



# **Review of Key Literature on Children, Youth and Small Arms**



# **SEESAC**

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

Review of Key Literature on Children, Youth and Small Arms (2006-09-30)



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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#### Review of Key Literature on Children, Youth and Small Arms, SEESAC, 2006

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## **Acronyms**

EC European Commission

EU European Union

FYROM The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

GTZ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technishe Zusammenarbeit

IANSA International Action Network on Small Arms

ISS Institute for Security Studies

MFAIT Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Canada)

NGO Non Governmental Organisation
SALW Small Arms and Light Weapons

SAS Small Arms Survey

SEESAC South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of SALW

TRESA Training and Education on Small Arms

UN United Nations

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund WHO World Health Organization

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## Introduction

Small arms¹ emerged as an issue in the international community in the late 1990s. Since then there has been a flurry of articles, reports and some research, most notably by the Small Arms Survey,² and organizations such as the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of SALW (SEESAC). For educators or children's rights staff, the picture is a very confusing one, as much of the language is very technical, and the literature relevant to children and youth has generally not been written within a coherent theoretical framework, such as child development, children's rights programming, child safety and protection and public health. There is also a vast literature in the USA on the gun issue, with advocates for and against gun control, and research in psychology and paediatrics on the effects of guns on children and young people. In addition, in the developed world, there is a large literature on youth and crime, some of which refers to the use of weapons.

The aim of this Key Literature Review is to try to identify some key documents reflecting a range of perspectives on the issue of small arms and children/young people. The recent international literature by United Nations agencies and international NGOs (including arms control groups) has been generated in response to the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms. The US literature on guns and violence is also included. The public health focus of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and medical organisations in North America is well represented. Most of the documents are only available in English, as are most sources consulted. The Review does not claim to be comprehensive, but it does include literature with references and links to other – and broader - sources on the issues. All documents listed are available on the Internet.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SEESAC uses the term SALW (Small Arms and Light Weapons) which is defined as 'all lethal conventional munitions that can be carried by an individual combatant or a light vehicle, that also do not require a substantial logistic and maintenance capability' (see SEESAC's Regional Micro-Disarmament Standards and Guidelines (RMDS/G Glossary 4th Edition at http://www.seesac.org/resources/RMDS%2002.10%20Glo ssary%20and%20Definitions%20(Edition%204).pdf, accessed on 04 October 2006. For the general reader, perhaps an educator or NGO staff involved in policy development on children's issues, the term SALW (Small Arms and Light Weapons) is unnecessarily technical and confusing. Light weapons are not relevant to the issues of children and youth, except in relation to armed conflict and its impact. Many sources referring to children use the term 'small arms, or 'guns', 'weapons', and 'firearms' interchangeably (Note to the IRIN/OCHA news publication, "Guns out of Control: the continuing threat of small arms", May 2006. http://www.irinnews.org/webspecials/small-arms/default.asp, accessed on 04 October 2006). So for the purposes of this paper however the term 'small arms' will be used to refer to 'weapons designed for individual use. They include, inter alia, revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns' which is the definition used by the United Nations (see http://www.un.org/events/smallarms2006/faq.html, accessed on 04 October 2006). In the Education section of the SEESAC web site, the term 'small arms' is used in preference to SALW (see http://www.seesac.org/index. php?content=55&section=2, accessed on 04 October 2006).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Small Arms Survey: http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/, last accessed on 28 September 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The only exception is "From AK 47s to Saturday Night Specials", which is the most comprehensive statement of the global problem of small arms, from a public health perspective.

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### 1 Children Youth and Small Arms – An Overview

Title:	Small Arms, Children and Armed Conflict: A Framework for Effective Action
Publisher:	Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (MFAIT), Human Security Programme
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

This paper aims to make the link between child protection and the involvement of children in armed conflict, and small arms. 'Security Council resolutions on Children and Armed Conflict provide a focus for joint initiatives in the field of child protection and small arms control. In particular, this paper addresses implementation of Security Council Resolutions 1460, 1539, and 1612, which call for specific actions to protect children and to control the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. A review of the literature in both fields was undertaken to understand the common ground and develop recommendations for action that could advance the goals of child protection and small arms control. Measures being developed to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict could assist in small arms control, while the technical work being done on the small arms issue could also have benefits for child protection. The challenge in both cases is making the transition from global commitments to effective implementation'.

Location:	http://www.humansecurity.gc.ca/f_policy_options_paper_small_arms_children-en.asp
Accessed:	08 September 2006

Title:	Putting Children First: Building a Framework for International Action to Address the Impact of Small Arms on Children
Publisher:	Biting the Bullet, Briefing 11, BASIC / International Alert / Saferworld, 2002
Author (s):	BASIC, International Alert, Saferworld

#### **Summary of Content:**

A review of the global impact of small arms on children and current initiatives and standards on small arms and children, in the context of the UN Conference on Small Arms. 'There are clear risks to children from SALW. The identified impacts of small arms on children in conflict and post-conflict situations include: death and injury; human rights abuses; displacement; psychological trauma; insecurity; the culture of violence; and loss of opportunities'.



