

CHILD LABOUR- A REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

It has been observed over many years that, poverty forces poor families to send their youngsters to work, which results in an extreme problem the world is going through in recent times. Child labour can go away many intense effects on youngsters and their families. At the same time as kids work, it does not mean as a fashionable, they assist their families economically, neither all of them receives a commission for their paintings on account that lots of them paintings as bonded labour or as slaves. Similarly to that, they face many troubles which may purpose everlasting damage to their adolescence. Children work to help their families economically. Parents are careless about their children's health child himself is unaware of his health. Here in this paper we shown many government schemes specially made to prevent child labour. However strong may be our rules child labour and the factors which influence the child labour can't be prevented. We have to think about why children are being supported for child labour, the reason behind their work. To stop the child labour we have to support the government. The society also has to take actions. Communities should cooperate in a better way to decrease child labour in the society.

KEY WORDS: Child labour, Poverty, Government, Education, International Labour Organization

INTRODUCTION:

The term "child labour" is frequently defined as work that deprives youngsters of their youth, their ability and their dignity, and this is dangerous to bodily and intellectual improvement. It refers to work that: is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to youngsters. Not all works done by a child are considered under child labour. Only particular works done by a child can be considered under child labour.

A child starts working at very early age to help the family economically. Poor families usually send their children for work instead of school. The works are so hazardous that sometimes it may take a child's life. A child's poverty, disputes among parents, sometimes parents themselves force a child to go for work, illiteracy of parents, traditional factor, may lead a child to become a child labour. (International Labour Organization, ilo.org/ipec/facts/lang—en/index.htm).

An estimated 150 million children worldwide are engaged in child labour. More than 50% of children drop their school in primary level due to child labour. Uttar Pradesh has the highest rate of child labour population followed by Andhra Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has 20% of India's total child labourers. Most of all children belong to the big families with 8 members each. (Singh, Times of India article, October, 18, 2013).

According to the latest report of the International Labor Organization (ILO), 246 million kids of age between 5-17 engage in child labor. The majority of world's population of 211 million working children of age of 5-14 are found inside the Asia-Pacific vicinity (127.3 million or 60%), Sub-Saharan Africa (48 million or 23%), Latin America and the Caribbean (17.4 million or 8%), and the center East and North Africa (13.4 million or 6%). The rest can be found in each transitional and developed economies. Asia has the very best total variety of child employees, but Sub-Saharan Africa has the best percentage of working youngsters relative to population. (Hazardous child labor, Lois Crowley and Marlene Johnson, September, 2004).

TYPES OF CHILD LABOURS:

- **Agricultural labour:** - Nearly 60% of child labourers work in agricultural fields. Including farming, fishing, aquaculture, forestry. In most of the cases children will be working in their own farms as the tradition is followed. We can classify works as harmful and non-harmful. If a child is performing harmful activities such as using technologies in the farm field which is dangerous to his life, is considered under child labor. Performing in agricultural field is not always a child labour. It depends on the work form. If a child is performing light works at the field and also completing his school may not be considered under child labour. A child must give some appropriate time for works which are not harmful for him. He must perform compulsory schooling along with his work. (International Labor Organization, sectors and topics, www.ilo.org.)
- **Mining, quarrying:** - Nearly 6.5% of children work in mining and quarrying. Children are used in gold mining, salt mining, stone quarrying. Among all gold mining is very dangerous. Children work both above and below the grounds. There may be explosions, rock falls, tunnel collapse; children risk their life in such

situations. Air is filled with toxics, dust, children breath the same air, it may cause some problems in their health and growth etc. children should be physically fit in salt mining. Constant exposure to salt is unhealthy. Salt is corrosive it creates skin disease and discoloration of iris it may cause to loss of vision. Stone quarrying is very dangerous for any human being particularly for children. But the poor families don't have any other choice. This may be barely sufficient for their basic needs. (International Labor Organization, sectors and topics, www.ilo.org.)

