



Thematic report on PERU: the Child and tauromachy (bullfighting)

Failure to comply with the Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Thematic report on Perú: The Child and Bullfighting. Failure to comply with the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Summary

The following report is presented by the Fondation Franz Weber and, as it did with Portugal, Colombia and México, draws the attention of the Committee to the existence of activities involving children and adolescents below the age of 18 (hereinafter children) that violate Peru's obligations under the Convention. We refer to the physical and mental violence that children are exposed to who attend bullfighting schools, who train and perform in bullrings and other bullfighting spectacles, and who attend bullfighting spectacles. The situation that exists in Perú in relation to children involved in bullfighting violates Articles 3, 6, 19.1, 24.3, 27.1, 28.2, 29, 31, 32 and 36 of the Convention.

Thus, the State party has not adopted the necessary legislative and administrative measures to ensure children such protection and care as is necessary for their wellbeing and to protect against injury and against physical and mental abuse in the area of bullfighting. The physical, mental, spiritual and moral development of children is severely compromised by the danger linked to the activity and to traumatic consequences and after-effects of viewing such an event. Bullfighting schools and practical lessons involving participation in bullfights do not foster the development of those educational values incumbent on the State Parties. The performance in and attendance of children at bullfights are recreational activities that are not appropriate for their age. Children are subjected to a form of exploitation by adults that harms their welfare, in that it compromises their physical and psychological integrity and could result in the economic exploitation of children.

The Committee has already declared its position on this matter on two separate occasions, with the most recent being the Concluding observations on the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of **Colombia**, adopted by the Committee at its sixty-eighth session (January 2015)¹:

"D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24, para.3, 28, para. 2, 34, 37 (a) and 39)

Freedom of the child from all forms of violence

27. The Committee is deeply concerned at the high levels of violence which children are confronted with and in particular about:

f) The physical and mental well-being of children involved in the training of bullfighting, and performances associated with it, as well as the mental and emotional well-being of child spectators who are exposed to the violence of bullfighting;

28. In the light of its general comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence and recalling the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children of 2006 (A/61/299), the Committee urges the State party to prioritize the elimination of all forms of violence against children, and in particular to:

f) With the aim of prohibiting the participation of children in bullfighting, including corralejas, take the necessary legislative and administrative measures in order to protect all children involved in bullfighting training and performances, as well as in their capacity as spectators, and raise awareness on the physical and mental violence associated with bullfighting and its impact on children;

H. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 b)-(d), 38, 39 and 40)

59. Economic exploitation, including child labour

The Committee notes the legal and policy measures taken by the State party to protect children from economic exploitation. However, it is concerned at the high number of children involved in child labour. In particular, it remains deeply concerned about the persistent involvement of children in dangerous and/or degrading work such as agricultural labour in illegal crops, drug dealing, illegal mining and bullfighting".

¹http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fCOL%2fC%2f4-5%20ADVANCE%20UNEDITED%20VERSION&Lang=en

2) And also, the Concluding observations on the third and fourth periodic reports of **Portugal** CRC/C/PRT/CO/3-4 31 (January 2014)².

Methodology

The main sources of information used in the research leading to this report include articles in the written press, documents and items from the bullfighting industry, publications regarding bullfighting events, television reports and public interviews, images from videos taken by bullfighting enthusiasts, social media and legislation published in official journals, observation *in situ* and telephone calls to bullfighting schools.

1) CHILDREN WHO ATTEND BULLFIGHTING SCHOOLS AND TAKE PART IN BULLFIGHTS

Children who train and perform in bullfights receive theoretical and practical **lessons on how to harm, wound and kill a living mammal** with lethal blows using sharp-tipped metal instruments such as lances (“puya”), harpoon-type spears (“banderillas” and “rejones”, swords (“estoque”) and daggers (“puntilla”), compromising their physical integrity when practising in private and at public events where they face the animal.

Banderillas³



Estoque⁴



Rejones⁵



Puya⁶



² http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CRC/Shared%20Documents/PRT/CRC_C_PRT_CO_3-4_16303_E.pdf

³ Reglamento Taurino del Rímac. Rímac Bullfighting Regulations: Article 203. Harpoon-type spears (“banderillas”): 70 cm. with a hook-shaped spear of the following measurements: 6 cm. iron, 4 cm. spear, width 1.6 cm. Black harpoon-type spears (“banderillas negras”): 70 cm. pole, covered with crimped black paper, 8 cm. blade, and spear of 61 mm. with width of 2 cm.

⁴ Reglamento Taurino del Rímac. Rímac Bullfighting Regulations: Article 120. Steel sword. The regulations do not specify measurements but Colombian Regulations can be used as a guide, length of 88 cm. from handle to tip.

⁵ Harpoon-type spears (“rejones”). The regulations do not specify measurements but Colombian Regulations can be used as a guide: total length 1.60 m., the lance to comprise a 6 cm. long housing and a double-edged blade of 15cm. for bullocks and 18 cm. for bulls, blade width of 25 mm. in both cases. The upper part of the housing to have a 6 cm. long and 7 mm. diameter crosspiece at right angles to the spear blade.

⁶ Reglamento Taurino del Rímac. Rímac Bullfighting Regulations: Article 215. Lances (“puyas”) of triangular pyramid shape with straight edges or blades, of sharp, pointed steel, sharpened and of the following dimensions: 29 mm. length each edge, by 19 mm. width at the base of each face or triangle. (...) taken from the centre of the base of each triangle, 30 mm. in diameter at the lowest part of the base and 60 mm. in length, finished with a fixed steel crosspiece, with cylindrical arms, 50 mm. from one end to the base of the stop and with a thickness of 8 mm.