Location:	http://www.international-alert.org/publications/84.php
Accessed:	14 July 2006



Title:	Exploring Small Arms Demand: A Youth Perspective
Publisher:	Institute for Security Studies, ISS Paper 67, March 2003
Author (s):	Angela McIntyre and Taya Weiss

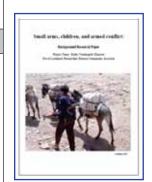
"The purpose of this paper is to begin exploring the complex relationships between arms proliferation, youth and security in the African context. While all three elements in the relationship stand alone as research, policy and advocacy issues, all can benefit from cross cutting analysis. The aim here is not to attempt to establish 'youth and small arms' as yet another niche. It is to lend a youth-centred perspective to small arms demand, taking into account enabling social, economic and political factors in arms proliferation, specifically on the demand side."

Location:	http://www.iss.co.za/index.php?link_id=20&slink_id=588&link_type=12&slink_type=12&tmpl_id=3
Accessed:	12 September 2006

Title:	Small arms, children, and armed conflict: Background Research Paper
Publisher:	World Vision, Canada, October 2005
Author (s):	Kathy Vandergrift, David Lochhead and Rebecca Steinmann

#### **Summary of Content:**

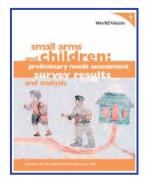
"This research project focuses on the common ground in policy development for Children and Armed Conflict and Small Arms and Light Weapons. The purpose is to develop an effective framework for action, based on a review of the literature in both fields. A case study approach was used to assess the potential of the various tools to contribute to effective international action on both issues. There are two reports from the project. The Policy Options Paper identifies points of intersection in current policy development and proposes ways that greater co-operation could add value for the work in both fields. The Background Research Paper provides an overview of developments in both fields with a focus on common ground and lessons from each field that might be useful for both issues. It serves as a reference for good practices, different approaches, and areas that need further investigation."



Location:	http://www.worldvision.ca/home/media/Final-Research-Paper-for-Small-Arms-and-Children-October-2005.pdf (Also available in French)
Accessed:	13 September 2006

Title:	Small Arms and Children: Preliminary Needs Assessment Survey Results and Assessment
Publisher:	World Vision, Canada. June 2006
Author (s):	

"In May 2006 a needs assessment survey on children and small arms was developed by World Vision Canada and sent to organizations working on issues related to children and/or small arms." Thirty-three organisations responded and are listed in the document.



Location:	http://www.worldvision.ca/home/media/6644_NeedsAssmnt_fnl2.pdf
Accessed:	12 August 2006

Title:	Small Arms and Children: Progress since 2001 and Recommendations for Further Action
Publisher:	World Vision, Canada. June 2006
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

"This policy document is a companion piece to, "Children and Small Arms: Needs Assessment Survey Results and Analysis" and builds on the policy options and research papers entitled, respectively, "Small Arms, children and armed conflict: Policy Options for Effective Action", and "Small arms, children and armed conflict: Background Research Paper", produced by World Vision Canada in 2004."

It reviews progress made since 2001 and makes the following recommendations:

- Specific strategies to co-ordinate implementation of the PoA (Program of Action on Small Arms) with implementation of Security Council Resolution 1612.
- Banning the supply of arms to countries and groups violating the rights of children, particularly those that use child soldiers.
- Inclusion of specific provisions for youth in the development of DDR standards and programs.
- Additional action-oriented research and data collection on the comprehensive effects of small arms on children.
- Inclusion of child-focused strategies in small arms awareness and education programs for field workers and the populations they serve.



Location:	http://www.worldvision.ca/home/media/6644_Policy_fnl2.pdf
Accessed:	12 July 2006



Title:	The Right to Peace: Children and Armed Conflict
Publisher:	Working Paper No. 1, World Vision, Canada. March 2000
Author (s):	

This Paper focuses on the impact of armed conflict on children as well as outlining the policy context. There is a section on the control of small arms.

Location:	http://www.worldvision.ca/home/media/TheRighttoPeace.pdf
Accessed:	12 July 2006

Title:	Neither War nor Peace: International Comparisons of Children and Youth in Organised Armed Violence	
Publisher:	COAV, Viva Rio, ISER, IANSA	
Author (s):	Luke Dowdney	

#### **Summary of Content:**

"The growing engagement of children and adolescents in organised armed violence is unfortunately becoming more common in some regions of the world. This engagement not only threatens the communities that may be exposed to the violence perpetrated by these groups, but frequently harms and even kills the children and adolescents who are directly involved....We need to understand when, how, and why children and adolescents are deciding to participate in organised armed violence. And why some youth groups start to become violent. These questions may then indicate more effective responses, including more appropriate reintegration of those involved, and how to prevent the enlistment of others." "As the title of this publication states, the phenomenon of youngsters engaged in organised armed violence is not the same as our general understanding of "war" – but it is even further away from our general understanding of "peace". In several regions of the world the level of insecurity related to this problem is making youth violence one of the top priorities on government agendas. Special measures are being considered particularly in order to repress youth gangs; some of these conflicting with basic international standards and the advances made since the Convention on the Rights of the Child was ratified. As this report shows, the search for quick and repressive answers to this deeply complex problem may aggravate the current situation."

