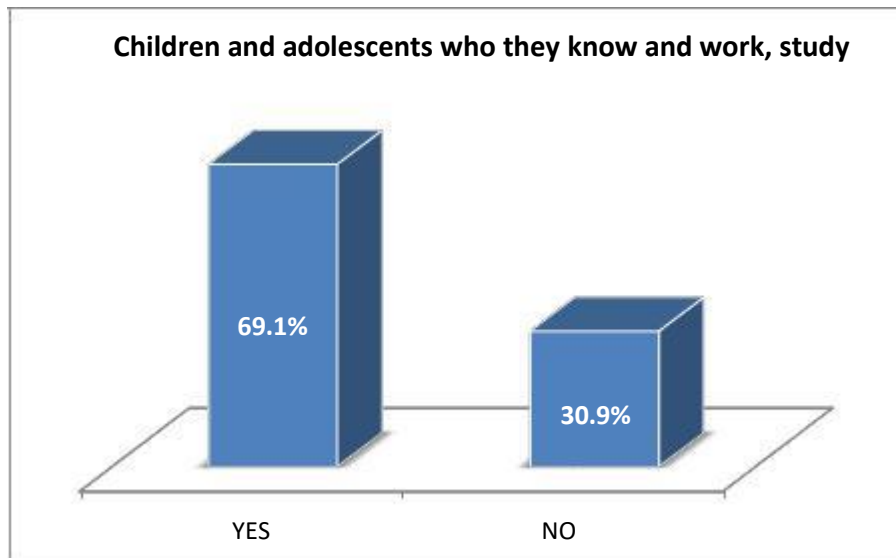
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

On the other hand, 46.3% say that the working children and adolescents who they know work on streets, 21.7% help in family business, and 10.8% in farms and plantations.



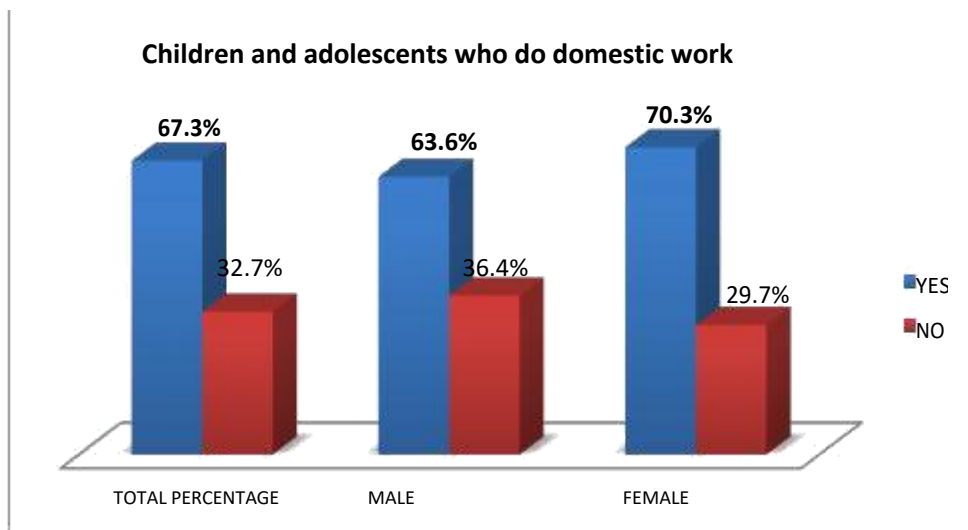
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero - DECIDE Studies Corporation

It was also consulted, if the working children and adolescents they know also study. To which, 69.1% of respondents said yes.



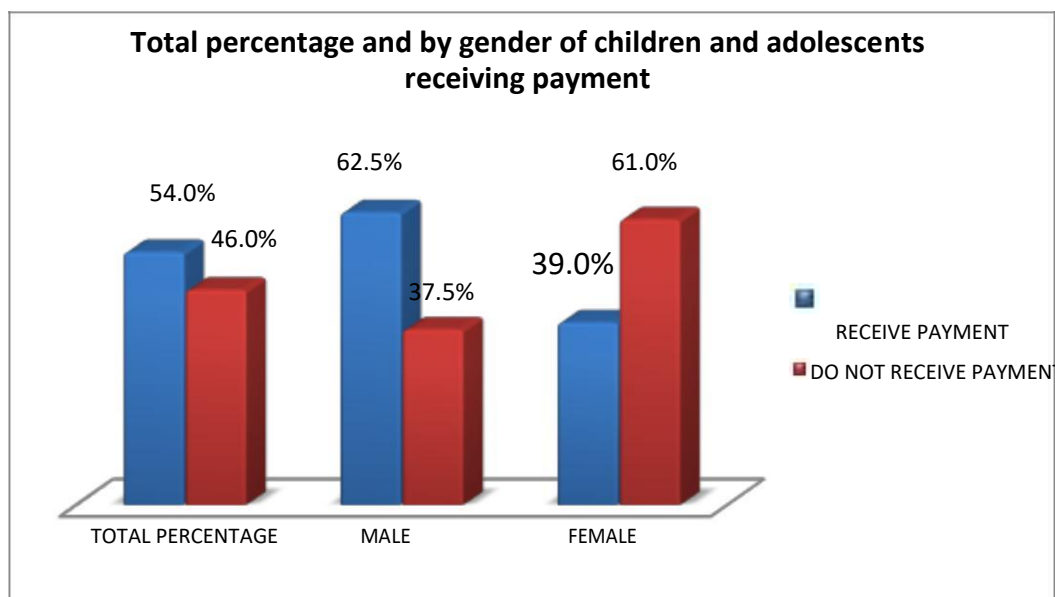
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero - DECIDE Studies Corporation

In the survey, children and adolescents were asked if they performed domestic work. 67.3% answered that they do, 63.6% of which were male and 70.3% were female.



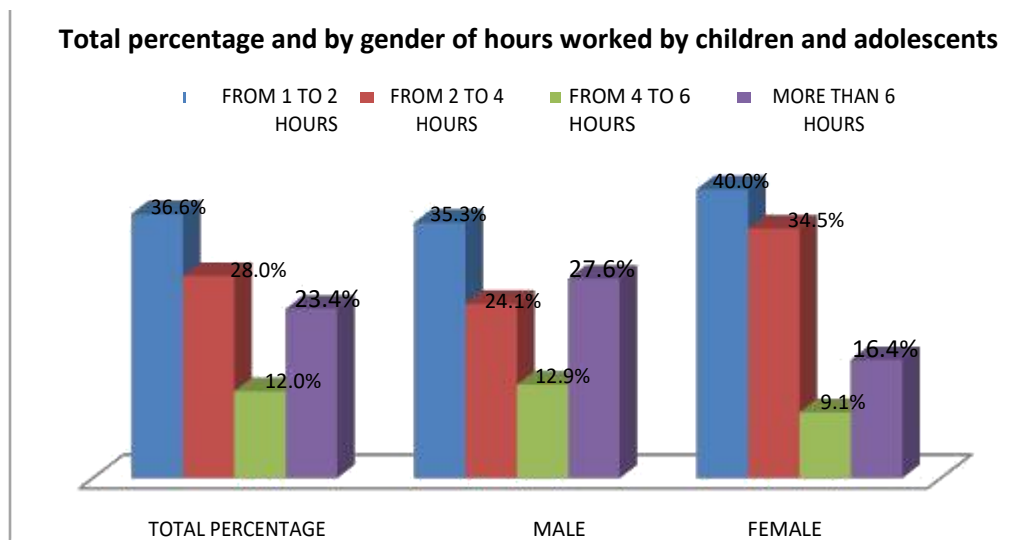
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

When asking children and adolescents if they receive payment for the work they do, 54% answered that they do, 62.5% of working males report that they are paid, compared to 39% of female.



