





LAE1113 Academic English

Trimester March 2025

Title of Essay:	Minors should not work in the entertainment industry
-----------------	--

Lecturer: Ms Nadia Athirah Binti Jamaludin
Section: FC03-GROUP 2

**Declaration:* I hold a copy of this assignment which I can produce if the original is lost or damaged. I certify that no part of this assignment has been copied from any other student's work or from any other source except where due acknowledgement is made in the assignment.

No.	Student ID	Name	Signature
1.	242FC241MK	ADRIANA NUR ZAHRA BINTI MOHD HELMI	
2.	242FC242JW	YAP LI XUAN	Yap Li Xuan
3.	242FC24216	AMIRA SOFIA BINTI AZIZUL	

Section: FC03 Group 2

Group Members:

1. *Adriana Nur Zahra binti Mohd Helmi*
2. *Yap Li Xuan*
3. *Amira Sofia Azizul*

Structure of Argumentative Essay

1. Introduction (1 paragraph)

- **General Introduction:** Children are supposed to be cherished, protected, and be kept innocent. Right? It is what people would generally believe in, so when kids have the passion and talent to work in the entertainment industry, it is better for their parents to say “No.” until they are at least of age.

- ii. - **Thesis Statement:** The entertainment industry has taken a major toll on a lot of child celebrities’ overall wellbeing because it endangers the mental and physical safety of child stars, it increases the neglect of education needed for adolescent and it forces young superstars to become mentally mature way before reaching adulthood.

2. Body Paragraphs

- i. **Body Paragraph 1 (1 paragraph) Argument:** Young people should not involve themselves in the ‘Hollywood’ life because it endangers the safety of their mental and physical being.

Supporting Detail 1: Despite the clear lack of consent from underage superstars, no one listens or heeds their calls of refusal. Without a doubt, their adult coworkers full heartedly believe that they have some claim over these minors and their bodies, and that they have the right to do it because these kids are in the public eye. (Clarke, 2024, p. 8)

Supporting Detail 2: In situations where a guardian is present, they will not intervene or speak up once they know of a child’s exploitation in the entertainment industry. They instruct the child to believe that it is the price of fame. (Itzkoff, 2022, p. 15)

- ii. **Body Paragraph 2 (1 paragraph) Argument:** Minor should not enter the entertainment industry because their education would be neglected.

Supporting Detail 1: More often times than not, these kids don’t even have time to themselves much less

school, which leaves them way behind in their studies (Nor Aida et al, 2021, p. 1). Ella Zheng (2023, p.10) stated in her article “Jaemin, from NCT Dream, debuted when he was 15 years old too and had to drop out of his first year of middle school to pursue this path of becoming an idol.

Supporting Detail 2: In addition, child workers are vulnerable due to the employment status and they are oblivious whether the employment status is tied to legal protection, level of wages and conditions, the enforcement of regulations, and right to education (Anderson et al., 2011). For instance, the children of a very famous youtube channel were easily brainwashed by their parents due to being homeschooled.

iii. **Body Paragraph 3 (1 paragraph) Argument: Children should not become child stars because they will develop a mature mentality.**

Supporting Detail 1: According to Gincherman (2023, p. 5) state that, (1) child celebrities are pampered and unable to learn proper life skills at a young age because they are forced to be exposed to the dark sides of the industry.

Supporting Detail 2: Gincherman (2023, p. 5) claims that, (2) this have cause skewed development of many child celebrities to a state of being at a high risk of emotional instability.

3. Concession & Refutation (1 paragraph)

Concession: Admittedly, the presence of these young stars are a crucial existence for young children to have someone they can safely look up to or relate (Ellie Langdon, 2022, p. 2). These kids who grew up with role models close in age have said, ‘These role models can provide a more relatable and understandable perspective on life, offering guidance and encouragement’.

