

# THE CHILDREN PARTICIPATION IN SOUTH AMERICA: A STUDY OF THE ACADEMIC PRODUCTION ON SOCIOLOGY OF THE CHILDHOOD FIELD

## INTRODUCTION

Investigating the childhood participation in society means rethinking the practices and discourses that affect children and understanding the social dynamics that recognize them as social actors. This study is part of a PhD research entitled “Childhood studies in South America: research and production in childhood sociology perspective”, which identifies the participation as a frequent object of study in the academic production of South American researchers.

## METHODS

a) Searching on Childhood Studies in South America’s Spanish speaking countries at different websites; b) Identifying bibliographic references in those productions; c) Looking for (main) researchers; d) Contacting researchers by e-mail; e) Defining two countries to visit; f) Visiting countries (1) to interview researchers and search their academic production and (2) to search in the university’s libraries.

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## RESULTS

In South America, the countries that have more academic production about children participation are Chile, Colombia and Peru, according to data carried out in 2014 and 2015, and Brazil, according to a survey done between 2010 and 2012, by the Group of Studies and Research on Sociology of Childhood (USP).

## CONCLUSIONS

Participation is an important subject in Childhood Studies. How to understand the different settings of children’s participation? Analyzing different elements and places occupied by children and finding research about their participation, in order to widen the theoretical and empirical discussion, acknowledging authors who discuss this topic, and thus contributing to the consolidation of the field of Sociology of Childhood in South America.

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