

ABSTRACT

CHILD LABOUR RIGHTS: A CHILD IS MEANT TO LEARN AND NOT EARN

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It is unfortunate that a developing country like India continues to suffer from Child Labour. These innocent children are seen working at hotels and restaurants, factories and houses. Children are the obvious choice of the employers. For, they are honest and hardworking but are exploited and underpaid.

Working under hazardous conditions they start living a life of perpetual darkness and frustration. Poverty, Over-population, Parental neglect and seasonal unemployment turn them into child labors. The propagation of child labor is a heinous social offence. Only a diseased society keeps up this evil practice. Children are born to live and bloom freely.

India has always stood for constitutional, statutory and developmental measures that are required to eliminate child labour in India. Indian Constitution consciously incorporated strong and enforceable provisions in the Constitution to secure compulsory universal elementary education as well as labor protection for children. Though most children begin working at a young age due to economic reasons, doing so allows them to break from some social constraints. India's policy on child labour has evolved over the years against this backdrop. The present regime of laws relating to Child Labor in India have a pragmatic foundation and are consistent with the International Labour Conference resolution of 1979. The policy of the government is to ban employment of children below the age of fourteen years in factories, mines and hazardous employment and to regulate the working conditions of children in other employment. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which is a major act in India for the protection of child labors seeks to achieve this basic objective.

In order to stop child labor a child must be provided a good social environment which allows them to become a great citizen, which in turn helps the country to grow and prosper.

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