Refutation: Nevertheless, this problem can easily be solved by having media catered towards a younger audience created and presented by adults which is much better for the children's mental health and well-being (Vikas Menon et al, 2021, p. 2-3). For example, a youtuber named Ms. Rachel, has made a big impact in

raising the latest generation of children by making educational content for toddlers.

4. Conclusion (1 paragraph)

Summary of arguments: Minors should not work in the entertainment industry due to the huge impact it has on their overall growth. The government should enforce child labour law to ensure children are protected during their work. Parents also should not push their children to overwork and prioritise their studies.

Restatement of thesis: So that children can ensure their mental health and overall safety of a child celebrity, have basic education and avoid early maturity.

Children are supposed to be cherished, protected, and be kept innocent. Right? It is what people would generally believe in, so when kids have the passion and talent to work in the entertainment industry, it is better for their parents to say “No.” until they are at least of age. Even if they cry and throw tantrums, it is more humane to let them fret over it for a while rather than let them go through years of mental torture. Being in the spotlight could be damaging and hard to regulate for adults, let alone a youngling. There are many other ways for them to yield out their talent without having to lose their innocence. One of the ways is letting them partake in classes that give them the opportunity to use their talent more often alongside enhancing their skills. Putting that aside, this industry can severely corrupt a child’s morals, and it is better for the youths to not consider that risk all for the sake of fame. The entertainment industry has taken a major toll on a lot of child celebrities’ overall wellbeing because it endangers the mental and physical safety of child stars, it increases the neglect of education needed for adolescent and it forces young superstars to become mentally mature way before reaching adulthood.

For this reason, young people should not involve themselves in ‘Hollywood’ life because it endangers the safety of their mental and physical being. Most of these young stars are being taken advantage of unknowingly, and that could subconsciously ruin their mental health by making them believe that they deserve the abuse. Despite the clear lack of consent from underage superstars, no one listens or heeds their calls of refusal. Without a doubt, their adult coworkers full heartedly believe that they have some claim over these minors and their bodies, and that they have the right to do it because these kids are in the public eye. (Clarke, 2024, p. 8). This could cause some serious problems for them when they reach adult age. For instance, take Justin Bieber as an example. He struggles with getting preyed on from a young age and that has left an impact on who he has become as an adult. Additionally, in situations where a guardian is present, they will not intervene or speak up once they know of a child’s exploitation in the entertainment industry. They instruct the child to believe that it is the price of fame. (Itzkoff, 2022, p. 15). With this, it proves that once these minors' step into the spotlight, every adult in

their life will become oblivion with the influence of fame and money. Thus, all the cruelty and neglect that they unwillingly have to face will consequently reflect on their physical and mental well-being even as they reach adulthood.

Moreover, minors should not enter the entertainment industry because their education would be neglected. More often times than not, these kids don't even have time to themselves, much less school, which leaves them way behind in their studies (Nor Aida et al, 2021, p. 1). In Korea, they have their own genre of music called 'K-Pop' and in order to become a K-Pop idol they must first become a trainee. Since they debut their singers young, the age for trainees are even younger. For example, Ella Zheng (2023, p.10) stated in her article "Jaemin, from NCT Dream, debuted when he was 15 years old too and had to drop out of his first year of middle school to pursue this path of becoming an idol." In addition, child workers are vulnerable due to the employment status and they are oblivious whether the employment status is tied to legal protection, level of wages and conditions, the enforcement of regulations, and right to education. (Anderson et al., 2011). In August 2023, the parents of a famous family vlogging channel on Youtube had been arrested for abusing their children and forcing them to do child labour. These children were brainwashed by their parents and were made unaware of what their parents were doing to them was wrong except for the older kids in the family. Hence, education is very important for these young children.