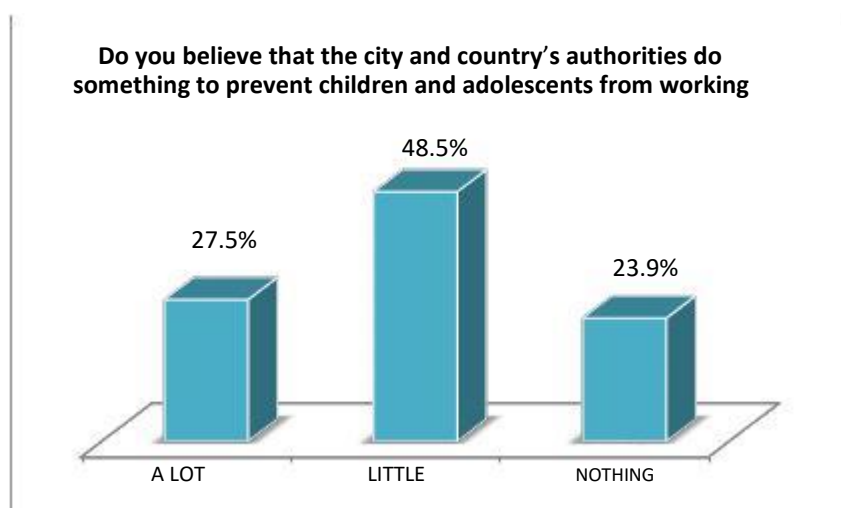
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey of children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

When children and adolescents were asked if they work for 1 to 2 hours a day, 36.6% indicate they do, 35.3% were male and 40% female. 28% stated that they work for 2 to 4 hours a day, with 24.1% male and 34.5%female. 23.4% work more than 6 hours a day, 27.6% male and 16.4% female. Lastly, 12% work from 4 to 6 hours a day, 12.9% male and 9.1% female.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Finally, about compliance with the responsibility of national and local authorities to prevent children and adolescents from working, 48.5% of those consulted said that they consider that they do little to prevent them from working, compared to 27.5% who consider that a lot is being done and 23.9% say that government does not do anything.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

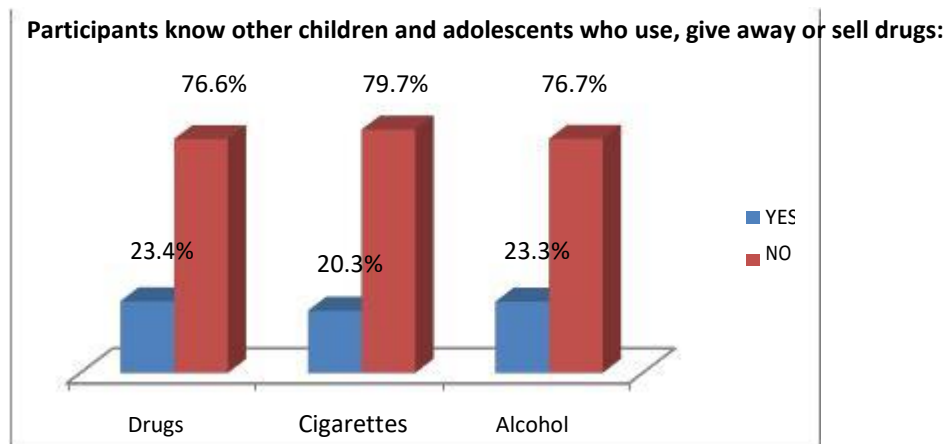
Protection against the drugs abuse and other narcotics

In focus groups, adolescents say that drug dealing is not controlled in educational spaces. Likewise, they consider that the police exert little control on cigarettes and alcohol sales to children and adolescents, and other spaces regarding the drugs dealing.

“From the police or the Community Police Unit (known by its Spanish acronym, UPC in Ecuador) we do not feel that they provide security, however they must provide security in recreational places, sometimes parks are used for dealing drugs and use.”

Participants point out among other things that there is weak action from the State to protect them from the use of dangerous drugs, as well as to control production and distribution. *“The government complies but not much, they raid homes, do things but it is sufficient with drugs dealing, there are many drug problems. The government does things but it is not enough.”*

The survey asked if they know children and adolescents who use, give away or sell drugs, cigarettes and alcohol. Between 23.4% and 20.3% answered affirmatively.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

According to the children and adolescents surveyed who selected multiple options, the spaces in which drugs, cigarettes and alcohol are consumed, given or sold, considering the percentages and frequency of repetition, in the following order are the most cited:

- Drugs, at school, among friends, in the neighborhood, among relatives.
- Cigarettes, in the neighborhood, among friends, among family, in school.
- Alcohol, among family, among friends, in the neighborhood, in school.

School			
	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
DRUGS	75.0%	15.2%	0.0%
CIGARETTES	12.2%	49.6%	2.1%
ALCOHOL	12.8%	35.2%	97.9%

Neighborhood/park		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
49.5%	.5%	0.0%
32.7%	51.5%	0.0%
17.7%	48.0%	100.0%

Relatives: siblings/cousins			
	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
DRUGS	23.3%	0.0%	0.0%
CIGARETTES	30.1%	30.0%	0.0%
ALCOHOL	46.6%	70.0%	100.0%

Friends		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
51.0%	0.0%	0.0%
22.4%	55.1%	0.0%
26.7%	44.9%	100.0%

Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Special protection against different situations that violate rights

In focus groups, other situations are raised in which children and adolescents should be protected in a special way:

Against international human trafficking. They consider that one of the problems is the lack of information of the families on the subject, as well as the lack of investigation of the police as to why there are unresolved cases.

In relation to this problem, there is the migration of parents and the migration of children and adolescents.

Against armed conflicts. In this aspect, they mention that although they have no more information, a problem that is approaching is the initiation to gangs, which would be due to lack of parental control.

Against illegal migration abroad or unlawful arrests, they consider that there is a lack of information in families and communities about this problem.

Regarding adolescent offenders, they affirm that they are discriminated against by the community because they have lost their trust in them since they have violated the law. They also point out that when they commit a crime, the adolescents are mistreated stating that *“policemen beat teenage offenders.”*

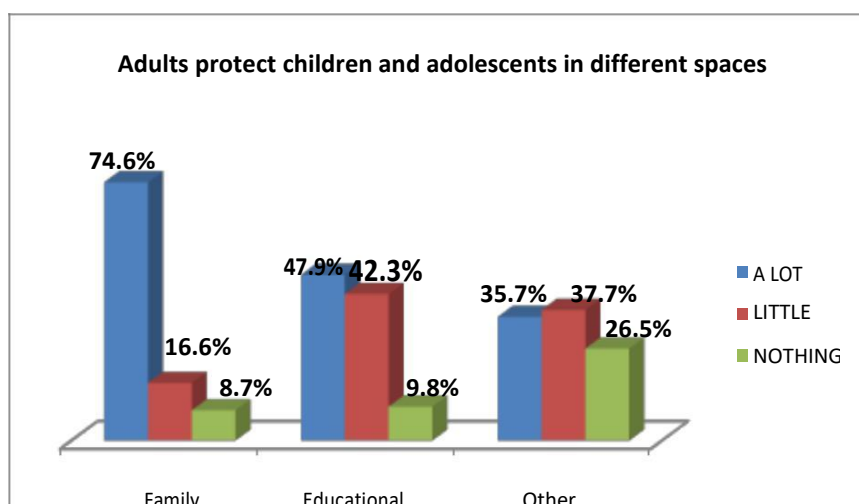
Regarding the access to justice, they point out that they are exposed to different forms of violation of their rights due to processes, their privacy is violated, police check their backpacks without asking for permission, and even the teachers take away cellphones from them.

