

DOMINICAN INSTITUTE, SAMONDA

Exercise 1: Childhood in My Culture

Country: Nigeria		Region / Subculture: South-South
Filled in by: Basikoro Arientacha Jude, OCD (DI/913)		Rural area or City: Warri
Family Structure		
Who is part of the family?	Father, Mother, Children	
Who cares for the child?	Mother and other family members	
Who provides for the child?	Father and Mother	
Who is in charge of discipline?	Father, Mother and elder siblings	
Status of child within family?	Child	
Status of child within society?	Child	
Duration of childhood		
When does childhood end?	12-17	
How does it typically end?	With some form of transition into adulthood through some initiation rites	
What is expected		
Chance of education	Of Girls?	Of Boys?
Assistance in the household	Kitchen and other house chores assigned to women	Farm and other menial jobs assigned to men
Amount of free time + free time activities	Little free time	More free time
Behaviour towards younger family members		
Behaviour in public	Courteous and polite	Bold and courageous
Behaviour towards the other sex	Withdrawn	Open
Religious expectations	Very pious and religious	As far as possible
Dress code	Modest	Rarely considered
Prospects for their future		
Discipline		
Cultural changes		
What major recent changes do you see in your culture regarding childhood?		Children do not get to enjoy the childhood because they

	do not get enough training; rather they are forced into adulthood with responsibilities.
How do the internet/social media influence childhood in your culture?	Loss of touch with the rich cultural heritage
How do changing family structures influence childhood in your culture?	Negatively, especially with polygamous families children grow to become wild

Exercise 2a:

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is a multilateral international treaty that recognizes and guarantees the rights of children and adolescents. It identifies the rights to which every child is entitled, regardless of where they were born or to whom, regardless of sex, religion or social origin.

S/N	ASPECT OF UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD	ASPECTS IN MY CULTURE THAT ARE IN TUNE WITH THE CHILD'S RIGHTS	ASPECTS IN MY CULTURE TODAY THAT DIFFER FROM CHILD'S RIGHTS
1.	Article 1 & 2	Everyone under 18 enjoy the rights of children even though these rights are not outlined as in the UN	
2.	Article 3		Not necessarily because adults believe that their decisions are always for the best of their children.
3.	Article 4		Poor implementation of child's right policy; if there is any at all
4.	Article 5	This is catered for during the general training of the child	
5.	Article 6	Very True	
6.	Article 7,8 & 9	Very True	
7.	Article 10 & 11		Not obtainable
8.	Article 12		Not obtainable; children listen
9.	Article 13	True	
10.	Article 14		Not obtainable
11.	Article 15	True	

12.	Article 16		Not obtainable
13.	Article 17, 18 & 19	True	
14.	Article 20, 21, 22, 23		Not obtainable
15.	Article 24	True; to basic amenities	
16.	Article 25		Not obtainable
17.	Article 26, 27		Not obtainable
18.	Article 28, 29, 30, 31	True	
19.	Article 32		Not obtainable
20.	Article 33,34,36,37,38, 39	True	
21.	Article 40,41	true	

EXERCISE 3:

The Lord's character and affection towards children is clearly displayed in the three of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

We feel God's tender heart for children in the gospels:

- His willingness to devote time for them
- His recognition of their societal status
- His zeal for protecting their innocence demonstrates His high regards for them.
- Their plight, formation, growth and faith were **prioritised** and **protected**.

“Matt 18:1-5; Matt 19:13-15; Mark 9:36-37, 42; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 9:46-48; Luke 18:15-17”

S / N	GOSPEL VALUES REGARDING CHILDREN	ASPECTS IN MY CULTURE TODAY THAT ARE IN TUNE WITH THE GOSPEL VALUES	ASPECTS IN MY CULTURE TODAY THAT DIFFER FROM THE GOSPEL VALUES
1.	Children serve as a concrete symbol of the simplicity which is a condition for entering the kingdom of Heaven.	True	
2.	Jesus welcomes the child not only as a potential adult but also in his present state.		Children are seen as unreasonable persons in need of training
3.	He saw them as exemplars of virtues worthy of our emulation	Children are sometimes used as examples in conflict resolutions.	
4.	The Gospels presents spiritual childhood as the truth about our Christian existence with one another	True	

	before God.		
5.	There should be no hindrance placed on the way of the child, rather they should be trained and protected from harassment.		Children are frightened with folk tales to keep them suppressed.
6.	The innocence of children exposes the vanity and deception of the 'great ones'		They are sometimes victims of abuse owing to their vulnerability and innocence.
7.	By giving us a child as model, Jesus wants us to understand that the Christian community must place those who do not count, the poorest, at the centre of their interest, their initiatives and plans.	True	