Description of how some of the weapons are used:

Puya: a pointed instrument used to spear the bull and pierce the animal's flesh at the base of the neck, causing wounds up to 20 cm deep. The aim of this action is to prevent bulls from being able to lift their head during the fight, as the pain produced by the wounds and the bleeding onto the muscles of the region, near the spinal column, forces them to keep their neck in a straight line.

Banderillas y rejones: the bullfighter drives these weapons, which have a sharp harpoon-like point, into the animal's back, where they are designed to catch on and remain stuck in the internal tissue, in such a way that the bull's movement in the ring causes the banderillas to tear at the flesh even more.

Espada or estoque: the bullfighter kills the bull with the sword. The bullfighter will try to reach the heart. Often, the sword may be plunged many times into the same area, destroying the lungs or other internal organs and causing the animal to vomit blood.

Puntilla: if after one or more blows with the estoque the bull collapses but does not die, the animal is killed using the puntilla dagger. The dagger is plunged into the nape of the bull and used to cut the spinal cord.



Bullfighting schools Paco Céspedes - Enrique Díaz y Luis Lopez - 2013.

Bullfighting schools, training on cattle farms and performances in public

Description

Children learn to bullfight at official schools and on private farms. At the close of this investigation, 12 bullfighting schools had been identified at which children from **6 years of age** and upwards receive theory classes and practice with live cattle. Some schools accept children of **any age** who show interest. The total number of bullfighting schools across the country is greater, and some bullfighting schools whose details are not publically or privately available have been identified as a result of posters advertising bullfighting schools contests (concursos de escuelas taurinas) or “bullfighting workshops for children” (talleres taurinos para niños). For example, the “Macusani” bullfighting school (Puno) (escuela taurina de Macusani)⁷ or the Macarena bullfighting school (Arequipa) (escuela taurina la Macarena)⁸, which have an online presence (Facebook, blog), but no address or telephone number.

⁷ <http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2013/04/primera-encerrona-de-la-escuela-taurina.html>

⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/aficiontaurinaAQPSUR?fref=ts>

No.	NAME OF THE BULLFIGHTING SCHOOLS	Province
1	Escuela Taurina de Rímac	Lima
2	Escuela Taurina “El Trini”	Lima
3	Escuela taurina Luis Miguel Rubio	Lima
4	Escuela Taurina de Canta	Lima
5	Escuela taurina de Lurín	Lima
6	Escuela taurina de Lima	Lima
7	Escuela Taurina de Chuquibamba	Arequipa
8	Escuela Taurina Paco Chávez	Arequipa
9	Escuela Taurina Paco Céspedes	Lambayeque
10	Escuela Taurina Del Cruce de Monsefú	Lambayeque
11	Escuela Taurina Yoyo Flores	Cajamarca
12	Escuela Taurina de Tarma	Junín

For further information, full details of all the bullfighting schools are available: location, director, age of admission, methodology and training schedules, joining fees, contact details and telephone.



Chuquibamba Bullfighting School

These bullfighting schools are underground since **they do not legally or officially exist and are not subject to any kind of control.**

The bullfighting schools investigated are divided into beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Classes take place three times per week, with intense training in summer



(January-March). At beginner level, the basic bullfighting steps are taught in open spaces with model bull's horns, use of the sword and the various capes used at different stages of the fight, as well as master classes in which emphasis is placed on their "manhood and superiority as future matadors". Intermediate level focuses on the loss of fear, taking students to the country or farms where they train with animals. At advanced level, the student fights in public displays and perfects the technique for killing the bull. At this stage, bullfighting schools stage public displays featuring children to raise money for the school and national "Bullfighting Schools Contests" are organised.

Some students of bullfighting schools identified are: Guillermo Hidalgo Palacios, Saul Ilizarbe, Julio Ilizarbe, Francisco Martín Rondinel Ayala, Renatto Motta del Solar "Motita", Santiago Espinoza, Bernabé Riveros, Saúl García, Félix Arone, Braulio Luna, Joaquín Fernández, Edú Sucñier, Juvenal Sanchez, Juan Diego Astoquilca Arias, Félix Arone "El Felix", Carlos Revilla, Enrique Díaz, Junior Ordoñez, Carlos Martínez Alvarado, Luis López, Armyni Muños Vega "El Jhoyi", Wilson Oscar Solano Paredes y Carlos Alvarado.

On 18/2/2013, the "La República" newspaper published an article on the Arequipa bullfighting school, attended by children as young as 8 years old, such as "Morgan" and "Ashley", to "learn the art of killing", recognising the risks and danger they face killing bulls "five times their weight" as part of their training on private farms.

The children take part in bullfighting shows as "child bullfighters" in the ring or as part of the matador's entourage or assistants ("cuadrilla"), putting their physical integrity at constant risk.

The Peruvian junior bullfighter Andrés Roca Rey, "El Andi", has become the example to follow for all child bullfighters training in Peru, similar to Michelito in México and Jesús Enrique Colombo in Venezuela. Following years of training with weapons, this child has been fighting in public displays and killing bulls for 10 years. He debuted on 4/11/2007 in Lima's Plaza de Ancho.



Andrés Roca Rey

Some examples of pupils at bullfighting schools and children performing in a professional capacity

Bullfighting schools

2008 and 2009. Bullfighting School Acho. Participating children: Santiago Espinoza, Renatto Motta del Solar, Francisco Rondinel Ayala, Saul Ilizarbe, Julio Ilizarbe,





5/4/2014. Lima Bullfighting School. Participating children: Osmar Enrique "Maquito", Hipolito Bravo "El Abeja", Denis Muñoa, Miguel Pumacayo "Miguelete" y Saul Pumacayo.