Responsibility of the State, society and family in the protection to children and adolescents

In the survey, children and adolescents were consulted if they considered that adults have adequately protected them from situations of abuse. The answers they gave regarding each of the identified spaces were:

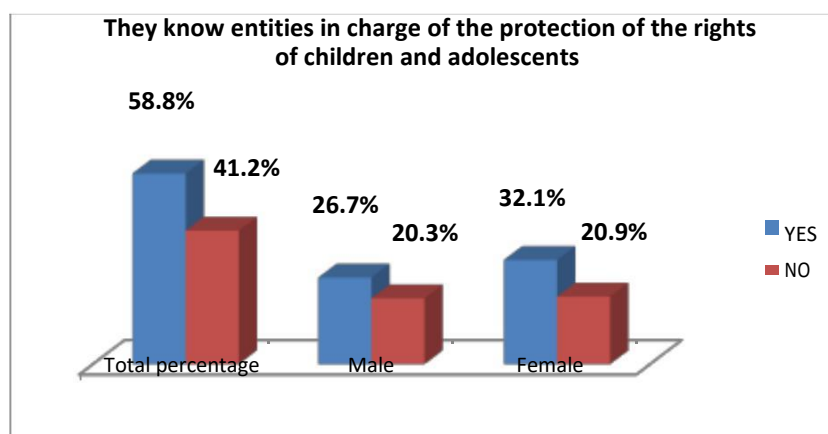
- 74.6% of the total respondents consider that adults have protected them in the family.
- 47.9% indicate that in educational spaces, authorities have protected them a lot, however, 42.3% consider that they have been less protected.

- In other spaces, 37.7% consider that adults protect less, compared to 35.7% who consider that adults protect a lot, and 26.3% believe that there is not protection in other spaces.



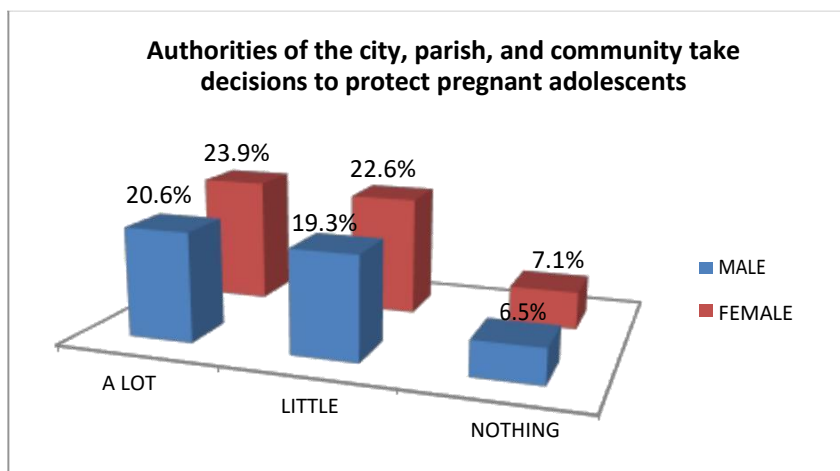
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

When asked about if they know about the existence of an institution responsible for the protection of the rights of children and adolescents, 58.8% said they do know it, 32.1% of them are female and 26.7% are male.



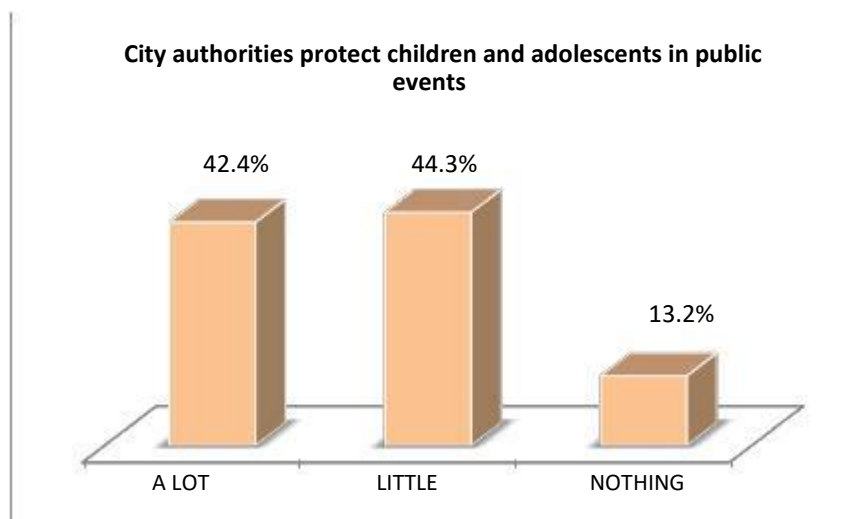
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

The survey previously pointed out about the level of responsibility of the authorities against special situations of children and adolescents. 57.9% stated that authorities in educational spaces protect and respect the rights of pregnant adolescents, meanwhile 44.5% of all respondents (23.9% are female and 20.6% are male) consider that decisions are taken by local public authorities to protect pregnant adolescents. Additionally, 70.4% consider that both local public authorities and educational establishments do a lot for the sexual and reproductive health of children and adolescents.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

As an additional topic, which has to do with the protection of the State to children and adolescents, it was consulted in the survey if they consider that city authorities protect them in public events. 42.4% said that they feel protected, compared to 44.3% who say that this protection is scarce and 13.2% say that there is no protection in public events.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January – March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – Patricia Calero – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Conclusions



Despite the fact that, in percentage terms, violence and maltreatment from adults towards children and adolescents would have been reduced in comparison with official figures referring in other reports, these persist not only as a perception but in facts that are identified with clarity in spaces such as family and educational. Parents and caregivers are identified primarily as abusers.

On the other hand, there are other spaces in which the persistence of these situations is also evident, although, as previously noted with lower percentages, such as the neighborhood, spaces and public services, as well as public transportation. This group also identifies maltreatment by the police and public service professionals. The perception in general is of a society that maintains practices of abuse. In addition, focus groups identify a lack of policies and actions to regulate this situation adequately.

- ✓ Schoolmate violence, coming from other children and adolescents, is also present in a worrying way in its different forms. Although more than 50% say they have not experienced it, importantly more than 20% has suffered some form of violence or abuse among schoolmates. Most of the abuse comes in the form of blows, shoves, bullying and insults among schoolmates. Abuse among schoolmates usually takes the form of children and adolescents who are in a group against others who are alone. Violence and abuse through online social networks is a practice that is presented in an important way. Focus groups do not identify school violence, although bullying is mentioned.
- ✓ Most of the children and adolescents surveyed have not been victims of sexual violence, neither from adults nor from their schoolmates, as claimed by more than 97% of the consulted group. However, 22.3% of this same group stated that they know other children and adolescents who have suffered sexual violence.
- ✓ Regarding the right to be protected against discrimination, the general perception in focus groups, confirmed by the results of the survey, is that there is discrimination. More than 30% of the surveyed children and adolescents affirm it and stated that this is presented in different situations.

As for the spaces of discrimination, in general it is found in educational spaces, followed by the neighborhood and family. Also in general the children, adolescents and neighbors are recognized as those who discriminate more, in any of their forms, followed by teachers and family members (father, mother and other relatives). However, it is necessary to point out that there are other spaces and groups of people, so the general perception is that constant discrimination affects children and adolescents, this is evident in focus groups, when adolescents say that discrimination persists against this age group.

On the other hand, it should be noted that, according to the responses provided in the surveys, the highest percentage of discrimination would be for children and adolescents living in poverty (42.7%) and those with disabilities (41%), in other cases of discrimination, the percentages are less than 32%.

- ✓ About child labor, in focus groups a difference was made between collaborative work at home and productive work (although there is not necessarily a payment or profit). In the first case, in general the perception is that it has a sense of collaboration. In the second case, it is repeatedly mentioned that parents force children and adolescents to work, which according to the perceptions expressed by the participants, violates their rights.

