Abstract

Based on an ethnographic research carried out with street children in Mexico City, I intend to show the interpretations that boys and girls made of their going out in the street. They took decisions based on the logic of the building of mother-child relationships, on the scenes of violence within their families the children suffered in different manners, and on the meanings provided by the street. I will explain their perceptions about the reality they lived a reality that place them before a series of dilemmas and from the manner in which social agents acted. That's why I see them as main actors in their development and with social agency.

Keywords

Ethnography, street childhood, motherhood, gender representations, violence.