Assessing the Meeting Places of Youth for Citizenship and Socialization

By

Lisbeth Lindström and Anna Öqvist
Lecturers (Education/Social Sciences) Department of Culture, Communication and Learning, Luleå University of Technology, SE-971 87 Luleå, Sweden
E-mails: Lisbeth.Lindstrom@ltu.se, Anna.Oqvist@ltu.se

Abstract

The purpose of this article is to describe, explore and discuss whether meeting places for youth such as youth clubs support their citizenship in terms of gender equality, influence and participation. The following questions were of interest; what is the overall aim of the local councils regarding these clubs and meeting places? What kind of activities do they offer and what kind of citizenship do they support? The result shows that these places are more attractive to boys than to girls. Furthermore, these meeting places can, if developed, be places for the development of youth citizenship from the perspective of integration, gender equality and participation.

Keywords: gender, citizenship, youth, case study, Youth Clubs