Of the group of children and adolescents consulted, a minimum percentage work, mainly in activities related to collaboration with their family. However, about 50% know other children and adolescents who work. The children and adolescents who work are mainly schoolmates and neighborhood friends of the survey participants. It is important to note that children and adolescents who work also study. The work they carry out is related to productive activities, but apparently not related to prohibited or risky activities, with the exception of street selling.

Regarding domestic work, 67.3% of the children and adolescents consulted say that they do it, however, when disaggregating by gender, we find that girls and female adolescents are the ones that carry out more of these activities (70.3% compared to 63.6% of males).

On the other hand, the consultation shows that more boys and male adolescent who work are paid (62.5%), while less girls and female adolescents receive payment (39%). This would account for the fact that men's activities are more related to the production and women's activities are related to unpaid domestic work.

In relation to the number of working hours, the majority of children and adolescents carry out work activities in the margin allowed by the Children and Adolescents Ecuadorian Law, for example 6 hours a day. However, it is noteworthy that female are the ones who work a greater number of hours.

The above information makes possible to identify that girls and female adolescent have higher levels of disadvantage in relation to child labor. They are more involved in domestic work activities, receive lower pay and work more hours daily. From the answers obtained in the consultation, the action of the State to prevent child labor is little or absent.

- ✓ Regarding protection against the use of drugs, cigarettes and alcohol, the general perception is that there is a lack of State action, and lack of control and security from the police to protect children and adolescents in different spaces.

According to the survey, in all spaces where children and adolescents develop, they are exposed to the consumption of drugs, alcohol or cigarettes. However, each of these spaces has a greater exposure to some of these products, in this way, in educational spaces there is a greater

exposure to drugs, in family spaces to alcohol, and in the neighborhood to cigarettes. In all cases as a second exposure option, the relationship with friends (schoolmates) is listed.

- ✓ Focus groups identify a number of situations that affect children and adolescents and violate their rights, such as human trafficking, smuggling of migrants, arrests and illegal migration. However, they cannot explain which rights are violated, that is, they do not identify the danger of these situations.
- ✓ In relation to the responsibility of the State, society and the family regarding the special protection of children and adolescents, throughout this chapter it is evident that both focus groups and the survey participants question the effectiveness in its fulfillment. Although in many cases, as noted above, it is mainly linked to control.

Children and adolescents consider that the protection of the adults towards them is given mainly in the family, the protection in educational spaces is little, and in other spaces the protection can even be non-existent.

Regarding the protection of pregnant adolescents, in the perception of those who have responded to the survey, both educational authorities and local public authorities, protect, respect and promote actions for the protection of their rights, as well as impel actions related to the sexual and reproductive health of children and adolescents, and there is an important level of protection in public events.

4.5. About the participation rights

Brief description

This group of rights are related to the paradigm shift, regarding children and adolescents, when they are recognized as subjects full of rights, and therefore the recognition of their social and civic role. They are related to the process of knowledge, access to information and decision making.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child recognizes the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as well as the right to access information, to express opinions and to be consulted on matters of concern to them. It recognizes the right of children and adolescents to be heard in administrative and judicial proceedings. This right implies the obligation to take into account the opinion of children and adolescents. Finally, it recognizes the right of children and adolescents to organize and to associate themselves, to hold meetings and to participate in public affairs.

Rights of Participation

- Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Right to information
- Right to freedom of expression, opinion
- Right to be consulted
- Right to be heard in all administrative and judicial proceedings
- Right to freedom of holding meetings
- Right to freedom of organization and association

Main Findings

Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion

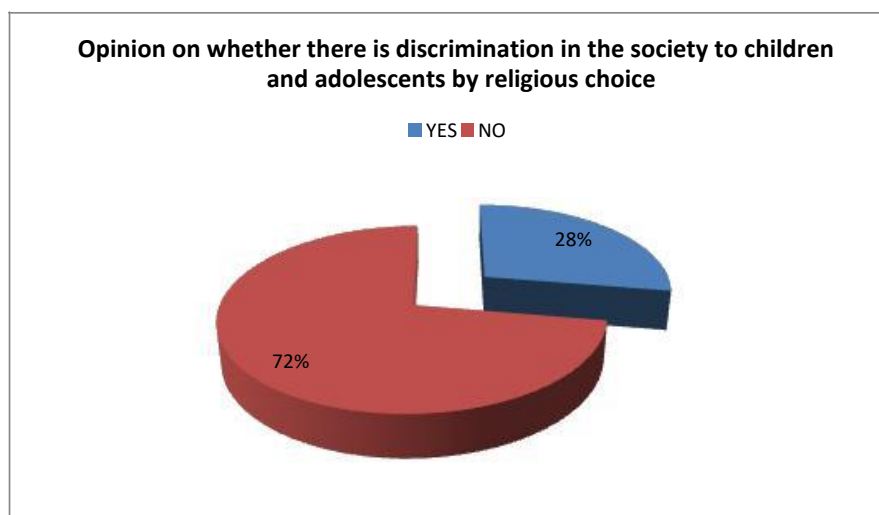
In focus groups, adolescents state that this is a right that is not fully fulfilled because it is parents who choose the beliefs of their children. They quote among other comments the following:

“The right to freedom of worship should be a right for older child, perhaps a teenager since a child of 2 or 3 years still cannot choose their own belief.”

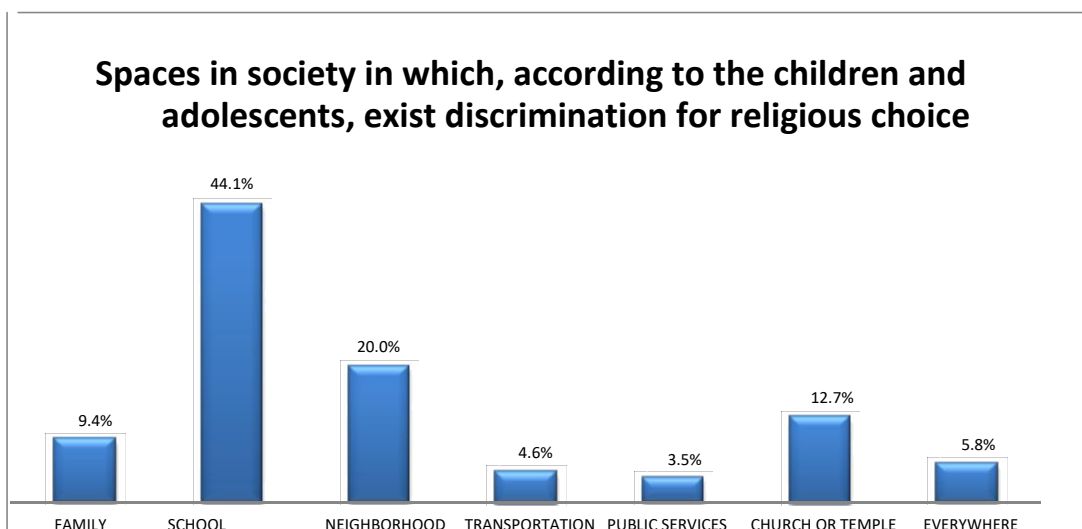
“Parents should not let their children grow up by talking to them just about God and intimidate them with God’s punishment when they do something bad.”

“Most parents influence their children to the Catholic religion.”