#### The report covers:

- Organised Armed Groups;
- · Children and Youth in Organised Armed Violence;
- Firearms-related Mortality;
- Treating the Problem of Children and Youth in Organised Armed Violence; and
- Country Reports: Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Nigeria, Northern Ireland Philippines, South Africa, USA.

Location:	http://www.coav.org.br/publique/cgi/cgilua.exe/sys/start.htm?sid=104&UserActiveTemplate=_en	
Accessed:	14 July 2006	

Title:	Missing Pieces: Directions for Reducing Gun Violence through the UN Process on Small Arms Control	
Publisher:	Center for Humanitarian Dialogue, July 2006	
Author (s):		

Seven themes are covered including extensive references to youth:

- Regulating possession;
- Controlling supply;
- Survivors;
- Gender;
- Weapons reduction;
- Reducing demand; and
- Justice and Security Sector.

Extensive references to children and youth.



Location:	http://www.hdcentre.org/Missing%20Pieces
Accessed:	09 March 2006

Title:	Putting People First	
Publisher:	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, 2003	
Author (s):		
Summary of Content:		

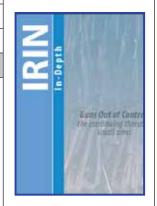


Location:	http://www.hdcentre.org/datastore/PPFeng.pdf (Also available in French, Spanish and Portuguese)
Accessed:	09 March 2006



Title:	Guns out of Control: the continuing threat of small arms	
Publisher:	IRIN May 2006	
Author (s):		

"The subject of small arms and light weapons has been covered in great detail in numerous studies and is an issue of concern for the United Nations, as well as a wide range of international nongovernmental organisations, think-tanks and government agencies. The aim of this In-Depth is thus not to attempt to challenge the wealth of material that is available, but rather to provide the reader an overview of the critical issues. It also includes 13 frontline reports from IRIN journalists, interviews with experts in the field and those who have directly experienced the human impact of small arms, and links to further information." Includes references to children. Excellent set of links to other materials.



Location:	http://www.irinnews.org/webspecials/small-arms/Small-Arms-IRIN-In-Depth.pd	df .
Accessed:	08 September 2006	

Title:	Targeting Children: Small Arms and Children in Conflict
Publisher:	Brown Journal of World Affairs, 2002
Author (s):	Rachel Stohl

#### **Summary of Content:**

An early article by a writer on small arms issues. Describes the primary impact of small arms on children, and their role in limiting opportunities: displacement and effect on families; hindering health and educational opportunities; and lack of food and humanitarian assistance; inhibiting economic opportunities; as well as contributing to cultures of violence and the recruitment of child soldiers.

Location:	http://www.watsoninstitute.org/bjwa/archive/9.1/SmallArms/Stohl.pdf
Accessed:	03 March 2006

Title:	Youth and Small Arms: a Dangerous Combination
Publisher:	GTZ, 2002
Author (s):	

"Youth work in developing countries is often carried out in an environment of violence and, to an ever-increasing extent, armed violence. Children and juveniles are frequently fascinated by violence and games with weapons. They are mostly associated with a feeling of power and superiority. A violent environment has serious negative effects on the development of children and youth, and especially in times of terror and war. Violence, regardless of the form it takes, is often seen as the only way of resolving conflicts. Yet it is in childhood and adolescence that the groundwork is laid for social skills and peaceful co-operation with others. Children and youth play a key role in armed violence as both offenders and victims. These are new challenges that development co-operation has to address." Two of GTZ's sectoral projects, Development Co-operation and Small Arms Control and Youths in Development Co-operation have been combined to provide support for youth projects where the misuse of small arms limits development work.

#### Topics:

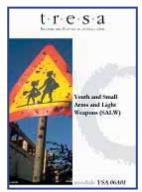
- Armed Youth Violence and Development;
- Case Study: the Dominican Republic;
- Case Study: El Salvador;
- Experiences in Germany;
- · Role of Police; and
- Criminological Research.

Location:	http://www2.gtz.de/dokumente/bib/03-5288.pdf
Accessed:	26 April 2006

Title:	Youth and Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)
Publisher:	TRESA (GTZ), 2006
Author (s):	Irma Specht and the TRESA Team

#### **Summary of Content:**

"This (training) module is intended for organizers, supervisors, trainers, and others working within youth organizations. The objective of this module is to familiarize the trainees with an understanding on why youth become involved with Small Arms and in what different ways and to enable the trainees to encourage the youth they are working with to become active in SALW control issues."

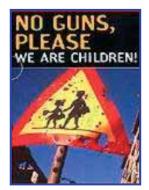


Location:	http://www.tresa-online.org/modules/module.php?id=9
Accessed:	26 September 2006



Title:	No Guns Please, We are Children
Publisher:	UNICEF 2001
Author (s):	

UNICEF's role in relation to small arms and children, their impact on children, and guiding principles in the campaign against SALW (Small Arms and Light Weapons).



Location:	http://www.unicef.org/emerg/index_smallarms.html
Accessed:	10 July 2006

Title:	Coalition for Gun Control: Kids and Guns
Publisher:	UNICEF, 2001
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

A study on kids and guns in Canada containing:

- The Problem.
- Kids Shooting Kids.
- Canada's Gun Control Law.
- Age of Access.
- How Young Offenders Get Guns.
- Gun Safety Training for Kids: Safety or Promotion?
- Waterfowler Heritage Days.
- Preliminary Strategy on Kids and Guns.
- International Sources of Information on Kids and Guns.

