

# **Exploring the voice of the child in participatory research: Bodymapping and the right to participate in Dindigul, India**

by:  
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## **Abstract**

Taking part in the ASA-GLEN Global education program of 2017/2018 included a three month internship which would serve as my D module project. I had applied for a Rural Development Program of the Indian NGO Peace Trust in Tamil Nadu in which I would both be able to learn from the functioning of the NGO as well as having the opportunity to do an own small participatory research project with youth who were part of the Young Workers Program. The NGO wanted me to prepare for an exhibition which would be part of the Bharat Yatra, a march led by the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Kailash Satyarti, aiming to create awareness on child sexual abuse, trafficking and bonded labour.

### *Objectives for the project:*

The goal of the research project was to create both human rights awareness and a way to explore and give voice to vulnerable youth. The project was part of the Bharat Yatra Surakshit Bachpan movement, which aimed to bridge the gaps between youth (vulnerable and less vulnerable), exploring and researching common and specific issues, raise awareness, giving voice to the youth and enable them to think about their future. The aim was to do this by using different creative participatory methods.

Finally this led to the following research question:

- How is article 12, the right of the child to participation, visible in the lives of children in the area of Dindigul?