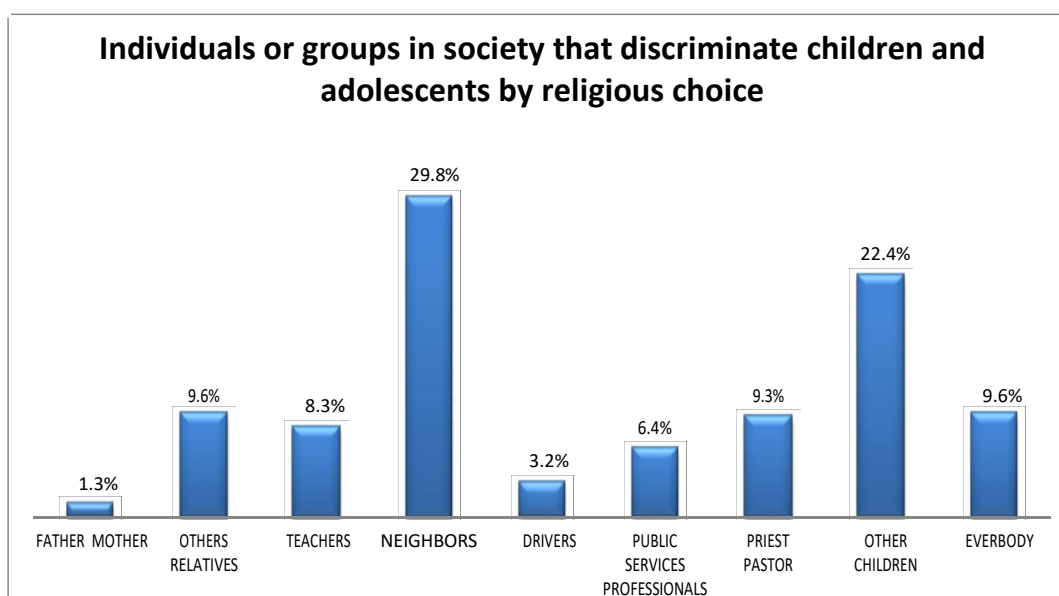
Regarding the question of the survey on whether they consider that there is discrimination in the society to children and adolescents by religious choice, 72% consider that there is not, whereas 28% said yes, especially in school (44.1%) and in the neighborhood (20%). According to the criteria of the children and adolescents, people who commit such discrimination are neighbors (29.8%) and children (22.4%).



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation



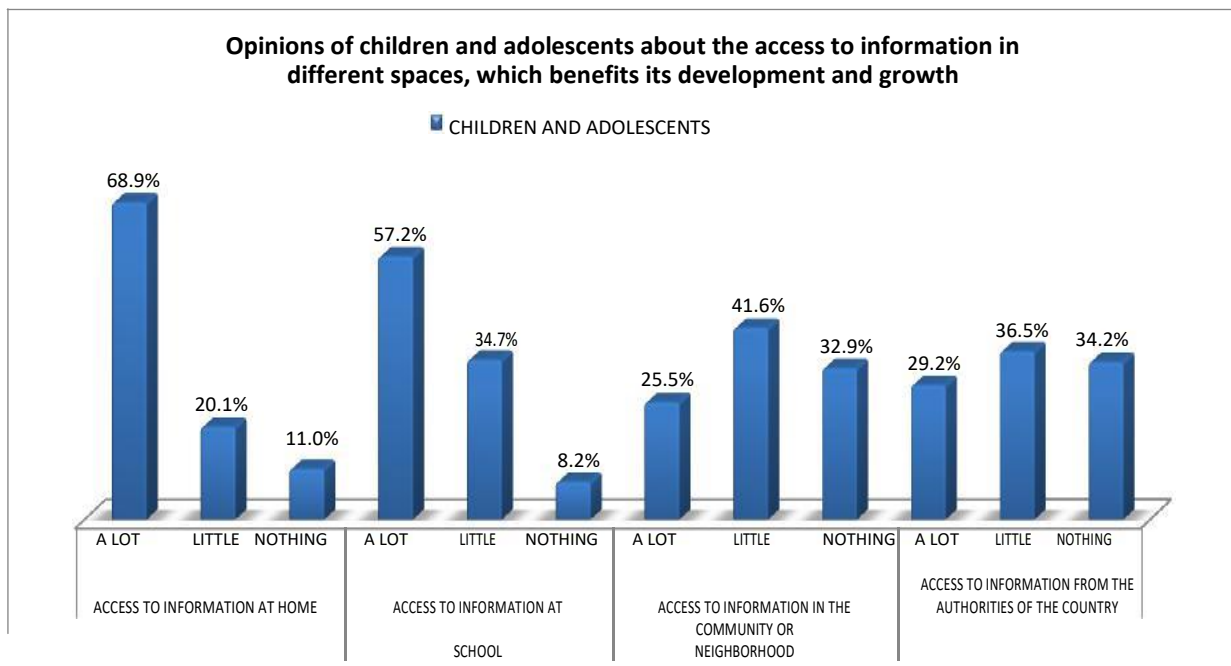
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016.
Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Right to information

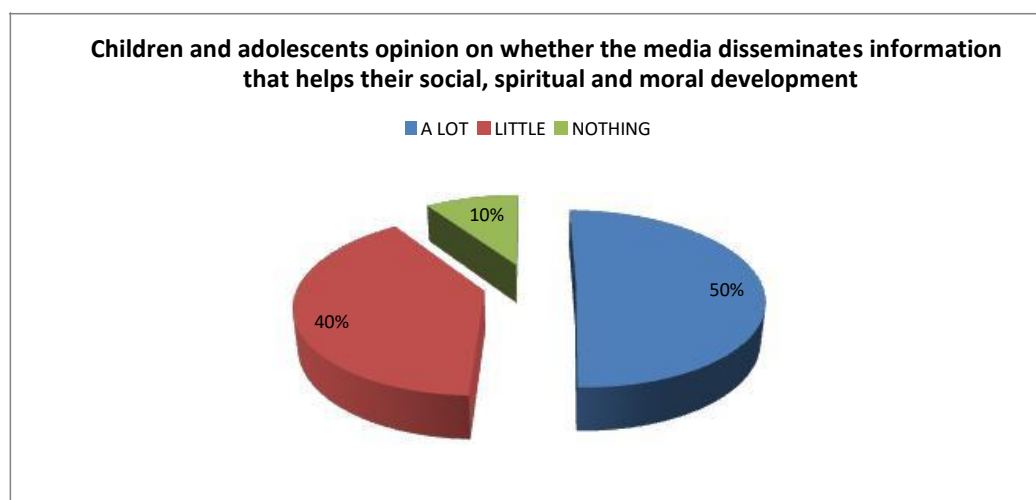
Regarding this right, in the survey children and adolescents were asked if they consider that they have access to information that benefits their intellectual, psychological and emotional growth and development. The answers differ for each of the spaces consulted. 68.9% and 57.2% of children and adolescents said there is a great deal of access at home and in school respectively, while in the community or neighborhood and from the authorities of the country or city 25.5% and 29.2%, respectively. Details are as follows:



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

These results coincide with those expressed in focus groups where it is mentioned that the local government does not provide specific information and it should be the government’s responsibility to inform parents and institutions of the rights established by the Convention. They also believe that society violates this right to the extent that information is not shared with children and adolescents, and only adults are informed.

In relation to the media, in the survey was investigated if they consider that they disseminate information that helps them for social, spiritual and moral development. 50% of participants believe that there is a lot of dissemination, 40% little and 10% nothing.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

About this, adolescents expressed some opinions:

“Bad information is worse than not having it.”

“No dissemination of correct information. Inform positive and helpful things.” “Media informs poorly”

“Media denies the information.”