05 DE ABRIL

HORA 3:30 PM

MAQUITO

EL ABEJA

MUNDA

EL ZAR

EL CURRY

SALU

MIGUELETE

EL ESCRIVANO

ENCERRONA TAURINA EVALUATIVA
CIERRE DE CICLO VERANO 2014
ORGANIZA: ESCUELA TAURINA DE LIMA
COLABORACIÓN: S/.20.00

QUIERES SER TORERO PROFESIONAL
TE BRINDAMOS LA OPORTUNIDAD DE
PARTICIPAR EN EL CURSO ANUAL 2014

Nº 000020

PLAZA DE TOROS TOROKUNA ESTACIÓN PARADERO MARÍA AUXILIADORA
TOMAR MOVILIDAD LOMAS SAN GABRIEL HASTA PARADERO COMPLEJO
IPD JOSÉ CARLOS MARIATEGUI

ENTRADA Nº 000020

INFORMES E INSCRIPCIONES AL 99661903 / 997728265

Bullfighting workshops

29/3/2014. Beginner's teaching workshop for children - Pachacamac (Lima)
<http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2014/03/apetasur-inaugura-primer-taller-taurino> 31.html

**PRIMER TALLER TAURINO
PARA LOS NIÑOS**

Inicio: 29 Marzo, 5 y 12 de Abril
Horario 10 a 12 a.m.

INSCRIPCIONES GRATUITAS !

Dirigido por el Matador de toros EMILIO SERNA

Lugar: Fundo **LA ESPERANZA** Pachacamac
Informes: 99830 5156 Mail: apetasur@hotmail.com

ORGANIZA: **PETASUR**
ASOCIACIÓN DE TOREROS TAUROPAN
PERU 2008 S.R.L.

Bullfighting Schools Contests and calls for aspiring child bullfighters

11/2008. V Trujillo Search for a Bullfighter Contest. Winner: aspiring bullfighter Anderson Baca, from the Cusco province, was gored in the groin at 16 years old.

<http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2008/11/el-aspirante-torero-anderson-baca.html>

11/2009. VI Trujillo Search for a Bullfighter Contest. Distinguished participant: Jorge Mendez "El Coco" de Trujillo, 10 years old.



July-September 2013. 1st National "Chuquizongo Search for a Bullfighter" Contest. Ages 12 and upwards for both sexes.

10/2013. I Sicaya Bullfighting Schools Contest. The winners are students of the Tarma bullfighting school, Wilson Solano and Carlos Alvarado.

June-August 2014. 2nd National "Chuquizongo Search for a Bullfighter" Contest. Ages 12 and upwards.

Public displays



Child bullfighters - Acho Bullring-Lima

7/2009. Appearance of the child bullfighter Andrés Roca Rey. Feria taurina de Lajas



MONUMENTAL PLAZA DE TOROS
SIGAYA
Capital taurina de la Región Centro del Perú
CONCURSO DE ESCUELAS TAURINAS
 "ACHO" - "CHICLAYO" - "TARMA" - "CENTRO"
 DOMINGO
06 3:00 pm.
 OCTUBRE 2013
 POR PRIMERA VEZ EN EL CENTRO DEL PERÚ
 C.T. FEROSPERU **SI. 5.00** Entrada General:
4 BECERRAS DE PURA CASTA 4

12/2009. Child bullfighters Jesús Enrique Colombo (12) and Andrés Roca Rey (13) with aspiring child bullfighters from the Acho bullfighting school: Estuard Gamarra e Israel Pito.

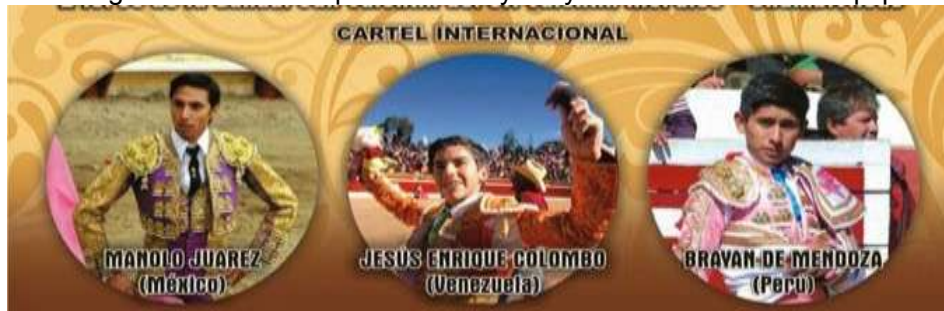


26/9/2011. Bullfighting child Enrique Colombo after the bullfight with other child bullfighters who accompany and assist him. Querocotillo, Cajamarca



<http://puertagrandevenezuela.blogspot.com/2011/09/puerta-grande-para-jesus-enrique.html>

27/4/2014. Child bullfighters Jesús Enrique Colombo y Brayan de Mendoza – Arequipa



1/5/2011. Child bullfighters Renatto Motta del Solar y Juan Pedro Herrera.



26/7/2011. Child bullfighters Santiago Espinoza - Ayacucho.



1/5/2011. Child bullfighters Enrique Mendez Perú - Trujillo, La Libertad **Enrique Mendez**

28/11/2011. Child bullfighters Jesús Enrique Colombo - Villa María del Triunfo, Lima.



28/7/2011. Child bullfighters Enrique Mendez - Trujillo, La Libertad.

