

Program are registered within the framework of Law No. 114 and Decree 1208/2005 GCABA.

The Goals of the program are to promote the effective fulfillment of the right to be heard and to actively participate in the democratic life and transformation of the city; to guarantee the right of children to participate in the process of collective construction of the city based on designing projects that will be managed in coordination with various government agencies.

One of the main activities carried out in *Ciudad Amiga* is the creation of spaces called Children's Councils, where children have periodic meetings with a workshop mode. In these spaces there are Child Participation Promoters who act as facilitators (using different recreational techniques) in the creation of a participation space.

The children elaborate and design proposals for their neighborhoods and the city, which are then presented to the Head of Government and the corresponding officials.

The call to participate in the Councils is carried out together with Educational Institutions, different public organizations and social organizations engaged in daily work with children. Participating counselors are between 8 and 10 years old.

Although is far too soon to make a balance of the impact of this program, we sustain that this kind of initiatives, with all their limitations and backlashes constitute fundamental pieces in the path to the full implementation of the rights of children, especially the right to participation, to live in a adequate environment and to be heard in every issue concerning their present and future lives.

### "LADDER OF CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION": RESULTS OF A PILOT RESEARCH

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**Abstract.** Results of pilot survey of children are presented in the article. Author tried to answer following questions: what are children's sense of the place they live; how deep do children involve in decision-making in family, school and community or town

**Keywords:** city, children, children's participation in city life

**Аннотация.** В статье представлены результаты пилотажного опроса детей. Исследовательскими вопросами были вопросы отношения детей к

месту проживания, а также степени включенности детей в решение разных дел на уровне семьи, школе и города.

**Ключевые слова:** город, дети, участие детей в городской жизни

The theoretical and methodological foundation of the study, on the one hand, is set by the "new" sociology of childhood (A. James, C. Jenks, A. Prout, L. Alanen, J. Qvortrup), that implies a rediscovery of the world of childhood, addressing children as actors that actively transform the social reality, including impact on the adult world. It requires abandoning earlier attitudes to children as "human becomings", i.e. as objects of the socializing impact of adults. A new perspective on childhood implies studying it "here and now"; childhood thus breaks down into a variety of unique worlds of children. On the other hand, the project has been rooted in new urbanism, since it is primarily concerned with the realization of children's right to city and child participation in addressing issues related to urban environment (O. Newman, J. Jacobs, Y. Gale, G. Sanoff, etc.), aimed at "breathing life into the city organism" and making the city liveable.

The main goals of this research are

- 1) To study children's sense of the place they live
- 2) To study children's involvement in decision-making in family, school and community or town

It is used the set of qualitative and quantitative methods of data collecting, such as questioning, project work and interview. In the questioning 2181 respondents aged 10-16 years old take part.

The children of different age group are asked who were they in their family, school and city.

The following frequency distribution is received. Look at the tables (1-3). All answers are organized into three main groups: family life, school life and city life.

Table 1 - Who are you in your family?

A child a child whose opinion is not asked on any issue	28 %
A family member with whom they discuss what matters to me	42 %
A family member with whom all matters important to family life are discussed	25 %
It's difficult to answer	5 %

Table 2 - Who are you in your school?

The pupil who has to obey teachers unquestionably	48 %
The pupil who feels that teachers are respectful to him	26 %
The pupil who was granted the right to resolve different school issues	22 %
It's difficult to answer	4 %