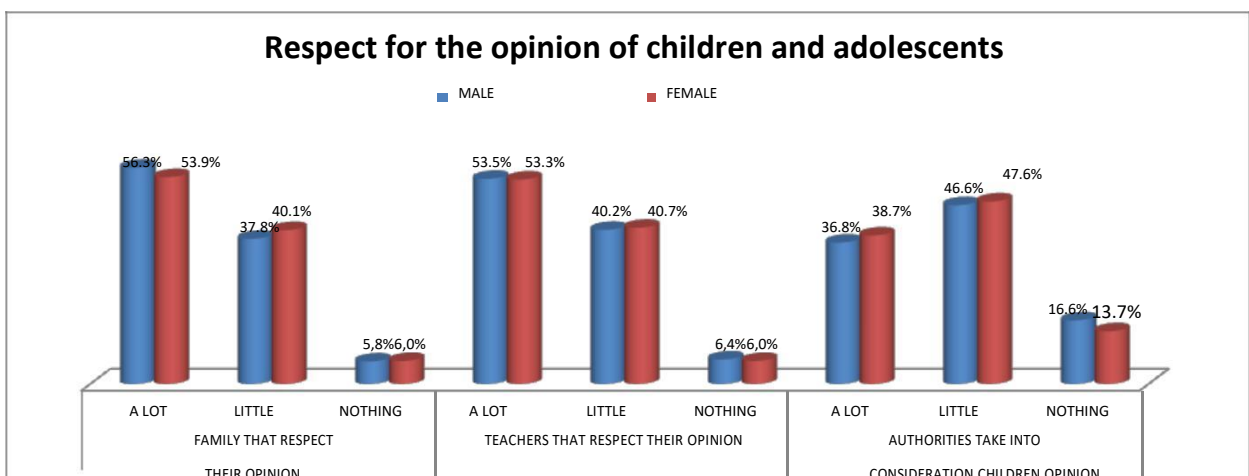
“When they do not inform us what is happening, sometimes they give us bad news or things that we do not understand.”

Right to freedom of expression and opinion

About this right, adolescents agree that, although there may be freedom to express their opinions in different spaces, they are not heard. *“They are not fulfilled because they do not listen to us, they only ask us things that adults are interested in hearing.” “Teachers say that something is bad and we are afraid to speak.” “The opinion of young people is not taken into consideration because decisions are made by adults and they do not know what we need and sometimes bad decisions are taken.” “At home is not fulfilled either, when we are in family and we talk, dad or mom tell us to shut up because this has nothing to do with us.” “Children cannot give their opinions freely.”*

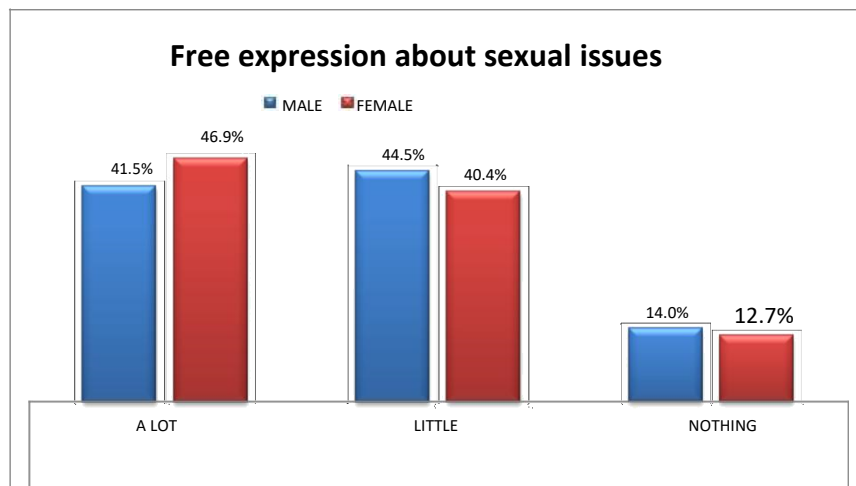
They also believe that freedom of expression is important because it allows them to say what they feel, *“when adults make decisions that affect us, we have the right to say freely what we think and they should take our opinion into account.”*

In the different surveys, on the other hand, the percentage of children and adolescents who believe that adults in the family, teachers and authorities take their opinion seriously is similar for the first two categories (between 53% and 56%) and falls with the third (37%). This information therefore ratifies the mentions and contributions established in focus groups since the percentage of respondents who estimate that their opinion is not considered by adults (little or nothing) is between 44% and 62%.



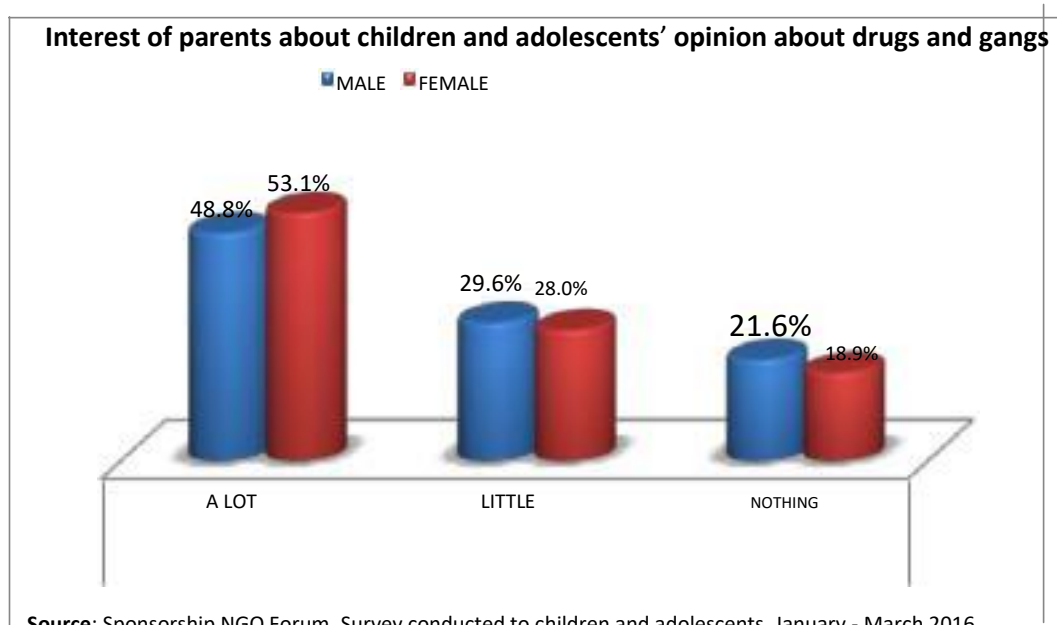
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

It was also asked if children and adolescents feel they can freely express their opinions on sexual issues and if these are respected, 44% believe that a lot, 43% that little and 13% that nothing. There are differences in the opinions among adolescents, 58% of male respondents state that there is little and no freedom compared to 53% of female.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Another question was related to the interest of their parents and authorities in listening to their opinion on the issue of drugs and gangs to make decisions. 51% consider that they are very interested, 29% little and 20% nothing.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. Prepared by: Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Right to be consulted

Most focus groups express the concern of adolescents about non-compliance with this right, they say *“we are not consulted on the things that interest us”*; *“If they make or change a work plan the authorities of our communities do not consult us”*; *“it is not fulfilled, they never consult us, not even the authorities”*; *“at the household level sometimes is met, at the community level is not met, we are never consulted”*; *“when there are programmes in schools, authorities do not ask whether students like them or not”*; *“parents violate this right because the decisions are taken only by them.”*

They also identify as a concern that before making a law, authorities should consult the children, but in the country that is not fulfilled, because *“the laws are only discussed by adults no matter if this affects us, when a law is proposed they should consult the children and adolescents.”*