Location:	http://www.guncontrol.ca/Content/Kids.html
Accessed:	26 September 2006

Title:	Islands of Safety in a Sea of Guns: Gun-Free Zones in South Africa's Fothane, Diepkloof and Khayelitsha
Publisher:	Small Arms Survey, January 2006
Author (s):	Adèle Kirsten

A national gun-free movement emerged in South Africa as a result of very high levels of gun violence. Gun-free Zones (GFZ), social spaces where guns are prohibited, have been created in a wide range of places: educational institutions, churches, community centres, health facilities bars, government buildings, sports stadiums and so on. The present study reviewed the experience of three different sites in South Africa. "The GFZ project has contributed to other violence-reduction projects such as the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation's 40 schools project combined with the Tiisa Thuto project in Soweto. These projects have contributed to a climate where guns are seen as unacceptable in some public spaces such as schools." The document makes extensive references to the involvement of youth, both in gun violence and in the gun-free campaign.



Location:	http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/files/sas/publications/w_papers_pdf/WP/WP3_SouthAfrica.PDF
Accessed:	02 May 2006

Title:	Youth in War-to-Peace Transitions: Approaches of International Organizations
Publisher:	Berghof Report Nr. 10 January 2005, Berghof Research Center for Constructive Conflict Management
Author (s):	Yvonne Kemper

#### **Summary of Content:**

"This study deals with youth in war-to-peace transitions and the response of international organizations to them. While youth's relevance for societal transformation is a long-acknowledged fact, their large numbers and potential roles in conflict have recently caused organizations to consider them a target group for peace and development programs. Reflecting on this process, this study thus assesses the difficulties in conceptualizing the role of youth in peace-building processes on the one hand and the concrete efforts of international organizations to integrate them into their policies and programs on the other. For this purpose, it explores four guiding questions: First, what approaches have international organizations developed regarding youth? Second, on which assumptions about youth and their role in violent conflicts are they based? Third, how do the different approaches affect program development, and, fourth, are they are compatible? One of the obstacles in targeting youth is finding a common definition for them. While the United Nations (UN) defines them as people between the ages of 15 and 24, youth are, in reality, a very heterogeneous group. According to this study, youth is a transitional state between childhood and adulthood and is highly dependent on the socio-cultural environment. The situation of violent armed conflict exacerbates the problems of finding a common definition because it forces children to assume adult roles and functions."

Location:	http://www.berghof-center.org/uploads/download/br10e.pdf
Accessed:	14 September 2006



Title:	From Fieldwork to Facts to Firearms Control: A case study
Publisher:	Children's Institute, University of Cape Town, August 2005
Author (s):	

This case study is about the participation of the Child Health Policy Institute (CHPI), the forerunner of the Children's Institute, in a law reform process ultimately aimed at reducing firearm injuries and deaths in the country. Both Institutes were established specifically to span the bridge between the research and policy environment. This paper briefly describes the political context in which the project was initiated, the research on firearm injuries and deaths in children conducted by the CHPI, the communication of the research findings, the CHPI's participation in the law reform and advocacy process, and the lessons learnt in trying to bridge the gap between research and law reform.



Location:	http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/ci/pubs/pdf/rights/facts/FireArms Control.pdf	
Accessed:	10 October 2006	

## 2 Guns and Violence

Title:	A Common Tool: Firearms, Violence and Crime
Publisher:	Small Arms Survey, 2004
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

".. a growing human security movement aims to hold states accountable for controlling high levels of armed violence, particularly in the absence of basic measures to promote the safety and security of citizens. Others see armed violence as justification for an individual's right to self-defence, a concept frequently used to legitimize private gun ownership. These diverse interpretations highlight the need for a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between small arms and societal violence, defined here as the use of firearms in crime, suicide, and unintentional shootings.



This chapter considers the following questions:

- How prevalent is non-conflict-related gun violence, globally and regionally?
- Does the accessibility of firearms affect overall levels of violence?
- How do communities experience and react to gun violence?"

This chapter takes a global view of gun violence, while also considering the US perspective. There are some references to youth.

Location:	http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/files/sas/publications/year_b_pdf/2004/2004SASCh6_full_en.pdf Annexes: http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/files/sas/publications/year_b_pdf/2004/2004SASCh6_annexes_en.pdf (Summaries available in Arabic, English, French, German, Spanish)
Accessed:	05 July 2006

Title:	Fact Sheet on Schools, Youth and Violence
Publisher:	HELP Network - Mobilising the health community to prevent gun death and injury, 2003
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

Material from the USA.

Location:	http://www.helpnetwork.org/pdf/2003%20Fact%20Sheet%20on%20Schools,%20Youth%20and%20Violence.pdf
Accessed:	28 July 2006



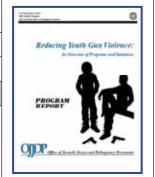
Title:	Reducing Youth Gun Violence: An Overview of Programs
TILIC.	and Initiatives

Publisher: US Department of Justice, May 1996

Author (s):

**Summary of Content:** 

Reviews best practice in youth violence programmes in the USA.

