

CHILD LABOR

Definition

Child labor is defined as any type of work that deprives children of their education, health, and childhood. To be specific, child labor refers to work that is physically, mentally, or socially harmful to children.

Why it matters?

Child labor not only violates human rights, but also affects children's health. The children in child labor are often overworked and unable to attend regular schools. They are not provided with safe equipment and facilities while working, which resulted in injuries, and they are frequently abused by their employers. Every child has the right to be educated, and everything that will cause a negative effect on children's personal development should be prohibited.

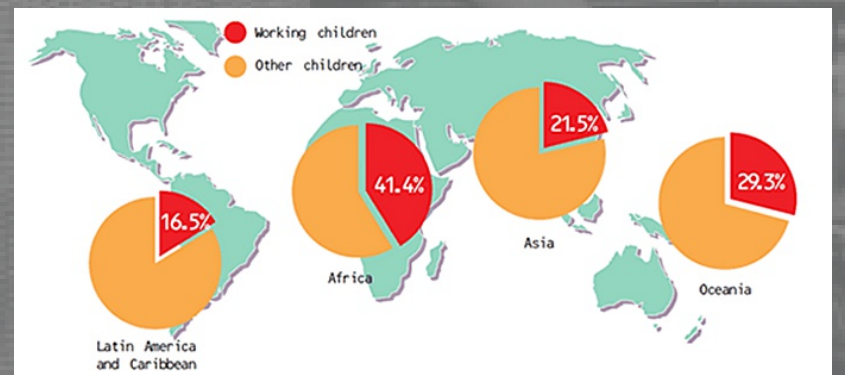


Where it happens?

Child labor is prevalent mostly in poor and developing countries. An estimated 53% is in Asia and Pacific, 7% is in Latin America, and 30% is in sub-Saharan Africa.

Facts/Statistics

1. 168 million children aged 5 to 17 are engaged in child labor, and 120 million among them are below the age of 14.
2. A majority of child workers interviewed by Physicians for Human Rights reported that they were physically or verbally abused by their employers.
3. "Despite a steady decline in child labor, progress is far too slow. At current rates, more than 100 million children will still be trapped in child labor by 2020."
4. More than half of the children engaged in child labor, which is about 85 million, are involved in hazardous work.



Call to Action

1. Learn information about child labor and educate the others:

Inform the others about what you have learned and ask them to pass the idea around in order to put child labor to an end. If more people are aware of the seriousness of child labor, more actions can be taken to prevent it. For information about child labor, go to <http://www.ilo.org/ipec/facts/lang--en/index.htm>

2. Switch to products made without child labor:

You can simply support the people who fight against child labor by buying products that are not made by "slave." Therefore, the company might begin to notice that people are against their use of child laborers, and ultimately might change their corporate policy. For more information, go to

<http://www.endslaverynow.org/blog/articles/products-made-by-child-labor-with-alternative-options>

Works Cited

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