- **Industry:** - Nearly 5.4% of children work in industrializations. Children work in industries because it is very is to get appointed in industries as there are many works to be done. Usually industries need minute works so children are the best option to be employed. Industries such as diamond, carpet, beedi, matchstick, hotel, etc. Working in an industry is not less than playing with one's life specially children. Every industries use very modified machines; if anyone start playing with it then his/her life will be gone for sure. So, children who are working in industries, is harmful for the children and it is considered under child labour.
- **Household purposes:** - About 4% of children are being used for household purposes. We can usually see this in urban areas. Children are being used for the house hold works. The house hold works are done by children in their homes is not considered as child labor. But children who are working in others houses for money purpose, or we can san say, if slavery is practiced still it may considered under child labor. Children may face hazardous works in domestic works also, such as, carrying heavy load, handling knives, hot pans, insufficient food, inadequate accommodation, humiliating or sexual abuse. (International Labor Organization, sectors and topics, www.ilo.org)

There are many other works in which children are used very casually, those works are very dangerous for the children. Children are pillars of our nation so they have to be taught good things but we should not handover them such works which are harmful for them.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS RELATED TO CHILD LABOUR:

1. **Poverty-** There are many circumstances in which child labours are possible. But poverty acts as a root cause for child labour (Bhat & Rather, 2009). Usually every decision about a child is taken by the respective parents. But, if the family is economically weak, then the parents expect a child to work for the family for economic support, to fulfill the basic needs. If the parents themselves are not able to send their child to school then there are very less chances of a child himself going to school. Therefore the parents force their children to go for work.

2. **Family size and condition-** poor families are usually large in numbers. And every child is a labourer. Parents themselves force their children to go for labor to satisfy their large family basic needs. And the gender of child is very important in such large families. Only boys are allowed to go schools and all girls of the family are sent for household works. Older siblings are most likely to contribute more to the family income (Ahmad, 2012; Boyden J and Myers, 1998).

Now a day's HIV has become very common. In most of the cases either of the parent or both the parents and may be the child also will be affected by HIV. And orphan children, are hired as child laborers (Vandenberg, 2007)

3. **Traditional or cultural factors-** Cultural factor is one more thing which is driving children towards child labor. Here the different cultures, different societies believe that every child should learn all works, so they send their children for the work at very young age. Elders believe that the young one should learn all working skills.
4. **Urban migration-** Urban migration is very more now a days, it is because of rural push and urban pull. People travel from rural areas to urban places. And there they start working on streets, and the children may start illegal works such as stealing, pick pocketing, trafficking drugs, prostitution (Ydav and Sengupta, 2009). Children start working for domestic purpose, work in hotels or restaurants.

RURAL AND URBAN CHILD LABOR:

Child labour has been a complicated rural problem, as the children helping out inside the farm with their households. The majority of child labour is working in agriculture. However agricultural sector is the foundation of growing countries economic system, particularly in Africa. (Baker, 2008). Normally, at some stage in the arena rural kids have been much more likely to be engaged in economic labour sports as compared to city youngsters, due to the fact poverty is extra general in rural regions especially amongst those who rely on agriculture (Akarro & Mtweve, 2011). Bad rural households considers making their youngsters work in farms, might also growth family's income (Serwadda-Luwaga, 2005). Rickey (2009) factors out that many rural areas lack primary services consisting of strength and access to consuming water. In such instances their children have to fetch water specially girls, who are superiorly involved in house responsibilities.

Child labour also exists in cities. Consistent with World bank, child employee is commonly a signal of urban poverty in many nations. Urban kids usually are involved in home work for income. They work for long hours with very low wage or no wage. Women are commonly the maximum susceptible; they may be generally

trafficked for business sexual exploitation in city centers including Mumbai, Calcutta and New Delhi (Baker, 2008). They face many problems due to poverty. City youngsters are at specific risk of many problems such as lack of education, healthcare and social protection (Baker, 2008). Urban children attend school more than rural children. Urban areas offer better educational access, quality and infrastructure than rural areas. For rural kids transportation becomes a challenging task, if at all they want to study.

