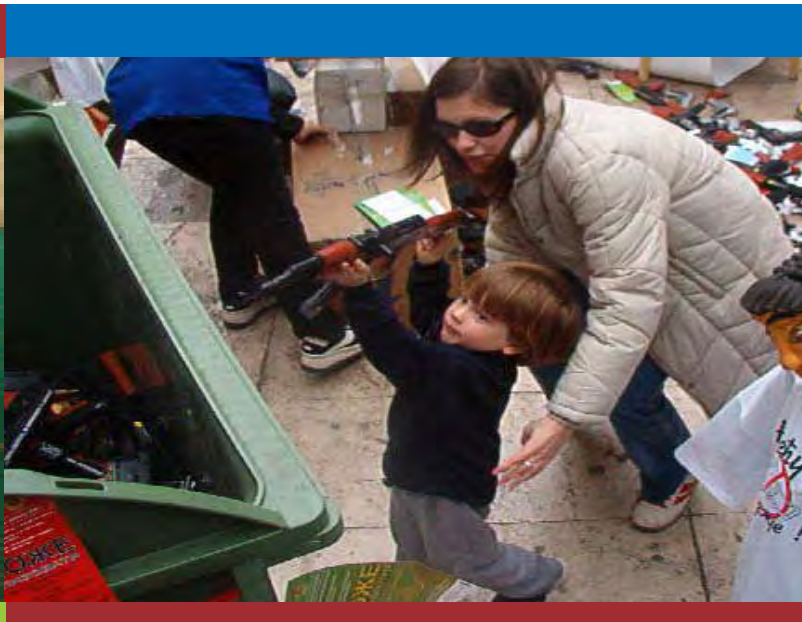




Professional Issues Relevant to Children and Small Arms - Literature Review



SEESAC

South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse
for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons



The **South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons** (SEESAC) has a mandate from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (SCSP) to further support all international and national stakeholders by strengthening national and regional capacity to control and reduce the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and thus contribute to enhanced stability, security and development in South Eastern and Eastern Europe.

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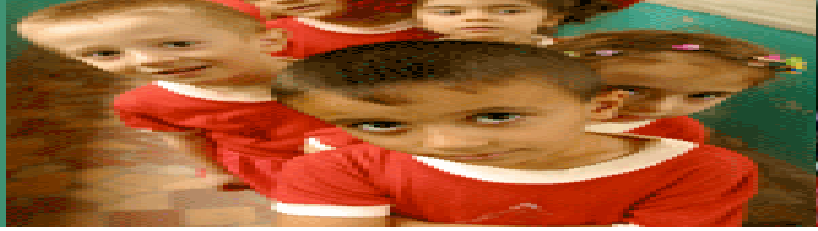
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Acronyms

ARC	Actions for the Rights of the Child
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SCSP	Stability Pact for South East Europe
SEESAC	South East and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of SALW
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund



Contents

Acknowledgements	I
Acronyms	i
Contents	ii
Professional issues relating to small arms and children	1
1 Participation	1
2 Children's Rights	3
3 Child Development	3
4 Research with Children	4
5 Media and children	4



Professional issues relating to small arms and children

1 Participation

One of the fundamental rights of a child is the right to participate in matters relevant to her/his life, according to the child's developmental level. Programmes focused on children and small arms should involve children and young people as active participants. In particular, research on the impact of small arms on children should involve children.

Title:	So you want to consult with children? A toolkit of good practice	
Publisher:	Save the Children, 2003	
Author (s):		
Summary of Content:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How can we involve children in discussions about what adults ought to be doing to make their lives better? ■ How can we make sure that the children feel that their views and opinions have been listened to and respected? ■ What can we do to make sure that both the children and the adults are properly prepared for such discussions? ■ What do we have to do to ensure that the children involved are safe and protected at all times? ■ Includes a guide to other resources on consulting with children. 		
Location:	www.savethechildren.net/alliance/resources/childconsult_toolkit_final.pdf	
Accessed:	23 June 2006	

Title:	Children as informed participants in governance
Publisher:	Save the Children, 2003
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	
<p>"Children have been the objects of research for centuries. Some of this research has been conducted perfunctorily in very short time spans. Their parameters are often determined by the funding agencies that do not allow for even the basic rigor to be followed, arriving at erroneous results. Unfortunately, much of this research has informed the design of policy and action plans of governments and organisations. It is not surprising therefore that many of these policies have little or no effect on the ground realities of children. Some of them also result in programmes and interventions that actually harm children".</p>	
Location:	http://www.crin.org/docs/cfwc_governance.pdf
Accessed:	08 September 2006



Title:	Children and Young People as Citizens: Partners for Social Change – Exploring Concepts	
Publisher:	Save the Children, 2003	
Author (s):		
Summary of Content:	<p>Useful for programmes considering working with children and young people on advocacy about small arms issues.</p>	
Location:	http://www.savethechildren.net/alliance/resources/child_part/children_citizens.pdf	
Accessed:	04 September 2006	

