



## **ANGLAIS**

The Senegalese government attempted to address child begging in recent years by sending police and social workers into streets to remove children. Tremendous efforts were made to put an end to **that phenomenon**. However, the initiatives remained superficial and limited to Dakar with many shortcomings, notably the failure to address root causes or incorporate deterrence by way of prosecutions preventing widespread or durable impact.

The first phase of one of these initiatives, a program known as “the removal of children from the streets“ removed over 1500 children. That number included around 1,000 street children from the streets of Dakar. The operation took place from June 2016 to early 2017. A July 2017 Human Rights Watch report identified a number of serious problems with the program. The report especially mentioned the failure to investigate or arrest any of the Quranic teachers responsible for forcing the children to beg, and the return of some 1,000 street children to those same teachers.

Afterwards, a November 2017 anti-trafficking police operation in partnership with Interpol rescued over 50 children. Most of **them** were in the streets of Dakar. The operation incorporated the missing step: investigations, arrests and prosecutions. Unfortunately, sources from shelters where the children were placed told Human Rights Watch that some of these children were returned later in 2018 to their Quranic teachers. Several of them had only served a few months in prison.

Adapted from A December 2019 Human Rights Watch Report Available at

[http //www.hrw.org/report/2019/12](http://www.hrw.org/report/2019/12)