Right to be heard in all administrative and judicial proceedings

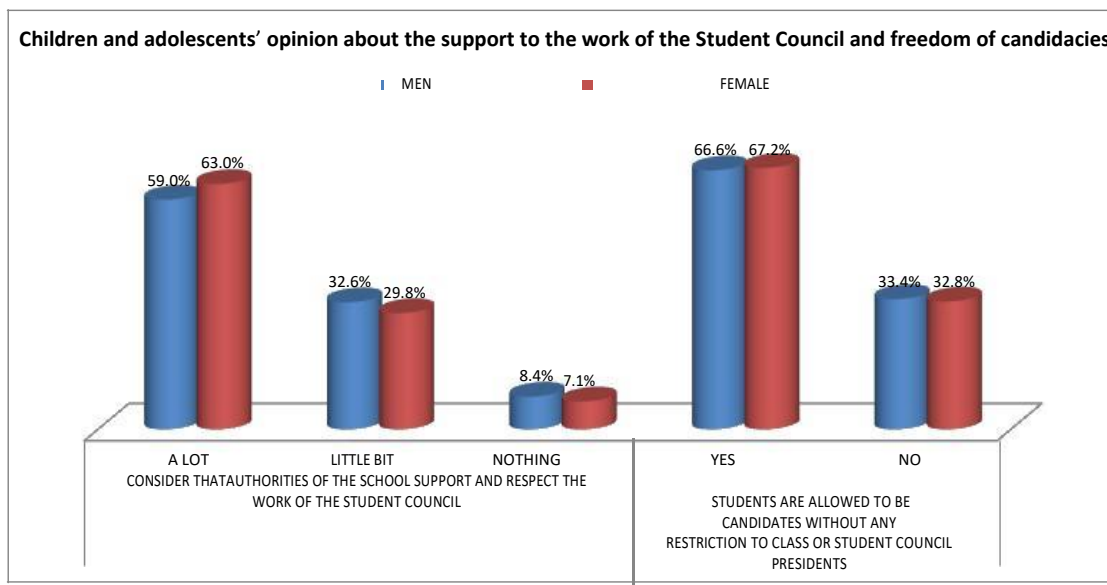
About this right there is no full identification, in addition to the global statements about the need to be heard in all spaces and that their opinions are considered, in a focus group, adolescents said they should be heard in legal proceedings but

“lawyers and judges breach it because of the interest of money, since they do not allow the opportunity to prove innocence.”

Rights to freedom of meeting, organization and association

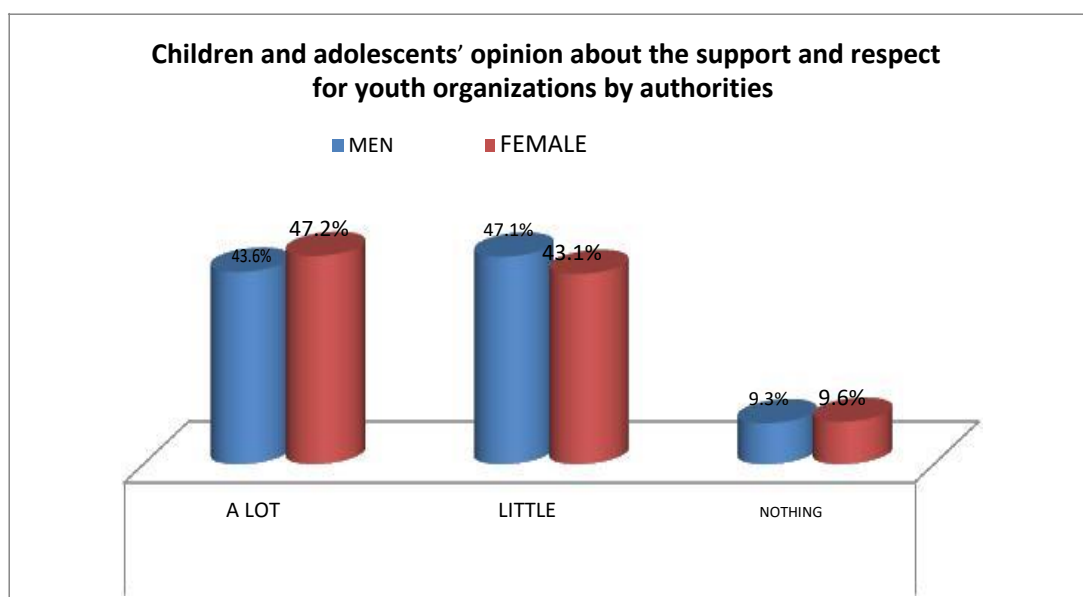
In several focus groups, adolescents state that adults do not allow them to hold meetings, *“when they know that adolescents are meeting they complain and call the police and do not let us meet.”* They also point out that although they do participate in some organizations at times in the community, adult leaders do not take them into consideration.

Five related questions were raised in the surveys. The first inquired whether in the school they allow students to be candidates without any restriction to class or to the Student Council presidents. In this regard, it was consulted whether the authorities support and respect the work of the student council. 66% of children and adolescents consulted said that they can be candidates without restriction and 61% say that the authorities strongly support the council, compared to 31% who believe there is little support and 8% that there is not.



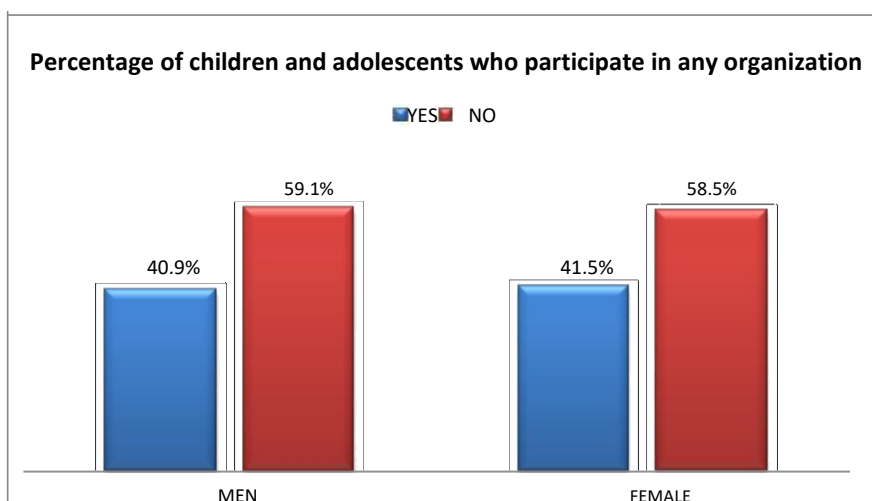
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

The third question was linked to the support and respect of the authorities of their city to youth organizations. The children and adolescents consulted believe in a higher percentage (55%) that they support little and nothing compared to 45% who say that they support a lot.



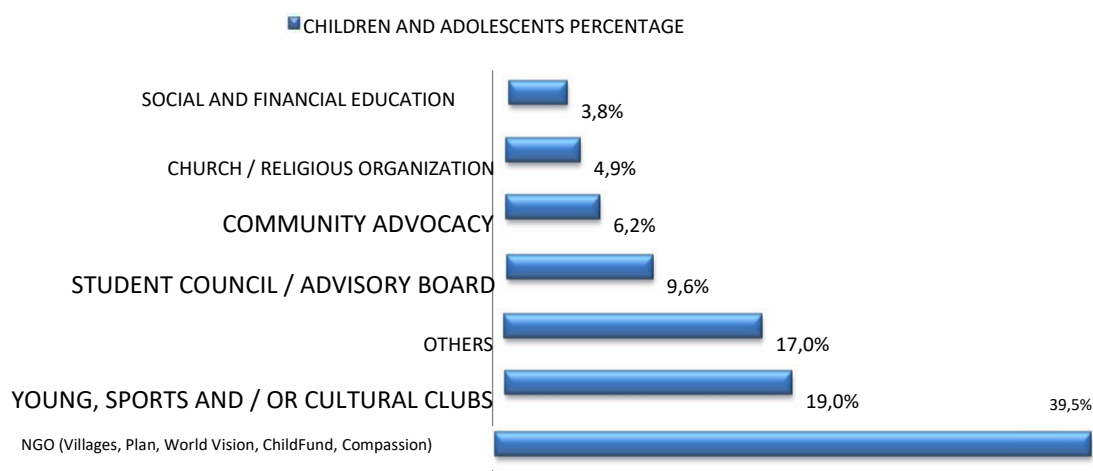
Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Finally, it was consulted if and in which organizations they participate. 59% of children and adolescents say yes, and especially those sponsored by Sponsorship NGO (39.5%). A wide variety of organizations are mentioned just as detailed in the respective chart.