2/5/2012. Child bullfighters Enrique Mendez. The child suffered an accident during this event:
<http://tardedetoros.blogspot.com/2010/05/resumen-del-festejo-taurino-realizado.html>

Legislation

There is no legislation regulating either bullfighting schools or the training of children as “matadors”. This legal void is exploited to instruct children in an extremely violent environment.

There is no countrywide legislation that regulates the participation and work of children at bullfighting shows. Current regulation applies to those public displays in the Acho (Lima) and Vizcaíno (Chota)⁹, bullrings which expressly recognises the figure of “child bullfighters” “matadors” known as “becerristas” (“fighters of young bulls”), these being “**child bullfighters under the age of 14 who fight bulls with the permission of their parents and the authorisation of the appropriate judge**”.

This means that children can participate as “child bullfighters and matadors” from any age until the age of 14, and that from 15 onwards they are considered to be adult bullfighters. This is corroborated by Artists Law n° 28131, which regulates the participation of children as artists in “becerradas”, or fights with young bulls, recognising that a minor may take part from birth and has the same social benefits and rights as an adult.

In the Plaza de toros de Acho (Acho Bullring, Lima) alone numerous shows starring “becerristas” have been recorded. For example, Andrés Roca Rey, Antonio Rojas Tovar “El Tony”, Enrique Sebastián, Jhofiére Muñoz “El Jhoyi”, Joselito Riquelme Jr., Luis Jave, Marlith Sánchez “La Faraona”, Miguel Ángel Espinoza, Nilton Espinoza, Ruy Delgado, Bryán Huayta, Jorge “Coco” Méndez Geldres, Stewar Gamarra, Jhair Roman, Joselito Riquelme “Joselito II”, “Yoyo” Flores¹⁰.

Child bullfighters appear in performances for which an entrance fee is charged, making this a form of **child exploitation**. This work activity runs contrary to Law 27337, which approved the Code of Children and Adolescents, with the following wording, since these activities are highly detrimental to children’s physical and mental wellbeing:

- Article 22: Adolescents (12-18 years) may not work if the work activity carries any risk or danger, or is damaging to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

- Article 51: Children under 12 years of age may only work in exceptional circumstances if such work is not harmful to their health or development.

Some accidents of child bullfighters

Children suffer accidents both in private training sessions and in public shows. In Peru, information regarding bullfighting accidents is jealously guarded and in the case of child bullfighters is not made publically available. Therefore, information about accidents has been compiled from videos taken by bullfighting enthusiasts and local press. It should be mentioned that the “Escuela taurina de Lima” (Lima bullfighting school) offers private health insurance for child “becerristas”.

⁹ Reglamento taurino de espectáculos taurinos de la municipalidad del Rímac, de 14/9/1999, Acuerdo de Concejo 090-99 y Reglamento General de espectáculos taurinos de la provincia de Chota, Resolución de Alcaldía n° 222-007. Bullfighting regulations governing bullfighting displays in the municipality of Rímac, 14/9/1999, Agreement of the Council 090-99 and General Regulations governing bullfighting shows in the province of Chota, Mayoral Resolution n° 222-007.

¹⁰ Historia Taurina del Perú

http://dikeyfernandez.es.tl/E-2008-d—Escalaf%F3n-del-Per%FA-Taurino-2008-_-Becerristas%2C-Rejoneadores-y-Aficionados.htm

<http://dikeyfernandez.es.tl/E-2009-d--Escalaf%F3n-de-Becerristas%2C-Rejoneadores-y-Aficionados.htm>



Doctors and surgeons practicing bullfighting accident with a child (Plaza de Toros de Acho - Acho Bullring-Lima, 12/2012)

Trujillo. 16/11/2008. Goring between the legs leaves child bullfighter Anderson Baca Ponce unconscious.

<http://enlacenacional.com/2008/11/18/torero-de-17-anos-fue-embestido-por-toro-en-trujillo/>



SEGURO DE RIESGO TAURINO

Emergencias Taurinas

De acuerdo a la normatividad que establece el Ministerio de Trabajo y Promoción del Empleo referente a Empresas que tienen Alto Riesgo es por ello que se ha creado el Seguro de Riesgo Taurino.

El Seguro de Riesgo Taurino te cubre :

- Accidente por asta de toro
- Cirugía Taurina
- Hospitalización
- Complicaciones que se puedan presentar después de la cirugía
- Curaciones de heridas ocasionadas por asta de toro
- Medicinas

Contamos con :

- Crujano Taurino Dr. Cesar Baltazar Mateo
- Médicos en las diversas especialidades quirúrgicas
- Clínica Particular

¿Quiénes pueden acceder a este seguro?

- Matadores de Toros Nacionales y Extranjeros
- Matadores de Novillos Toros o Novilleros con o sin Picadores
- Alumnos de la Escuela Taurina
- **Becerristas**
- Hregoneros de toros
- Picadores
- Banderilleros
- Aficionados Prácticos
- Puntilleros

¿Que debo hacer para obtener este beneficio?

- Es pagar mensualmente una cuota de acuerdo a la Categoría Profesional

EMPRESA ESCUELA TAURINA DE LIMA
TORERO DE LOS HELICÓPTEROS S.A.C.

