

Carlos, Mexico

Carlos, 17, is from Mexico City, Mexico. He has a 22-year-old brother and a 16-year-old sister.

Carlos has worked in various jobs and gone to school at the same time since he was ten years old. From ages 10-12, Carlos worked on the street throwing away trash. From 12-14-years-old, he distributed newspapers. From 14-15-years-old, he worked as a bag boy in a grocery store from 5-10 p.m. for tips. With the money he has earned, Carlos has bought his own clothes and shoes. Since he was 16, Carlos has worked in a sweet/drink shop and in screen-printing.



Carlos, 17, Children's World Congress on Child Labor and Education, New Delhi, India, Sept 4-8, 2004

While working and studying simultaneously has been challenging, Carlos has succeeded in passing every grade. He is now in his last year of high school. Yet, he wants a better life for children. If he were in charge, children would have ample time to learn and play instead of work.

Carlos would like to go to university and teach literature.