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

TYPES OF ORGANIZATION IN WHICH CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS PARTICIPATE



Source: Sponsorship NGO Forum. Survey conducted to children and adolescents. January - March 2016. **Prepared by:** Nathalia Novillo – DECIDE Studies Corporation

Conclusions

- ✓ About the rights to participation, the results of focus groups and the surveys show that children and adolescents often debate and question the central adult position in the family, in school and in the neighborhood, as well as the invisibility that they have in front of the authorities and the media.
- ✓ At the same time, they recognize that there are spaces for their free expression and opinion, but that does not transcend and rarely these opinions are listened to and in only few occasions are they consulted on decisions that affect them directly.
- ✓ The limitations for the exercise of the rights to participation are summarized as follows:

- It is the parents who choose the beliefs of their children. 3 out of 10 children and adolescents state that people are discriminated by religious choice, especially in school and the neighborhood. It is the neighbors and the children who commit that discrimination.
- The government does not provide specific information. The right to information is fulfilled mainly at home and in school but not in the community/ neighborhood nor by national and local authorities.
- 5 out of 10 children and adolescents surveyed believe that the media disseminate little or no information that supports their social, spiritual and moral development.
- More than half of children and adolescents say that the authorities do not consider their opinion in general, nor in the specific case of the freedom to express their criteria about sexuality and drugs, and there is a little support and respect to youth organizations, despite that 6 out of 10 children and adolescents belong to an organization.

V. Conclusions and Recommendations

It is important to emphasize that the children and adolescents who participated in the consultation process, especially the adolescents in focus groups, have a great potential to be leaders because of their capacity for reflection, objectivity, sensitivity and their contributions.

The main conclusions and recommendations are:

About the knowledge of the Convention

- The adolescents who participated in focus groups know little or nothing about the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which does not mean that they do not know about their rights. It would seem that the main reference that they have, although they do not say it explicitly, is the Childhood and Adolescence Law and the Constitution of the Republic.
- The rights they mention and those they discuss are rather related to access to certain basic and universal services such as health, education, and recreation among others. It would seem that they are understood as a list, but they do not take into consideration the exercising of those rights. That explains why, for example, the Principle of the Superior Interest of the Child is absent, the understanding of a more active and purposeful participation, and even show a lack of knowledge about the ownership of rights and the scope of its meaning.

- In the construction of their imaginations about what they conceive as obligations, we can see that the central adult discourse has deeply penetrated in relation to the fact that the fulfillment of their rights is subject to the fulfillment of obligations, with coercive and punitive meanings.
- This leads us to reflect on the weakness with which some Organizations are working for the promotion and the exercise of the rights that finally have an impact on the role that children and adolescents have in this respect.
- During the consultation process, specifically in focus groups, when adolescents learned about the meaning of the Convention, they expressed their enthusiasm and interest by reflecting more deeply about several aspects of the Convention. For example, they reflected on the recognition of the responsibility of the State, family and their own community, regarding the responsibility they have to guarantee their rights and ensure the full exercising of those rights.

About the fulfillment of the rights of children and adolescents

Among the positive aspects regarding the fulfillment of the rights of children and adolescents of this consultation, the following can be highlighted:

- There is a very positive measure regarding the fulfillment of the rights to education. Of particular note is the access to public services.
- The perception of the protection of rights by the authorities, in schools in general and specifically in relation to the rights of pregnant adolescents is reiterated.
- The right to play and recreation is fulfilled despite the limitations that the focus groups expressed.
- Children and adolescents in a significant percentage are part of organizations.

The negative aspects that can be concluded from this consultation are:

- There is a strong limitation for the fulfillment of rights in all the spaces in which children and adolescents move, and often it is related to the social interactions especially among their peers. From the results of this study that have been analyzed in the body of the report, it is revealed that it is mostly the children and adolescents themselves who are doing the discrimination. This is confirmed when, in focus groups, adolescents highlight the strong discrimination that exists in society: by poverty, ethnicity, disability, religion, and are able to identify many forms of such discrimination.
- There is a widespread perception in children and adolescents that their voice is not really heard and incorporated into the decision making by adults. This perception extends to all spaces, both public and private (family, educational space, community, city, neighborhood, government authorities). They point out that in some cases the formality of listening to them is fulfilled without being evident in the decisions adopted.
- Despite the fact that, according to children and adolescents perception, a reduction in the percentage of violence and maltreatment is evident, the results show that this problem persists from adults toward children and adolescents. However, the spaces identified by children and adolescents as the most violent are the neighborhood and community, where neighbors are responsible for different forms of violation of rights. It should be noted that in educational spaces this problem have been reduced, but it must also be considered.
- In relation to what was pointed out in the previous point, there is a repositioning of an adult attitude, which leads us to think that adults in general have the “duty” to discipline children and adolescents, to reprimand them and even impose punishments.

As a counterpart to this view, we find that the children and adolescents surveyed consider that it is necessary to strengthen the levels of coercive control of parents, educational authorities, and national and local government, for the “protection of their rights.”

- It is necessary to note that in the responses of children and adolescents to situations of sexual violence and child labor, the results when they were asked if they have been victims are mostly negative, however when consulting them if they know others children and adolescents who have been victims, the percentages rise significantly. It would seem that there is a concealment of these situations to avoid being directly exposed as victims, which also reduces the possibilities of access to special protection. This situation is also evident in

focus groups, in which adolescents refer to different issues that affect the rights of children and adolescents, do so in third person or indicate that they are aware of such situations by reference to third parties.

- In general, adolescents in focus groups identify that there is a weakness in the administration of justice regarding the resolution of cases related to the protection of their rights and the punishment of those responsible for their lack of protection and violation.

In addition, they identify that there is no real possibility of being heard in these spaces and less that their opinion is incorporated into the resolution of the judicial authorities.

About the responsibility for non-compliance of rights

Children and adolescents identify parents as responsible for situations that affect them, mentioning that there is a lack of care and protection. Pointing out in this way that there is no clarity regarding that the responsibility for the protection of rights is shared with the State and society, and that it is not up to the family to substitute the State's responsibility.

Recommendations

The above mentioned conclusions lead us to reflect that we have lost the conceptual - ethical reference about the new paradigm that underpins the Doctrine of Integral Protection of Rights and that it mainly recognizes children as subjects of rights. In this sense, it is necessary to investigate the different spaces in which the life of children and adolescents develop, beyond official statistics, promoting processes of dialog and reflection among schoolmates about the following aspects:

- How the situations of threat or violation of rights that children and adolescents live are being solved.
- What is affecting the relations of neighbors and the community with children and adolescents to the point that it becomes one of the main spaces that threaten and violate their rights?
- What are the situations and conceptions that are being handled in the Ecuadorian society, which lead to the perception by children and adolescents with great sensitivity, that there are worrying levels of discrimination in different ways, and that the main discriminating group are the children and adolescents themselves?
- Addressing children and adolescents' concerns about the quality of education, especially when it relates to the future and access to higher education.

It is necessary that organizations working with children and adolescents ensure an adequate process of training and promotion of the rights of children and adolescents in relation to its maximum instrument, which is the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which should not only disseminate the list of rights but above all, the understanding of the meaning of the recognition of children and adolescents as subjects of rights. In this sense, it is necessary to recover the understanding of what the paradigm shift from the Doctrine of the Irregular Situation to the Doctrine of Comprehensive Protection meant.

It is also necessary that organizations support children and adolescents, their families and communities to understand the enforcement of rights and why it is important to take steps towards justice in order to ensure that rights are fully guaranteed.

This report must be shared with the Committee on the Rights of the Child so that the Committee can hear the voice of the children. This report must be seen as a complement to any other reports submitted as the Committee monitors the Ecuadorian State's compliance with the Convention.

SPSS files: survey databases and files with processed data