2009. Andres Roca Rey suffers an accident during his debut in the Acho bullring.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAovQ8cWDqo>



2009. Child bullfighters Marlis Sanchez and Jhofiere Muñoz, from the "Yoyo Flores" bullfighting school, suffer an accident during their debut. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGGupfABS74>



2009. A child suffers an accident in Matucana. Title: "bloody goring of child bullfighter".
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNUAjqWBpnE>



2009. Accident at Acho bullfighting school.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtCw7z5AJP8#t=204>



2009. Accident at Acho bullfighting school.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcdRH4EvYVs#t=25>



Lima. 11/2009. Child bullfighter Michelito Lagraveré, 11 years old, fractures his ankle but must continue with the fight regardless in order to kill the bull, which he had to stab 9 times with the sword.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQu5JHZcFu0>
<http://ecodiario.eleconomista.es/cultura/noticias/1683055/11/09/El-nino-torero-Michelito-cogido-en-Lima-tendra-pierna-escayolada-15-dias.html#.Kku8cEIEucPXWEU>



Matucana 2010. Child bullfighter Michelito Lagravere, 12 years old, is gored.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJC-ySaLLzo#t=29>



2) CHILDREN WHO WITNESS BULLFIGHTS

Live attendance

There are currently 250 active bullrings in Perú¹¹. Of the 24 Peruvian departments, the following see the greatest amount of bullfighting activity: Cajamarca, Lima, Junín, Ancash, Ayacucho, Cusco, Apurímac, Puno, Pasco, Arequipa, Lambayeque, La Libertad, Huánuco, Huancavelica.



¹¹ According to information provided by bullfighting reporter Pablo Gomez Barbieri <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MI1vGpH6MoY#t=270>

Entry for children is either free or very low cost. Both inside and outside the bullrings consumption of alcohol is a ritual part of the festivities and children directly witness violent and irresponsible displays from inebriated spectators which result in injuries or death during bullfighting activities.



Violent images that children can see in bullfights and bullfighting events



In addition to the mistreatment and suffering of animals, children who go to bullfights also witness **images of extreme violence to people** because of the number of accidents that occur during these spectacles, including, on occasion, the violent death of a participant. The impact caused by witnessing serious accidents is particularly severe among the youngest spectators, and is worsened by the atmosphere of panic created in the bullrings on those occasions.

30/12/2012. San Roque Fair, Santa Cruz.





Accidents and situations of violence witnessed by children

Accidents occur in bullrings where bullfights are held, or in open or closed areas where other festivities featuring bulls take place. Children have access to both situations, where they witness a large number of striking scenes in which people and animals are violently injured and killed, mainly

professional bullfighters and members of the public who join in spontaneously with animals left loose after the end of the main show. In Peru, mainly in the interior of the country, many people die while taking part in bullfighting festivals and hundreds are injured. The press does not routinely report accidents, and the following events are covered by fans or national press:

Plaza de toros de Acho, Lima. 4/5/2008. Bulls jump repeatedly into the alleyway containing members of the public. <http://detorosymas.blogspot.com/2008/05/tarde-de-saltos-avisos-y-cornada-en-la.html>



Chota, Cajamarca. 25/6/2009. A bullfighter is seriously gored. <http://www.tauromaquias.com/2009/06/simpson-triunfa-y-macias-sufre-cornada.html>

Chota, Cajamarca. 26/6/2010. Bullfighters are gored https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iENNek2_ueo

Lajas, Cajamarca. 7/7/2010. A bullfighter and enthusiast with serious head injuries . Minuto 1:50 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7mYkhkgThRg>
<http://radiostudioantenauno.blogspot.com/2010/07/torero-y-aficionado-graves-en-tardes.html>

Plaza de Acho, Lima. 4/11/2010. Injured bullfighters and horses. <http://www.tauromaquias.com/2010/11/cubas-triunfo-y-es-corneado-en-acho.html>



Ayacucho. 5/5/2011. Injured people at a bullfight. TV Perú.

Urubamba, Cuzco. 14/6/2011. An enthusiast dies as a result of the bull's horns perforating the lungs, making this a violent situation and classifying these spectacles as "death defying". <http://elcomercio.pe/peru/lima/video-cusqueno-murio-embestido-toro-fiesta-patronal-noticia-782354>



Chumpi, Ayacucho. 26/7/2011. A bull splits a bullfighter's skull on jumping into the alleyway. <http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2011/07/accidentada-novillada-en-acos-ayacucho.html>

VillaMaría del Triunfo, Lima. 28/7/2011. Injury caused by bull's horn, damaging the levator ani muscle, nerve contusion and partial tearing of the gluteus maximus.
http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2011/07/cornada-de-tres-trayectorias-sufre_29.html

Huallanca, Huánuco. 4/8/2011. Injured people in "bloody" bullfight.
<http://panamericana.pe/nacionales/89852>



Cajamarca. 13/8/2011. A bull escapes from the truck, seriously injuring spectators. A woman and child are saved by a man coming between them and the bull, taking the blow from the horns.

Cajamarca. 25/6/2012. A bullfighter is gored and his sphincter injured.
<http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2012/06/banderillero-castorcito-sufre-cornada.html>

Plaza de Acho (Lima). 18/11/2012. A bull covered in blood. →

Distrito de Paiján la Libertad. 12/2/2013. Bullfighter gored in scrotum.
http://perutaurino.blogspot.com/2013/02/peru-taurino_1102.html



Chumbivilcas, Cusco. 23/5/2013. A bullfighter dies as a result of goring in the stomach.
<http://peru21.pe/actualidad/cusco-hombre-muere-cornada-toro-2132457>

Chumbivilcas, Cusco. 23/6/2013. A bullfighter is injured by goring, piercing the stomach.
<http://www.abc.es/videos-internacional/20130628/aparatoso-cogida-plaza-toros-2514615432001.html>



Querocoto. 16/7/2013. A bullfighter is helped by his colleagues.

