

Every year, the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town, publishes the *South African Child Gauge* to track progress towards the realisation of children's rights.

The *South African Child Gauge 2010/2011* is sixth in the series and focuses on children's citizenship and participatory rights. This issue also reflects on recent legislative developments affecting children, and provides child-centred data on children's access to social services, education, health care, housing and basic services. In keeping with the theme of children's participation, children have produced the artwork in this issue and have been consulted on the design of the accompanying poster. A child-friendly summary of the book is available on www.ci.org.za.

The Children's Institute aims to contribute to policies, laws and interventions that promote equality and realise the rights and improve the conditions of all children in South Africa, through research, advocacy, education and technical support.

What readers and contributors say about the *South African Child Gauge*

"Our efforts towards full realisation of rights of children can only succeed through a strong collaboration between government, civil society, UN agencies and other development partners. In this context, publications such as the *South African Child Gauge* provide a critical analysis of some of the challenges to the fulfilment of children's rights."

Lulu Xingwana, Minister of Women, Children and People with Disabilities

"[T]he *South African Child Gauge* is the only publication in South Africa that combines detailed empirical data ... in a user-friendly and accessible format, with insightful and thought-provoking research and commentary in the sphere of children's rights."

Belinda van Heerden, Supreme Court judge

"You'll find information here that's near impossible to obtain elsewhere. The *Children Count* section offers the most authoritative and up-to-date data on the health and well-being of South Africa's children."

Professor Haroon Saloojee, Division of Community Paediatrics, University of Witwatersrand

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ISBN 978-0-98143207-6