Other than that, Children should not become child stars because they will develop a mature mentality. This is because according to Ella Gincherma (2023, p.5) child celebrities are pampered and unable to learn proper life skills at young age because they are forced to be exposed to the dark sides of the entertainment industry. For instance, child stars are often exposed to evil elites, abuse, sex and other else that is not good for their development. In addition, child stars are also stressed out because they are forced to cope with rejection, jealousy, and the non-stop act to be perfect to compete with other

competitors. Child stars must attend a bunch of extra lessons to sharpen their skills such as acting, singing and dancing because they are expected to be the greatest amongst other idols that belongs to their age group. Consequently, Ella Gincherma (2023, p.5) claims that this has skewed the development of many child celebrities to a state of being at a high risk of emotional instability. Hence, Children may begin to feel extremely isolated from their family and friends and they will be facing safety and privacy issues such as stalkers, sexualisation and publicised lives. Therefore, they may develop mental health issues like depression, anxiety and eating disorders and more. (Ella Gincherma 2023, p.5)

Admittedly, the presence of these young stars are a crucial existence for young children to have someone they can safely look up to or relate (Ellie Langdon, 2022, p. 2). It has been proven through research that children who grew up with role models closer in age had a better childhood. These kids who are now adults have said, ‘These role models can provide a more relatable and understandable perspective on life, offering guidance and encouragement’. Nevertheless, we can easily avoid pushing these young teens into the spotlight by having media catered towards a younger audience created and presented by adults which is much better for the children's mental health and well-being (Vikas Menon et al, 2021, p. 2-3). For instance, a youtuber named Ms. Rachel, has made a big impact in raising the latest generation of children by making educational content for toddlers. These young children who have watched her have advanced vocabulary and speaking skills that can not be competed with their peers. This further proves the notion that you don’t necessarily need kids in the spotlight for such reasons.

In conclusion, minors should not work in the entertainment industry due to the huge impact it has on their overall growth. However, completely restricting minors from working in the entertainment industry is not practical but some ways can protect minors’ rights during their work. For example, the government should strictly enforce child labour laws by limiting their working hours to prevent

exhaustion and regulating wages to prevent exploitation. Besides that, every child star must be guaranteed that they have their right to education so they can build a stable future if they plan to not continue with their current entertainment career in the future. After that, parents also should not push their children to overwork but prioritise their studies instead. Parents instead should educate their children from the start about the dangers that come by joining this business at a young age. With this, children can ensure their mental health and overall safety as a child celebrity, have basic education, and avoid early maturity.

REFERENCE

Ella Gincheran, (2023, April 6). *“Little Hollywood”: Dangers for children within the entertainment industry*, The Wildezine,

<https://wildezine.com/4173/uncategorized/little-hollywood-dangers-for-children-within-the-entertainment-industry/>

Itzkoff, D. (2022, August 3). Jettette McCurdy Is Ready to Move Forward, and to Look Back. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/03/books/jettette-mccurdy-memoir-mother.html>

Clarke, E. (2024, September 24). *Justin Bieber was failed time and again – he deserves more than an apology*. The Independent.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/justin-bieber-resurfaced-footage-p-diddy-interviews-b2617911.html>

Ella Zheng, (2023, May 24). A Deeper Dive Into K-pop: The Problems of Minors Debuting

<https://thesciencesurvey.com/editorial/2023/05/04/a-deeper-dive-into-k-pop-the-problems-of-minors-debuting/>

Nor Aida et al, (2021, May 17). Protection of Best Interest: A Study on Children Working in the Entertainment Industry in Malaysia and Their Right to Education

[http://www.pertanika.upm.edu.my/resources/files/Pertanika%20PAPERS/JSSH%20Vol.%2029%20\(S2\)%202021/04%20JSSH\(S\)-1474-2021.pdf](http://www.pertanika.upm.edu.my/resources/files/Pertanika%20PAPERS/JSSH%20Vol.%2029%20(S2)%202021/04%20JSSH(S)-1474-2021.pdf)

Ellie Langdon, (2022, August 2). *Why Authentic Representation Matters to Teens*

<https://womensmediacenter.com/fbomb/why-authentic-representation-matters-to-teens>