<http://www.perutoros.com.pe/2013/07/clavito-casi-prendido-en-querocoto.html>



Chota, Cajamarca. 27/6/2013. The bull charges, wounding horse and rider.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SvcRibbjPac>



Chumbivilcas Cusco. 3/7/2013. Amateur bullfighter dies after suffering violent blows from the bull.
<http://www.larepublica.pe/06-07-2013/cusco-torero-aficionado-muere-por-cornada-de-toro>



Parinacochas, Ayacucho. 10/2013. Bullfighter gored in abdominal cavity, with stab wound to the base of the penis.
<http://www.paseillo.pe/paseillo-noticias/514/ayacucho-el-banderillero-alberto-yabar-sufrio-cornada-de-pronostico-reservado-en-aicara.htm>

Chota, Cajamarca. 27/6/2014. Bullfighter and “banderilleros” (auxiliary bullfighters who jab the harpoon-like spears or “banderillas” into the bull’s back) are gored during a bullfighting festival.



Chalhuanka, Apurímac. 27/7/2014. Bullfighter injured as a result of 25 cm. deep gore in the right thigh.
<http://www.opinionytoros.com/noticias.php?id=47909>

Santiago de Chuco, La Libertad. 17/7/2014. A bullfighter is gored in the rectum, piercing the sphincter.
<http://www.opinionytoros.com/noticias.php?id=47764>



Huanca, Ancash. 23/8/2014. A bullfighter and participant are gored and seriously injured.
<http://elcomercio.pe/peru/ancash/huanca-hombre-se-desnudo-y-desafio-varios-toros-noticia-1752024>



Cajabamba. 17/7/2014. A bullfighter is seriously gored, the horn entering the testicle and damaging the spermatic cord. <http://www.opinionytoros.com/noticias.php?id=47751>

Cajabamba. 17/10/2014. A bullfighter is seriously gored.
<http://www.tauromaquias.com/2014/10/el-sabado-comienza-la-feria-del-senor.html>



Ayacucho. The “Cora Cora” Bullfighting Event.



Legislation

There is no legislation that establishes the age of attendance at bullfighting events and children are therefore able to freely attend at any age. The sale and consumption of alcohol at bullfighting shows is legal. In 2012, the Congress of Peru initiated and processed Bill n° 546/2011-CR, promoted by the Franz Weber Foundation, which prohibits the entry of minors to bullfighting shows.¹² The Bill was presented to Congress on 24/11/2012 with the support of various members of congress and received a unanimous ruling in favour from two Parliamentary Committees: the Culture and Cultural Heritage Committee and the Committee for Women and the Family, on the 12//2012¹³ and 12/9/2012¹⁴, respectively. Both Committees recommended the Congress Plenary Session approve the Bill. However, the process was halted without explanation just prior to being voted on in the Plenary.

Various **psychological studies on violence and animal abuse** have shown that witnessing or participating in the violence inherent in bullfights can have the following negative impacts on children:

Traumatic effects on children, who cannot freely express their feelings in an environment shaped by adults who will argue that the spectacle, far from being aggressive, is art, tradition, and culture. A child's normal reaction to the sight of an animal bleeding as a result of human violence is always, on principle, one of rejection, distress, and fear.

¹² Bill n° 546, prohibiting the entry of minors to bullfighting shows.
[http://www2.congreso.gob.pe/Sicr/TraDocEstProc/Contdoc01_2011.nsf/d99575da99ebfbc305256f2e006d1cf0/b471d13af3032fdd052579520054b430/\\$FILE/PL00546241111.pdf](http://www2.congreso.gob.pe/Sicr/TraDocEstProc/Contdoc01_2011.nsf/d99575da99ebfbc305256f2e006d1cf0/b471d13af3032fdd052579520054b430/$FILE/PL00546241111.pdf)

¹³ Ruling of the Culture and Cultural Heritage Committee
<http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/16019391/1531347858/name/DICTAMEN>

¹⁴ Ruling of the Committee for Women and the Family
<http://www2.congreso.gob.pe/Sicr/Prensa/heraldo.nsf/CNtitulares2/ee290205745ead8e05257a7700800291/?OpenDocument>

Habituation to violence if we show them that gratuitous violence can be acceptable and even recommendable. Witnessing the mistreatment of animals perpetuates the cycle of violence by desensitization and imitation of behaviours, especially among people who are at an age when they are learning and being taught. As a result, youths who repeatedly witness the mistreatment of animals might be more susceptible to “learning” to use violence in their personal relationships, and bullfights share the main characteristics of those forms of animal mistreatment that are associated with violence towards people: power, supremacy, subjugation, and control are all part of bullfighting.

Confusion of values because the child's opinion of what is fair and unfair is destabilized. Children are perfectly aware that the bull has been forced to enter the ring; they can see that terrible wounds are inflicted upon it over a prolonged period of time. And, given that this is a situation produced and controlled by man, it all happens without the justification of self defence. *Bullfighting is the negation of what children understand a value to be.* Children's ability to feel empathy is not only limited to human beings; they can also feel it for animals. This is based on the concept of biophilia - the innate emotional bond that humans have towards other living creatures - a predisposition that is particularly strong in children. This then may be a suitable time to ask what success means and what it means to be a winner. Is a winner really someone who defeats another living being, leaving it defenceless? *Bullfighting also runs contrary to law* - and children know that mistreatment of animals is punishable by law.

Weakening of the moral compass at a time when children need to find role models to identify with. Children, anxious to preserve the image of their parents and to avoid conflicts of loyalty, have no option but to deny the brutality they have witnessed and to hide all feelings of compassion towards the animal victim.

