

## **Working Children and Adolescents and the Vicious Circle of Poverty from the Perspective of Gunnar Myrdal's Theory of Circular Cumulative Causation: Analysis and Implementation of a Probit Model to Brazil**

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**Abstract :** The objective of this paper is to study the work of children and adolescents and the vicious circle of poverty from the perspective of Gunnar Myrdal's Theory of Circular Cumulative Causation. The objective is to show that if a person starts working in the juvenile phase of life they will be classified as poor or extremely poor when they are adult, which can be observed in the case of Brazil, more specifically in the north and northeast. To do this, the methodology used was statistical and econometric analysis by applying a probit model. The main results show that: if people reside in the northeastern region of Brazil, and if they have a low educational level and if they start their professional life before the age 18, they will increase the likelihood that they will be poor or extremely poor. There is a consensus in the literature that one of the causes of the intergenerational transmission of poverty is related to child labor, this because when one starts their professional life while still in the toddler or adolescence stages of life, they end up sacrificing their studies. Because of their low level of education, children or adolescents are forced to perform low-paid functions and abandon school, becoming in the future, people who will be classified as poor or extremely poor. As a result of poverty, parents may be forced to send their children out to work when they are young, so that in the future they will also become poor adults, a process that is characterized as the "vicious circle of poverty."

**Keywords :** children, adolescents, Gunnar Myrdal, poverty, vicious circle

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