This study, conducted in the Kagera region of north-western Tanzania, shows that children living on the streets can reintegrate into the community when given adequate support. The life trajectories of a group of around 250 children and young people were studied retrospectively from before they had left home to after they had been reintegrated for at least a one-year period.

The results provide insights into the conditions under which children leave home, how their lives are shaped on the streets and as domestic workers, and what facilitates their return and reintegration into the community. This study reaffirms the important roles of children's agency, resilience and social capital, in combination with peoplecentred and community-based social work, in making reintegration possible.

Jeanette Olsson is a social worker and public health professional who for over two decades has worked in the field of children and young people in Sweden and internationally. This is her dissertation thesis for PhD.

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

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