The Co-ordinating Agency of Professionals for the Prevention of Abuse (CoPPA), <http://www.coppaprevencion.com/index.php/es/>, the renowned Latin American collective of experts in psychology, criminology, sociology and education, urge to take definitive measures to prevent minors being exposed to bullfights. Based on considerable scientific research, the experts explain the psychological and pedagogical risks that children and adolescent who are exposed to animal abuse may face, and point to certain interrelated impacts: traumatic effects, developmental disorders, and aggressive and violent behaviours toward animals and human beings. According to scientists, the impact of bullfights on children and adolescents is especially worrying as these are spectacles where the violence and victimisation are not only real but are also applauded and appreciated by adults, who are perceived as role models by children. Professionals therefore warn that **the presence of a parent or close relative accompanying a minor to a bullfight cannot protect the child from the damaging effects of witnessing the event and “may even exacerbate the harmful impact on the child”.** The CoPPA experts warn that children exposed to animal abuse are more vulnerable and that “the link between animal abuse and domestic violence, child abuse and elder abuse and other forms of interpersonal violence is particularly alarming”. The experts call to adopt definitive measures to prevent minors being exposed to bullfights. Link to the document: http://www.coppaprevencion.com/files/riesgos_exponer_menor_violencia_tauromaquia.pdf

Television

In March 2011, bullfighting programs became available to public television audiences through channel N° 518, known as “Toros TV” (“Bull TV”). The signal from Canal+ Spain is available through Movistar's Cable Mágico, with uninterrupted 24 hour broadcasts of bullfights, junior bullfights, festivals, fairs and reporting, 365 days a year.

Legislation

There is no specific legislation regulating or prohibiting the broadcast of bullfights in children's viewing time. In general terms, Radio and Television Law No 28278 establishes that during family viewing times (from 06:00 to 22:00) programming should avoid violent content.

3) THE CHILD AND “FESTEJOS TAURINOS” (“Bull Festivities”)

In Perú, there are other "popular festivities" besides the bullfights which children can attend and where they witness a **large number of strong images of humans and animals being injured and killed violently**. Here are some examples:

- “Misti Turus”. Chumbivilcas.



Chumbivilcas, Cusco. 25/1/2012. 15 people are injured during a bullfight.

- “Jala toros” o “Pascua toros”. Huamanga, Ayacucho. Tethered bulls are released into the streets.

20/4/2014. Participant injured in the groin by a charging bull during bullfighting festivities.

<http://www.larepublica.pe/20-04-2014/ayacucho-toro-embistio-e-hirio-en-la-ingle-a-hombre-de-67-anos>



10/6/2014. People seriously injured by goring during bullfighting festivities.
<http://diariocorreo.pe/ciudad/jovencito-estuvo-a-punto-de-perder-miembro-v-27554/>

- “Yawar fiesta o Yawar Toro. “Festival of Blood”. Apurímac, Abancay. 30/7/2012 and 26/7/2013.



Chalhuahuacho, Apurímac. 26/6/2014. A participant in a bullfighting festival dies after being gored.
http://www.rpp.com.pe/2014-06-26-hombre-dejo-de-existir-tras-cornada-de-toro-en-apurimac-noticia_703396.html

- “El Ruedo Humano”. Rosaspata. In particular, during this activity at which children are present, numerous people are injured and killed each year by the bulls’ horns.

Imagery Rosaspata 2011 and 2012.





4) Legislation on protection of children in Perú

The attendance at and participation of children in bullfights infringes the **Code of Children and Adolescents, endorsed in Law n° 27337**, which requires that the best interests of the child be placed above all others in order to protect the right to respect of their moral, psychological and physical integrity and their unrestricted development and wellbeing.

5) Violation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and General Comments

The situation that exists in Perú in relation to children involved in bullfighting violates the following articles of the Convention:

General principles: articles 3 and 6

Article 3

*1. In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, **the best interests of the child** shall be a primary consideration. 2. States Parties undertake to ensure the child such protection and care as is necessary for his or her well-being, taking into account the rights and duties of his or her parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for him or her, and, to this end, shall take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures.*

The State party has not adopted the necessary legislative and administrative measures to ensure children such protection and care as is necessary for their wellbeing, disregarding the best interests of children, in the area of bullfighting:

- ⤴ **Children attend bullfighting school from a very early age, putting their physical, psychological and moral integrity at risk.**
- ⤴ **Children can watch extremely violent spectacles at any age.**

GENERAL COMMENT no. 5 (2003) general measures of implementation of the Convention on the rights of the child

“Article 3, paragraph 1 -In all actions concerning children the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration. The article refers to actions undertaken by “public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies”. The principle requires active measures throughout Government, parliament and the judiciary. Every legislative, administrative and judicial body or institution is required to apply the best interests principle by systematically considering how children’s rights and interests are or will be affected by their decisions and actions.”

GENERAL COMMENT No. 14 (2013) on the right of children for their best interests to be a primary consideration (article 3, paragraph 1)

“Although preservation of religious and cultural values and traditions as part of the identity of the child must be taken into consideration, practices that are inconsistent or incompatible with the rights established in the Convention are not in the child’s best interests. Cultural identity cannot excuse or justify the perpetuation by decision-makers and authorities of traditions and cultural values that deny the child or children the rights guaranteed by the Convention” (section 57).

Article 6

1. States Parties recognize that every child has the inherent right to life.
2. States Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child.