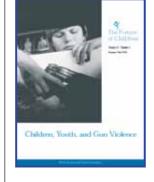


Location:	http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles/redyouth.pdf
Accessed:	14 July 2006

Title:	Children, Youth and Gun Violence	
Publisher:	The Future of Children, Volume 12 - Number 2, Summer/Fall 2002, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation	
Author (s):		

This research is US-focused, but much of it is of relevance to those considering the issue of children and guns. It contains:

- A Statement of Purpose by Richard E. Behrman.
- Children, Youth, and Gun Violence: Analysis and Recommendations by Kathleen Reich,
   Patti L. Culross, and Richard E. Behrman.
- Firearm-Related Death and Injury among Children and Adolescents by Lois A. Fingerhut
  and Katherine Kaufer Christoffel, offering an overview of trends in firearms-related
  injuries and deaths among Americans under age 20, and an assessment of which
  youth are most at risk for firearm death.
- Youth, Guns, and Violent Crime by Alfred Blumstein on how several interrelated factors, including the use of handguns by youth, the growth of illegal drug markets, and the prevalence of youth gun carrying, influenced trends in violent crime in the 1980s and 1990s.
- Where the Guns Come From: The Gun Industry and Gun Commerce by Garen J.
   Wintemute on how guns in the United States are manufactured, marketed, and sold in ways that make them attractive and accessible to youth, and a description of policies that hold promise for decreasing the flow of guns to youth.
- Mitigating the Effects of Gun Violence on Children and Youth by James Garbarino, Catherine P. Bradshaw, and Joseph A. Vorrasi on the psychological effects of exposure to gun violence on children and youth, and a discussion of strategies that adults can use to help children cope with gun violence.
- The Costs of Gun Violence against Children by Philip J. Cook and Jens Ludwig on understanding and estimating the costs of gun violence against young people, taking into account the intangible costs associated with concerns about the safety of children and youth.
- Behavior-Oriented Approaches to Reducing Youth Gun Violence by Marjorie S. Hardy
  offering a synthesis of research findings surrounding behavioral approaches to gun
  violence prevention, and a description of obstacles that hamper these programs'
  effectiveness, with particular focus on programs aimed at children and youth.
- Product-Oriented Approaches to Reducing Youth Gun Violence by Stephen P. Teret and Patti L. Culross covering a history of efforts to add product safety features to guns that would make them more difficult for children and youth to use, and an assessment of the potential of the product safety approach for reducing youth gun violence.
- Policing Guns and Youth Violence by Jeffrey Fagan covering case studies of how eight cities policed gun crime, through police-citizen partnerships to address youth violence, aggressive enforcement against youth suspected of criminal activity, alternatives to arrest to change youth behavior, or a combination of approaches.
- Public Perspectives: Introduction, comprising two descriptive articles that shed light
  on the beliefs of Americans and the opinions of advocacy groups on both sides of the
  debate about youth gun violence.
- Public Perspectives: Public Opinion about Gun Policies by Tom W. Smith.
- Public Perspectives: Children and Guns: Advocacy Groups Speak Out by James Forman, Jr.



Location:	http://www.futureofchildren.org/pubs-info2825/pubs-info_show.htm?doc_id=154414
Accessed:	26 July 2006



Title:	Measuring Violence-Related Attitudes, Behaviors, and Influences Among Youths: A Compendium of Assessment Tools Second Edition	
Publisher:	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Violence Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, 2005	
Author (s):		

"This compendium provides researchers and prevention specialists with a set of tools to assess violence-related beliefs, behaviors, and influences, as well as to evaluate programs to prevent youth violence. If you are new to the field of youth violence prevention and unfamiliar with available measures, you may find this compendium to be particularly useful. If you are an experienced researcher, this compendium may serve as a resource to identify additional measures to assess the factors associated with violence among youths." The Introduction includes a very useful discussion of outcomes evaluation. The focus is North American, but the scales covered may have relevance to other contexts. It includes 170 measures, some including references to guns and weapons.

#### Section I: Attitudes and Beliefs:

- Aggression/Delinquency.
- · Couple Violence.
- Education and School.
- Employment.
- Gangs.
- · Gender Roles.
- Guns.
- Television.

#### Section II: Psychological and Cognitive Assessments:

- Aggressive fantasies.
- Sense of safety.
- Perceived Likelihood of Involvement in Violence and Other Problem Behaviours.

#### Section III: Behaviour Assessments includes scales on:

- Handgun access.
- Safety and threats.
- Weapons carrying.

#### Section IV: Environmental Assessments includes scales on:

- Fear of crime.
- Children's exposure to community violence.

Location:	http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/pdf/YV/YV_Compendium.pdf
Accessed:	28 July 2006



Title:	Talking with Children about War and Violence in the World
Publisher:	Educators for Social Responsibility
Author (s):	Sheldon Berman, Sam Diener, Larry Dieringer, and Linda Lantieri

Discusses ways of talking with children and young people about wars, violence, and terrorism. It is US-focused but with useful ideas for other contexts.

