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“CHILDHOOD AND POVERTY IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY MADRID”,
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ABSTRACT

As in the rest of the European territories during the biological Ancien Regime, the children and teenage population were an outstanding element in the demographic pyramid of the Hispanic Monarchy. However, this qualitative and quantitative importance is not tantamount to our current knowledge on the material and labor life of the children in early-modern Spain. Except for the serial information on the natural movement of rural and urban populations, and the case of the foundlings, the third part of the subjects of his catholic majesty remains unexplored. Our paper focuses on the case of Madrid and aims at clarifying the contribution of children to the family economy, their living conditions and -specifically- their weight within the labor market.

Key words: Childhood, child poverty, household types, child labor, social unrest, labor conflicts, young criminals, eighteenth century.