Violation of article 6 is in connection with the interpretation of said article made by the **GENERAL COMMENT no. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence**, according to which:

“The right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, thus “The obligation of the State party includes comprehensive protection from violence and exploitation which would jeopardize a child’s right to life, survival and development”. The Committee expects States to interpret “development” in its broadest sense as a holistic concept, embracing the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral, psychological and social development. Implementation measures should be aimed at achieving the optimal development for all children” (paragraph 62).”

Children who take part by training in bullfighting schools and performing in public, and also being witness to how violence is inflicted upon a living being, impassively and in a celebratory way, clearly have their development affected negatively.

Civil rights and liberties: article 19.1

Article 19

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.

The State party has not taken appropriate steps to protect children from the physical or mental harm or abuse caused by children being taught, performing, taking part in and attending bullfights and other bullfighting spectacles. In addition, it places the participation of children in public displays with the aim of killing bulls under the prior authorisation of the parents and a judge, contravening the principle of shared responsibility of society, the family and the State.

It should be pointed out that the Committee, in **GENERAL COMMENT no. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence**, has used the term violence to refer to behaviour included in article 19.1 (section 4), *regardless of the violence exerted (section 17). In this regard, the Committee notes that the term “appropriate...measures” refers to a wide range of measures covering all the public sectors and must be applied and be effective in preventing and combating all forms of violence, as “Cannot be interpreted to mean acceptance of some forms of violence (section 39).¹⁵*

Wellbeing and basic health: articles 24.3 and 27.1

Article 24.3. States Parties shall take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children.

¹⁵

Similarly the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations on "Children's Rights" A/RES/61/146, of 19 December 2006 condemned all forms of violence against children and urges States to take effective legislative and other measures to prevent and eliminate violence in all its forms (physical, mental and psychological).

Article 27. 1. *The State Parties recognize the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.*

Recognition of the right included in article 27.1 is violated when dealing with bullfighting, as *the physical, mental, spiritual and moral development of children is severely compromised by the danger linked to the activity (risk of serious accidents and/or death) and to traumatic consequences and after-effects of viewing such an event (habituation of violence, traumatic effects, moral desensitisation and disturbance of values).*

Education, entertainment and cultural activities: articles 28, 29 and 31

Article 28. 2. *States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child's human dignity and in conformity with the present Convention.*

Article 29 . 1. *(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)*

The education that children receive in bullfighting schools and in practical lessons involving participation in bullfights and other bullfighting events, authorised or tolerated by the State party, and the education that children receive by attending bullfighting spectacles, does not foster the development of those educational values incumbent on the State Parties, and which are cited in article 29, but rather children are instilled with values that are contrary to peace, empathy and respect for life and the environment.

In this sense, it should be pointed out that **GENERAL COMMENT no. 1 (2001), paragraph 1 of article 29: aims of education**, in which the Committee has emphasised the following aspects relating to children's education:

"Schools should foster a humane atmosphere" (section 12); "...within their broader ethical framework," (section 7); "...This includes the educational processes, the pedagogical methods and the environment within which education takes place, whether it be the home, school, or elsewhere" (section 8); "A school which allows...other violent practices to occur is not one which meets the requirements of article 29 (1)"; "...it emphasizes the need for education to be designed and provided in such a way that it promotes and reinforces the range of specific ethical values enshrined in the Convention, including education for peace, tolerance, and respect for the natural environment" (section 13).

Article 31 1. *States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.*

With regard to article 31, the performance in and attendance of children at bullfights are recreational activities that are not appropriate for their age, but rather they are improper, with the child's best interest prevailing over cultural diversity.

In this regard, the recent **GENERAL COMMENT no. 17 (2013) on the right of the child to rest, leisure, play, recreational activities, cultural life and the arts (article 31)** should be taken into account:

Article 31: "The right of children to participate freely in cultural life and the arts requires that States parties respect and abstain from interfering in the child's access to, choice of and engagement in such activities, subject to the obligation to ensure the protection of the child and the promotion of the child's best interests." "Article 31 in the broader context of the Convention. A. Links with general principles of the Convention (best interests of the child, survival and development, education, etc.).

Special protection measures: article 32 y 36

Article 32.1. *States Parties recognize the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.*

Article 36. States Parties shall protect the child against all other forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child's welfare.

The State party tolerates, consents and authorises the performance and participation of children in bullfights are subjected to a form of exploitation by adults that harms their welfare, in that it compromises their physical and psychological integrity. This activity takes place within a work setting, which means that this is also economic exploitation, in which case it is advisable to apply the 1999 Convention concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour (Convention no. 182) ILO (UN), to which end, “the worst forms of child labour” covers “work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children”. According to the UN Study on Violence Against Children (UNVC) (2006), “where violence is an integral component of the hazardous and exploitative nature of the labour, children should not be in the workplace.”



Child bullfighter (Plaza de Toros de Acho -Acho Bullring-Lima)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Fondation Franz Weber makes the following recommendations for Perú to meet its obligations under the Convention:

1) That Perú takes appropriate administrative or legislative steps that will:

ensure that children (minors under 18 years of age) do not attend or receive lessons at **bullfighting schools** or at any other place that has as its purpose the teaching of bullfighting

prevent children from taking part in **bullfighting spectacles and practices**

prevent children from **being spectators** and attending bullfighting spectacles and events

prevent children from exposure to bullfighting spectacles on **television during children's normal viewing hours**

2) That Perú includes in its national legislation any labour by children who work fighting bulls (wounding and killing them in public) as a type of work as contained in article 3d) of the 1999 Convention concerning the **prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour** (Convention no. 182) ILO, to which end such labour covers “work which, due to its nature or to the conditions in which it takes place, is likely to damage the health, safety or morality of children”.