

Children of the Drug War

Damon Barrett (ed), iDebate Books

Calling for proposals for a compilation of essays on the impact of the war on drugs on children and young people.

Proposals should be sent by email to childrenofthedrugwar@googlemail.com by Friday 29th January 2010.

Overview

The war on drugs has had a devastating impact on the lives of children and young people all over the world. Young people have been excluded from school and excluded from healthcare services. They have experienced the loss of a parent or loved one due to HIV/AIDS or overdose. They have grown up with a primary caregiver incarcerated for minor drug offences. They have been incarcerated themselves or coerced into closed treatment centres. They have seen their communities uprooted due to crop eradication programmes or drug fuelled conflict to become statistics of human displacement. They have been forced into the drug trade and brutalised by organised criminals. The impacts of the drug war on children and young people are extensive and right in front of us. They are neither hidden nor trivial, but they are often ignored, and the perspectives of young people rarely taken into account.



AP Photo/The State, Erik Campos

This compilation of essays presents an opportunity to bring these many issues together. It is intended as a discussion piece to highlight the impacts of the war on drugs from the perspectives of children and young people and to promote a greater focus on children and young people in drug policies, nationally and internationally. The book will include a mix of essays from around the world covering the negative impacts of the war on drugs as well as highlighting the resilience of young people in extremely difficult circumstances and inspiring programmes working with them.

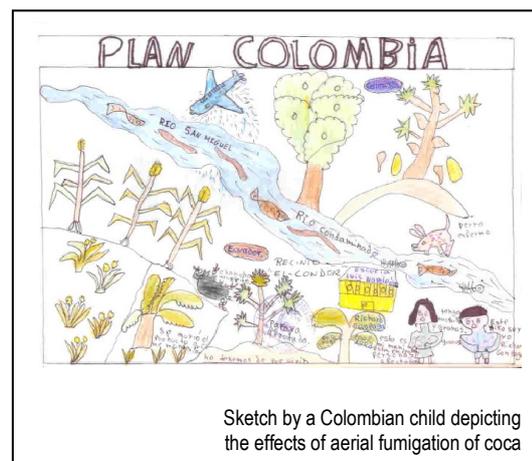
Guidelines for submissions

Proposals are invited from researchers, academics, service providers or users, social workers, NGOs, journalists etc.

Submissions are particularly welcome from young people.

The editor is looking for original, well-written and engaging essays. They may be based on existing research, interviews, personal experiences or they may be more narrative or journalistic in style. Contributions based on the work of NGOs or youth services are also welcome.

Topics may range from broad policy analyses to case studies and may cover any aspect of the war on drugs so long as the focus is on the perspectives of, or impacts on, children and young people.



Sketch by a Colombian child depicting the effects of aerial fumigation of coca

All papers must be submitted in English. The style is up to the individual contributor and should be described in the proposal. Those with more original subject matter and/or approach will be preferred. A mix of styles will be included in the final publication.

The proposal should be no more than 500 words. The final paper should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words. There is some flexibility in the final length, which may depend on subject matter or approach adopted.

Fees/Grants

There is no fee for contributions. A small grant may be available for proposals that require expenses in their development – e.g. an interview-based piece involving travel. Authors should specify if such costs are required in their proposals. Grants will not be available for all papers.

Submission

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Requests for information to Damon Barrett (Editor) at the same address.



'Kormix', an innovative project in Phnom Penh, that uses Hip-Hop music & culture to reach young people at risk from harmful drug use and HIV