Location:	http://www.esrnational.org/sp/we/heal/talkingwithchildren.pdf#search=%22war%20and%20violence%22
Accessed:	02 March 2006

Title:	Grassroots Efforts to Prevent and Resolve Violence
Publisher:	World Vision, June 2005
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

World Vision has a number of aims in supporting peace building in communities, including reducing violence and the use of small arms: ".. as a development organisation, World Vision is primarily interested in encouraging within communities conditions that reduce the violence and the demand for small arms and light weapons that plague too many communities worldwide." World Vision ddescribes programmes on peace-building by children and youth in Kosovo, Colombia, Indonesia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sierra Leone. In Sierra Leone the project targeted young people who has used small arms and those who had chosen not to.



Location:	http://www.worldvision.ca/home/media/Grassrootsweb.pdf
Accessed:	28 July 2006

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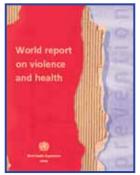


## 3 Public Health

(See separate document: Children and Small Arms Resource Guide: Public Health Approaches in the Education section of this website)

Title:	WHO World Report on Violence and Health
Publisher:	World Health Organization, 2002
Author (s):	
Summary of Contont:	

Includes a section on tackling youth gun violence.



Location:	http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/world_report/en/full_en.pdf
Accessed:	29 March 2006

Title:	Child and adolescent injury prevention: A global call to action
Publisher:	WHO and UNICEF, 2005
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

Reviews injury prevention and makes a number of recommendations. No separate statistics available for injuries to children and young people from small arms.



Location:	http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2005/9241593415_eng.pdf#search=%22Child%20and%20Adolescent%20Injury%20prevention%3A%20A%20global%20Call%20to%20Action%22
Accessed:	29 March 2006

#### **Summary of Content:**

Identifies access to firearms and other weapons as a contributing cause of violence, at both the individual and societal levels, identifies the question 'Are weapons involved?' as a key issue in analyzing school violence, and the number of weapons confiscated as an indicator of local situations.



Location:	http://www.who.int/school_youth_health/media/en/sch_violence_prevention_en.pdf
Accessed:	29 March 2006



Title:	WHO Youth Violence: Facts	1	4.	4
Publisher:	World Health Organization, 2002	1	No.	ONTH TO
Author (s):		1		
Summary of Co	ntent:	1		

Summarizes relevant material from the World Report on violence and health.

Location: http://www.who.int/violence\_injury\_prevention/violence/world\_report/factsheets/en/youthviolencefacts.pdf
(Also available in French, Albanian and Macedonian)

Accessed: 24 May 2006

#### Youth and Armed Conflict 4

Title:	Youth and Violent Conflict: Society and Development in Crisis	
Publisher:	United Nations Development Programme, 2006	
Author (s):		

#### **Summary of Content:**

Review of the Literature:

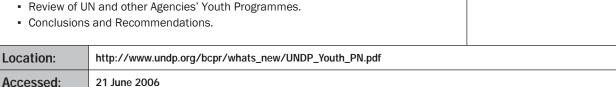
- What is Youth?
- Youth and Violent Conflict.
- Why is Youth in Crisis?

Non-Violent Responses to Crisis? A review of Policy Frameworks:

- The conflict prevention agenda.
- · The youth agenda.
- The development agenda.

A review of UNDP youth programming:

Review of UN and other Agencies' Youth Programmes.



Title:	Youth and Conflict: A Brief Review of Available Literature	
Publisher:	EQUIP 3/Youth Trust, May 2000	
Author (s):	Marc Sommers, Youth Research Specialist	

#### **Summary of Content:**

"Youth engulfed by conflict and post-conflict situations face circumstances that substantially alter their lives and prospects. This makes effective programming for them challenging yet vital. Drawing on extensive archival and internet research, this short analytical literature review aims to illuminate key themes, trends, and promising prospects for war-affected youth and the programs that aim to assist them. The review will introduce debates over how the youth category has been defined and whether youth should be seen primarily as passive victims of warfare, active threats to peace, or as resilient survivors. Analysis suggests that while war's effects on youth are complex, resilience is their most prominent shared characteristic. The implication of this analysis on programming is significant because it casts youth as central formulators of youth programming. Analysis in the subsequent discussion of programmatic responses reveals several widely shared program themes related to class, gender, advocacy, participation, work, and holism. It also reviews the six main program areas emerging from the literature: vocational training, reproductive health, basic skills, peace education, empowerment, and psycho-social programming." Although the article does not explicitly refer to small arms issues, it deals with issues relating to youth and youth programming, which are essential for those working with youth and small arms to consider.



Contact: msommers@bu.edu

Location:	http://www.equip123.net/docs/e3-YouthandConflictLitReview.pdf
Accessed:	13 September 2006



Title:	Children and Armed Conflict: a guide to international humanitarian and human rights law	
Publisher:	blisher: The Children and Armed Conflict Unit	
Author (s):	Rachel Harvey	

Includes a chapter on international law in relation to SALW.



Location:	http://www.essex.ac.uk/armedcon/story_id/000044.pdf
Accessed:	21 March 2006

Title:	RSC Working Paper No. 30 Research with Children Living in Situations of Armed Conflict: Concepts, Ethics & Methods	
Publisher:	Refugee Studies Centre, 2006	
Author (s):	Jason Hart and Bex Tyrer	

## **Summary of Content:**

Although there is no explicit mention of small arms, this paper raises many important issues relevant to those considering the issues of children, small arms and education.



