Children in richer families in Sierra Leone have the opportunity for schooling and such, but as for the poorer families, children do not have much opportunity for advancement. Children in poorer families often face abandonment by their parents because of economic instability thus creating thousands of street kids who have to find their way of living at an age as early as 4 years old. These street kids are the target for the RUF organization.

History and Prevalence of Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone

In the early 1990s, the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) of Sierra Leone, led by former military agents invaded Sierra Leone from Liberia. The RUF initially said they were leading a political movement. Their main goals were to promote liberation, democracy, and freedom.