

International Literature Project Series

Preparing Social Work Students to Practice in An Interconnected World

IMMIGRATION

NONFICTION FROM IRAN: [Hunger](#)

An immigrant teen in the streets of LA, "where you are visible and invisible."

by Salar Abdoh

SOURCE: Words Without Borders Campus (wwb-campus.org)

Click on the title above to access the reading and related multi-media teaching and learning resources, including author and translator bios and representations of socio-geographic-political and cultural context.

SOCIAL WORK TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

International youth migrants: News stories from top immigrant destination countries in the world

Why Immigrant Kids Become Homeless: Study Finds Cultural Clash with Parents is the Top Reason

Toronto Star

"At age 12, Cheyanne Ratnam began couch-surfing to keep herself housed. By 14, she was a ward of the Children's Aid Society of Toronto. After she grew out of care, the young immigrant still faced the prospect of becoming homeless. "I grew up in the Canadian culture and there was a difference between cultures. My mom did not approve of the choices I made. I was well adjusted, and I didn't understand why mom could not," said Ratnam, now 27. She describes a family life filled with emotional conflicts. [For data on global migration, see [Top 25 Destinations of International Migrants](#) and [World Migration Report 2020](#).]

Germany's Thousands of 'Missing' Refugee Minors

DW (Deutsche Welle), Germany's international broadcaster

"Authorities lose track of thousands of unaccompanied child refugees each year. Often they are safe, but experts say alarmingly little is known about their situations, and the government must do more to protect them."

EU Countries Warned of 'Lost Generation' of Young Refugees

BBC News, The British Broadcasting Corporation

"Authorities lose track of thousands of unaccompanied child refugees each year. Often they are safe, but experts say alarmingly little is known about their situations, and the government must do more to protect them. The increased influx of refugees to Europe in recent years has also brought tens of thousands of refugee minors to Germany, as well as other countries."

“Like a Lottery” Arbitrary Treatment of Unaccompanied Migrant Children in Paris

Human Rights Watch

“On a typical night, some 200 or more unaccompanied migrant children sleep on the streets of Paris. In large part, these children are homeless as a consequence of arbitrary procedures and inordinate delays in determining that they are under age 18, the first step to entry into the child protection system.”

Far From Family, Alone, Homeless and Still Just 18

The New York Times

“One said goodbye, embracing his anxious parents. One left without a word, indignant and angry. After traveling thousands of miles by bus, train and on foot, the two young men met in a homeless shelter on Chicago’s Northwest Side.”

A Line Birds Cannot See (Animated documentary short film)

The New Yorker

“Separated from her mother by smugglers at the border, a determined 12-year-old sets out across a desert with only a plastic sack for protection from the cold, survives starvation on the streets of Ciudad Juarez, and escapes kidnappers to find her mother and a place where they can be safe again.” See [Video](#) (9:58).

International youth migration: Concerns, challenges, and promising practices

Migration and Youth: Challenges and Opportunities

United Nations Children’s Fund

According to this report, the intersection of migration and youth remains a large, inadequately addressed challenge for governance in countries worldwide and at the international level. This report by the Global Migration Group is the first publication to comprehensively address the multi-dimensional issue of youth migration. It assembles knowledge, lessons learned, good practices and innovative policy perspectives from nearly a score of United Nations agencies and international organizations, as well as academics, civil society representatives, youth leaders and other experts and stakeholders.

Addressing Rural Youth Migration at its Root Causes: A Conceptual Framework

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

This report zeros in on the case of rural youth migration. It presents a conceptual framework focusing on the migration of rural youth (aged 15–24), who account for a large proportion of migrants and are a particularly vulnerable group. The framework comprises three sections: analysis of the main factors determining the propensity of rural youth to migrate; assessment of the likely impacts of distress migration of rural youth in terms of rural development for local areas of origin; and illustration of the most promising policies and programs to reduce distress migration of rural youth and maximize its developmental benefits for the communities of origin.

Youth Migration

United National World Youth Report

The World Youth Report offers a broad understanding of the situation of young migrants from the perspective of young migrants themselves. The report highlights some of the concerns, challenges and successes experienced by young migrants based on their own lives and told in their own voices. Chapter 5, Youth Awareness and Engagement on Migration, concludes that "Governments can include migrant youth in policy-making processes, strengthen mechanisms that promote and protect the rights of young migrants, and promote institutional arrangements that enhance the capacity of youth to participate at the local and national levels. Without a major shift in perspective on youth involvement, young migrants will be unable to fulfill their potential role as partners in the articulation and implementation of inclusive, equitable and sustainable development policies." The report is aimed at youth-led organizations and young migrants as well as policy-makers, academia and the general public.

Youth and Migration: Engaging Youth as Key Partners in Migration Governance

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

According to António Vitorino, Director General of IOM, in his forward to this report "It is not enough to aim policies at young migrants: to truly invest in the next generation is to involve young members of the diaspora in those policies." It addresses: engaging youth as key partners in migration governance, creating evidence on youth migration, promoting social integration and empowerment, involving youth in the development and design of migration strategies, strengthening cooperation with youth, and how technology and innovation can support youth and migration.

For teaching suggestions, please see [Using This Resource](#) in the International Literature Project Series.