Location:	http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/PDFs/workingpaper30.pdf
Accessed:	12 July 2006

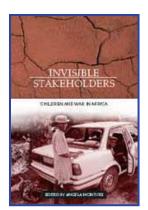
Title:	The Impact of Conflict on Children - the role of small arms
Publisher:	UNIDIR (United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research)
Author (s):	Julia Freedson
Summary of Content:	

Overview of the issues in 2002.

Location:	http://www.unidir.org/pdf/articles/pdf-art1730.pdf
Accessed:	08 September 2006

Title:	Invisible stakeholders: The Impact of Children on War <sup>1</sup>	
Publisher:	Institute for Security Studies, South Africa, April 2004	
Author (s):	Angela McIntyre (Editor)	

Presents an important corrective to much of the literature on children, small arms and armed conflict, emphasising children's agency and the failure of governments to ensure systems of governance where children's rights are met. "The involvement of young people in political upheaval is an inevitability that is not accurately represented by the image of the child-abductee holding an AK-47 and dressed in cast-off scraps of uniform. Images, which, in any case, do not hold the same meaning for African citizens and policymakers, many of whom played roles as young people in their country's liberation struggles, that they do for the rest of the global community. This does not mean that recruiting children to fight is an acceptable practice in Africa. It simply means that the meaning of children fighting is as variable as the contexts in which it occurs, and that the inventory of conflict stakeholders, and not just that of victims, must, especially in Africa, include young people." There are chapters on Mozambique, Angola, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Ethiopia.

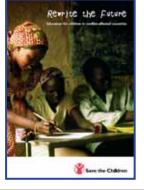


Location:	http://www.issafrica.org/pubs/Books/InvisibleStakeholders/Intro.pdf http://www.issafrica.org/pubs/Books/InvisibleStakeholders/Contents.htm	
Accessed:	12 September 2006	

Title:	Rewrite the Future: education for children in conflict-affected countries
Publisher:	Save the Children Alliance, 2006
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

This is a policy document on children and conflict. Although there is no explicit reference to small arms, the impact of armed conflict on children's access to education is highlighted.



Location:	http://www.savethechildren.net/alliance/rewritethefuture/pdf/RewritetheFuture-PolicyReport.pdf
Accessed:	18 September 2006

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mbox{\tiny 1}}$  Also referred to as 'Invisible Stakeholders: Children and War in Africa'.

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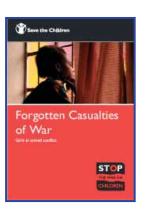


## 5 Gender, Youth and Small Arms

Title:	Forgotten Casualties of War: Girls in Armed Conflict
Publisher:	Save the Children, 2005
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

This makes the very important point that a narrow focus on the number of guns collected during DDR (Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration) programmes risks ignoring the needs of many children involved in armed conflict, and particularly girls. Up to 40% of children involved in armed conflict are girls and it is important that programs should not be based on a narrow focus on small arms/guns. "The success of a DDR process is often measured by the number of weapons collected rather than the successful reintegration of former combatants. The reintegration phase for children is usually left to nongovernmental organisations and UNICEF, and is invariably under-funded. Those at the end of the queue for entering the process are children. At the end of this queue are girls, who are by and large invisible."



Location:	http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/temp/scuk/cache/cmsattach/2698_GAAF%20report.pdf
Accessed:	25 September 2006

Title:	Few Options But the Gun: Angry Young Men
Publisher:	Small Arms Survey, 2006
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

"Armed and angry young men are perhaps the most feared element of any society, but they also have the most to fear. Regardless of the countries in which they live, young men represent a disproportionately high share of the perpetrators and victims of gun-related, lethal violence. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that boys are two to three times more likely than girls to get involved in fighting (WHO, 2002, p. 29). Young men—those aged 15 to 29—also account for half of global firearm homicide victims, or 70,000 to 100,000 deaths annually. While studies of youth violence have long considered the role played by young men, the issue has received little attention in the framework of small arms research. This chapter begins to fill the gap by examining the following questions:



- Why are young men the primary perpetrators of armed violence?
- What role do small arms play in this phenomenon?

Have interventions designed to prevent or reduce armed violence adequately tackled the complex relationship that exists between young men and small arms?" (emphasis added)

Location:	http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/files/sas/publications/year_b_pdf/2006/2006SASCh12-full_en.pdf
Accessed:	05 July 2006



Title:	Why the Worry about Young Men?
Publisher:	Promundo, Brazil, 2005
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	
Focuses on higher death rates for young men due to homicides and road accidents.	
Location:	http://www.promundo.org.br/1-Site%20em%20Ingles/Pesquisas/01Chapter1304.pdf
Accessed:	28 July 2006

Title:	Gender Awareness in Research on Small Arms and Light Weapons: A Preliminary Report
Publisher:	Swiss Peace, 2005
Author (s):	Emily Schroeder, Vanessa Farr and Albrecht Schnabel

There are many references to children and young people.