Title:	Children and Young People: Participating in Decision-Making	
Publisher:	Alliance of Youth Executive Officers & UNICEF	
Author (s):		
Summary of Content:	<p>Outlines the benefits, challenges and principles of youth involvement in decision-making, and ends with a call to action on advocacy, education and information, opportunities for volunteers, and the media.</p>	
Location:	http://www.scout.org/wsrc/II/docs/youthpart_e.pdf	
Accessed:	10 October 2006	



2 Children's Rights

Title:	Convention on the Rights of the Child
Publisher:	UN
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	
The complete Convention on the Rights of the Child.	
Location:	http://www.unicef.org/crc/
Accessed:	23 June 2006

3 Child Development

Title:	Actions for the Rights of the Child (ARC) Foundations: Child and Adolescent Development	
Publisher:	Save the Children Alliance, UNHCR and UNICEF	
Author (s):		
Summary of Content:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Developed by Save the Children Alliance, UNHCR and UNICEF as training materials for those working with refugees and displaced children. ■ Of general use as a guide to child development for those planning awareness/education programmes on guns/small arms with children and young people. 		
Location:	http://www.savethechildren.net/arc/files/f_chdev0701.pdf	
Accessed:	23 June 2006	

Title:	Overview of Child Development Characteristics Relating to Farm Safety Risk
Publisher:	Farmsafe, Australia
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	
Although this document was developed for an education kit on farm safety in Australia, the summary of children's developmental stages is relevant for any planning for safety education for children.	
Location:	http://www.farmsafe.org.au/images/pdfs/child_safety_factsheet_2.pdf#search=%22Farmsafe%20OVERVIEW%20OF%20CHILD%20DEVELOPMENT%20CHARACTERISTICS%22
Accessed:	19 June 2006



4 Research with Children

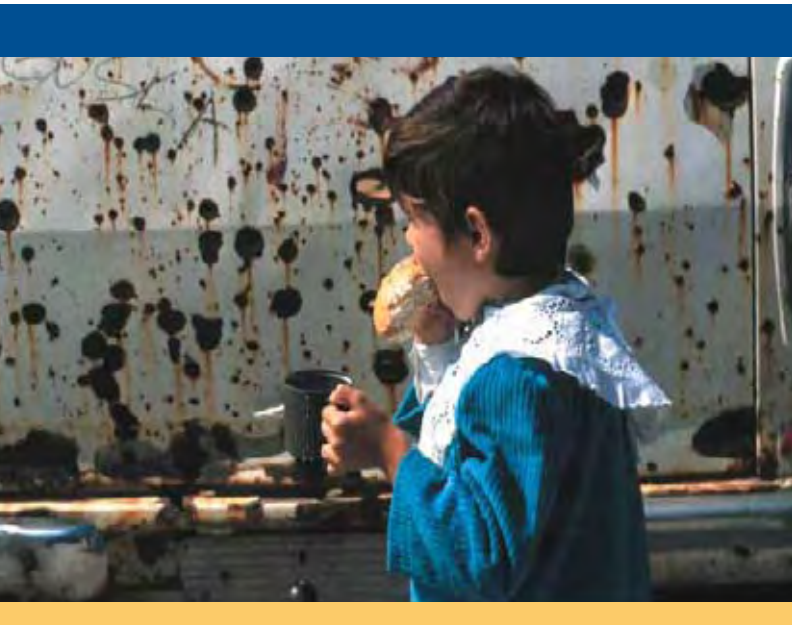
Title:	So You Want to Involve Children in Research?: A toolkit supporting children's meaningful and ethical participation in research relating to violence against children	
Publisher:	Save the Children, 2004	
Author (s):		
Summary of Content:	<p>A very important document for anyone – researchers, international and local NGOs or funders – considering research with children on issues relevant to small arms. The section on research ethics is particularly important. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Avoiding harm to participants; ■ Child protection; ■ Informed consent; ■ Confidentiality; ■ An inclusive approach; ■ Fair return for participation; ■ Welfare of research staff; ■ Wider accountability. 	
Location:	www.savethechildren.net/alliance/resources/So_you_want_to_research_apr2004.pdf	
Accessed:	23 June 2006	

Title:	Ethical Standards for Research with Children
Publisher:	Society for Research in Child Development
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	<p>“The Society is a multidisciplinary, not-for-profit, professional association with a membership of approximately 5,500 researchers, practitioners, and human development professionals from over 50 countries”.</p>
Location:	http://www.srkd.org/ethicalstandards.html
Accessed:	23 June 2006

5 Media and children

Many small arms projects involve children, usually in the inevitable art competition/activity, but also in weapons collections campaigns. It is essential that children's rights be respected, that they (and their parents) are consulted about their involvement, and give informed consent for use of their photos, stories, and ideas. It is particularly important that child and youth survivors of small arms violence are consulted about how their stories and photos will be used.

Title:	Ethical guidelines: Principles for ethical reporting on children
Publisher:	UNICEF
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	<p>UNICEF has developed guidelines for reporters, but they are equally applicable to organizations considering involving children in media events.</p>
Location:	http://www.unicef.org/media/media_tools_guidelines.html
Accessed:	23 June 2006



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