



## **GLOBAL CHILDHOODS**

**IS 189: Special Topic in Global & International Studies**

**Spring 2024**

**Professor Vibhuti Ramachandran**

**This class will explore the experiences of childhood in different global contexts, and a range of interventions that seek to protect and to punish children and youth. On the one hand, children and youth are perceived as innocent victims (orphaned, trafficked, abandoned, etc.) in need of protection and assistance. On the other hand, they are policed, punished, and forcibly removed from their families. In reality, the identities, needs, and experiences of children and youth are far more complex than these contrasting interventions presume. Children and youth are workers, migrants, caregivers, and subjects who make choices about their lives and those around them. How are their needs and experiences addressed by existing interventions, and how are they obscured, sidelined, misunderstood, or misrepresented? We will use academic texts, documentary films, and podcasts to explore these themes and questions.**