"A more multi-disciplinary approach to research on small arms in recent years is looking beyond simply "counting the weapons," focusing also on the devastating human suffering facilitated by arms proliferation. Unfortunately, a discussion of how gender ideologies might influence people's attitudes to small arms has been largely absent in this discourse. Yet, gender shapes and constrains the behavior and attitudes of women and men, including creating differences in their approaches to and use of small arms. Because these differences have not yet been widely – or only inadequately – researched, we have little scientific evidence with which to influence the development of gender mainstreamed programs to curtail the impacts of small arms and light weapons. This Working Paper reports on the preliminary findings of a collaborative project on "Gender Perspectives on Small Arms and Light Weapons," which aims to contribute to existing efforts to fill this research gap. Drawing on experiences and data from Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South America, the South Pacific, Europe and North America, the Working Paper identifies common themes, questions, challenges and recommendations that have so far emanated from the research project."



Location:	http://www.swisspeace.org/publications/wp/WP_Schnabel_1_2005.pdf
Accessed:	02 March 2006

Title:	Putting a Human Face to the Problem of Small Arms Proliferation: Gender Implications for the Effective Implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects
Publisher:	International Alert, February 2005
Author (s):	Nicola Johnston and William Godnick with Charlotte Watson and Michael von Tangen Page

#### Gender and Disarmament:

"There is increasing evidence that DDR efforts are not effective because they only benefit certain sectors of the population of a given society. This happens sometimes by design but more often because broader sets of actors, such as women's groups and youth, who were involved in the conflict or that have capacities for peacebuilding were neither consulted nor contemplated seriously during planning and implementation. Many adolescents, boys and girls grew up with SALW in their homes and communities and know of no other way of life. Effectively disarming and reintegrating these groups requires more than taking away their guns and providing economic opportunities. It also requires creating time and space for conditions and attitudes to change. Demand for SALW and the belief in weapons as agents of change will only reduce as acceptance that ideas and institutions are effective agents of change increases."



Location:	http://www.international-alert.org/pdfs/gender_and_programme_of_action.pdf
Accessed:	02 March 2006

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#### 6 Child Soldiers and Disarmament

Title:	Draft Regional Strategy to Disarm Children and Youth in Africa
Publisher:	UNICEF, 2002
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

"In an effort to improve its role in addressing the impact small arms and light weapons has on children, UNICEF has supported the development of the following strategy for Africa. This document is a first attempt to identify the issues that should be addressed by UNICEF and its partners to lessen the impact on children of the increased availability of small arms and light weapons in African countries. The Draft Strategy will undergo further review and be fed into international, regional, and national programmes."

Location:	http://www.iss.co.za/Pubs/CReports/DisarmChildSep02/DraftStrategy.pdf
Accessed:	28 July 2006

Title:	Child Soldiers Global Report 2004
Publisher:	Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

Small arms are a key factor in the increased use of child soldiers. There is a large literature on this subject, see: http://www.child-soldiers.org.

## Child Soldiers

Global Report 2004

Na report coars the particular has

Location:	http://www.child-soldiers.org/resources/global-reports?root_id=159&category_id=15
Accessed:	12 September 2006

Title:	Impact of Armed Conflict on Children
Publisher:	UN Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, August 1996
Author (s):	Gracha Machal

#### **Summary of Content:**

The pioneering UN study on child soldiers.

Location:	http://www.unicef.org/graca/a51-306_en.pdf
Accessed:	24 May 2006

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#### 7 Guns and Media

Title:	Playing with Firearms: What Parents Need To Know About Guns In Video Games
Publisher:	Americans for Gun Safety Foundation, 2001
Author (s):	

#### **Summary of Content:**

Highlights the access that children and young people in the US have to guns, and the need for safe storage and knowledge about safe use of firearms. "But there is a chilling and potentially dangerous counterpart to the access that many Children have to guns in the home: an array of easily available video games that provide appalling portrayals of guns being used in an irresponsible manner and without any consequence. Even diligent parents and responsible gun owners may be unaware of the damaging lessons that these video games are teaching their children about guns. Simply put, while most parents teach their kids the "do's" of gun safety; these games teach them the "don'ts". In households across the country, children are playing games with startlingly realistic, computer-generated versions of the very guns that may be available in their own homes. Armed with these virtual weapons, children embark on remarkably life-like simulations of horrifying acts of gun violence in video games played on computers, the Internet or home gaming systems. While many of these games are intended to represent a fantasy world, game makers strive to replicate real-life settings, adding detail to the weapons and to the carnage they reap, thus blurring the line between fantasy and reality." Although the focus is the USA, this is an important document, as many videos and computer games are now available globally, particularly in South Eastern Europe, and children as young as five, and young people, spend considerable amounts of time playing them in Internet cafes (or 'Counterstrike cafes', a name coined by the present author while working in Kosovo).



Location:	http://www.agsfoundation.com/media/games_report.pdf
Accessed:	12 April 2006

**Review of Key Literature on Children, Youth and Small Arms** (2006-09-30)



## 8 Youth and the Gun Industry

Title:	"A 0.22 for Christmas": How the Gun Industry Designs and Markets Firearms to Children and Youth
Publisher:	Violence Policy Centre, 2001
Author (s):	
Summary of Content:	
A study by a gun control organisation of how the gun industry in the US designs and markets guns to young people.	
Location:	http://www.vpc.org/studies/22cont.htm
Accessed:	21 June 2006





# **SEESAC**