

Brazilian Children Get Site That Teaches Their Rights

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Since the end of last year, Brazilian children have access to a new tool to learn about their rights, in a playful and easily understandable manner, and how to fight back when these rights are infringed.

This tool is a site created by the Swedish non-governmental organization, Save the Children, and adapted to Brazilian conditions. The organization is active around the world on behalf of minors in situations of risk.

The Portuguese version of the Dina's World site was launched on the Internet on a trial basis in October. The site went on the air at the end of November, to commemorate the 16th anniversary of the drafting of the United Nation's (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child. The address is: www.scslat.org/omundodedina.

The site, which was prepared for an audience of children in the 7-13 age bracket, deals with 26 of the 54 articles in the UN Convention.

Dina, a little girl, is the main figure. Through her adventures, narrated in the form of stories and games, children learn about the significance of these rights and how they apply to daily life.

Márcia Oliveira, social program assistant of Save The Children in Brazil, informed that the adaptation of the site to Brazil focused on the articles in which the rights and their infringements could be most readily perceived by the children.

Outstanding among them are protection against discrimination, the right to personal relations and direct contacts with both parents, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, the right to privacy, and the right to education and healthcare.

"Through the stories, they can see how these rights are violated in daily life and how to stop these violations from occurring," Oliveira said.

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