CHILD LABOUR (PROHIBITION AND REGULATION) ACT, 1986:

Government has taken many actions to stop the child labour in India. Administration has banned all the types of child labour, under 14 years. If anywhere the child labour is practiced, then it is considered as a serious offence. And it is punishable with three years of imprisonment or fine up to Rs. 50,000/- . Government has enforced an act called, Right to Educate act, 2009. According to this act each and every child of age 6-14 should compulsorily attend the school.

The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 contains four chapters

PART 1 – PRILIMANARY

1. It gives the commencement, definitions. According to this part this act is applicable to all the states of India except Jammu and Kashmir.
2. **Definitions-**
 - ◆ Child- A person who has not completed the age of 14.
 - ◆ Family – In relation to an occupier, means the individual, the wife or husband, as the case may be, of such individual, and their children, brother or sister of such individual.
 - ◆ Workshops- Any premises wherein any industrial process is carried on, but does not include any premises to which the provisions of section 67 of the Factories act, 1948 (63 of 1948), for the time being applied.

PART 2- PROHIBITION OF EMPLOYMRNT OF CHILDREN IN CERTAIN OCCUPATION AND PROCESSES

3. **Prohibition of employment of children in certain occupation and processes-** No child is allowed to work in any dangerous occupations for any time. But he is allowed to work in simple works for specified hours.

PART 3 – REGULATIONS OF WORK OF CHILDREN

4. Hours and period of working-

- No child is allowed to work for long as prescribed by the owner.
- Every working child has prescribed hours for working. He has to work for three hours and take an hour of rest.
- No child should work in night shifts.
- Every child should get a holiday very week.
- Every owner who hires children should maintain a register with containing all the details about children who are working under him.
- Owner should take care about the health and safety of children working there.

PART 4- MISCELLENIOUS

5. **Penalties-** If any one hires a child then he will be punished for maximum 3years of imprisonment and fine may extend to 50,000/-.

(The child labour(prohibition and regulation)act, 1986, www.labour.gov.in)

CONCLUSION:

Child labour is very important problem especially in India than the other developed countries. From the study we have seen that poverty is the major cause for child labour. Some parents also feel that schooling won't help in future; they feel it is waste to invest in schooling.

The constitution of India in reality states that child labour is wrong and that events must be to stop it. The government of India has applied the child Labour Act in 1986 that outlaws child labour in certain areas and sets the minimum age of employment at fourteen. This Act falls short of creating all child labour unlawful, and fails to meet the ILO guideline concerning the minimum age of employment set at fifteen years of age. If child labour is to be eradicated in India, the government and people accountable for enforcement need to start doing their jobs. Rules can be evolved regarding child labour, however without enforcement they are all useless.

The state of education in India additionally needs to be advanced. Poverty performs a position within the ineffectiveness of the educational system. Dropout fees are high due to the fact youngsters are

forced to work so as to assist their families. The attitudes of the humans also contribute to the lack of enrollment - mother and father feel that work develops talents that can be used to earn an income, even as schooling does now not assist on this depend. Compulsory education may assist in regard to those attitudes. The DPEP has been implemented best 4 years ago, and so outcomes aren't apparent at this time. Hopefully the future will display that this application has made progress toward accepted education, and eradicating child labour.

Child labour cannot be removed by means of specializing in one determinant, for example training, or by means of brute enforcement of child labour laws. If poverty is addressed, the want for child labour will routinely diminish. Apart from how many difficulties India attempts, child labour continually will exist till the need for it is removed. The development of India as a developed nation is being obstructed by means of child labour. Children are growing up illiterate due to the fact they had been working and not attending schools. A cycle of poverty is formed and the need for child labour is reborn after each technology. India wishes to deal with the state of affairs via tackling the fundamental reasons of child labour through governmental rules and the enforcement of these policies. Only then will India be successful in the fight in opposition to child labour.

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