

Children who are currently excluded or vulnerable to marginalisation and exclusion:

Source: Implementation Handbook for the Convention on the Rights of the Child - Fully Revised Edition; UNICEF 2002; page 28

Grounds for discrimination against Children

The following grounds for discrimination and groups affected by discrimination have been identified by the Committee* in its examination of Initial Reports (they are listed in no particular order of significance)

- gender
- disability
- race, xenophobia and racism
- ethnic origin
- sexual orientation
- particular castes, tribes
- “untouchability”
- language
- children not registered at birth
- children born a twin
- children born on an unlucky day
- children born in the breech position
- children born in abnormal conditions
- a “one child” or “three child” policy
- orphans
- place of residence
 - distinction between different provinces/territories/states, etc.
 - rural (including rural exodus)
 - urban
 - children living in slums
 - children in remote areas and remote islands
 - displaced children
 - homeless children
 - abandoned children
 - children placed in alternative care
 - ethnic minority children placed in alternative care
 - institutionalized children
 - children living and/or working in the streets
- children involved in juvenile justice system
 - in particular, children whose liberty is restricted
- children affected by armed conflict
- working children
- children subjected to violence
- child beggars
- children affected by HIV/AIDS
- children of parents with HIV/AIDS
- young single mothers
- minorities, including
 - Roma children/gypsies/travellers/nomadic children
 - children of indigenous communities
- non-nationals, including
 - immigrant children
 - illegal immigrants
 - children of migrant workers
 - refugees/asylum-seekers
 - including unaccompanied refugees
- children affected by natural disasters
- children living in poverty/extreme poverty
- unequal distribution of national wealth
- social status/social disadvantage/social disparities
- children affected by economic problems/changes
- economic status of parents causing racial segregation at school
- parental property
- parents’ religion
- religion-based personal status laws
- non-marital children (children born out of wedlock)
- children of single-parent families
- children in incestuous unions
- children of marriages between people of different ethnic/religious groups or nationalities

*Committee on the Right of the Child