

Basically here I will try to mention basic two Acts of Bangladesh e.g. The Penal Code, 1860 and The Child Act, 2013.

Child Abuse under The Penal Code, 1860

The Bangladesh Penal Code considers the followings as means of abuse of child such as Kidnapping, Abduction, Slavery, sexual exploitation, selling and buying minors for the purpose of prostitution, unnatural offences and Forced Labor. This code also categorizes these acts as crime and prescribed punishment.

1 Punishment for kidnapping

In the matter of kidnapping and abduction The Penal Code mentions different dimensions of kidnapping e.g. kidnapping from Bangladesh, kidnapping from lawful guardianship, Kidnapping or abducting in order to murder, Kidnapping or abducting a person under the age of ten, Kidnapping or abducting or inducing woman to compel her marriage etc. All these are modes of child abuse. Section 363 provides, "Whoever kidnaps any person from Bangladesh or from lawful guardianship, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine."

2 Prevention of Slavery

In this code Slavery discloses two types firstly, „Buying or disposing of any person as a slave“ which punishment is up to seven years imprisonment and fine mentioned in the section 370 that, "Whoever imports, exports, removes, buys, sells or disposes of any person as a slave, or accepts, receives or detains against his will any person as a slave, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine." Finally, habitually imports, exports, removes, buys, sells, traffics or deals in slaves and shall be punished with imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding ten years, and shall also be liable to fine under section 371.

3 Punishment for forced labor

The Bangladesh Penal Code considers compulsory unlawful labor as an offence under section 374(1) which says, "Whoever unlawfully compels any person to labor against the will of that person shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both."

4 Prohibition of sexual exploitation

Sexual exploitation is firmly prohibited. In this Code sexual exploitation includes child used in prostitution, sodomy and rape. The Penal Code prohibits Selling and buying minor for purposes of prostitution etc. and deliberates punishment for doing this offence. Section 372 says, "Whoever sells, lets to hire, or otherwise disposes of any person under the age of eighteen years with intent that such person shall at any age be employed or used for the purpose of prostitution or illegal intercourse with any person or for any unlawful purpose" shall be penalized with imprisonment not extend to ten years with fine. Furthermore, Section 373 mention that, Whoever is engaged to buys or attains possession of any person below the age of eighteen years with intending to used for the purpose of prostitution or illicit intercourse with any person shall be punished with imprisonment not more than ten years with fine. According to The Penal Code a girl cannot give consensus to sex with a man, even if she has given it, it will not be recognized by the court when she is less than fourteen years of age and any sex with such a girl will extent to rape and the alleged shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with imprisonment not extend to ten years with fine. In case of Sodomy carries imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine under section 377 of The Penal Code.

Child Abuse and The Child Act, 2013

1. Penalty for Cruelty to Child

If any person having custody, charge or care of any child abuses, assaults, neglects, abandons unprotected, uses for personal service or exposes in an obscene way and thereby causes unnecessary suffering or injury by which the child's sight or hearing is damaged or injury to any limb or organ or causing mental derailment shall be punished with imprisonment for up to five years or fine of up to one lac taka or both under section-70

2. Penalty for Engaging a Child in Begging

According to Section 71 Any person who engages a child for the purpose of begging or causes any child to beg or if any person having custody, charge or care of the child colludes with or encourages the engaging of a child for begging then he shall be penalized with imprisonment for up to five years or fine of up to one lac taka or both.

3. Penalty for giving Intoxicating Liquor or Injurious Medicine to a Child

Section 73 provides If any person gives to a child any intoxicating liquor or medicine on account of illness or emergency without consulting a qualified doctor then he will be deemed to have committed an offence under this Act for which he shall be punishable with imprisonment for up to three years or fine of up to one lac taka or both.

4. Penalty for using a Child for Carrying Fire Arms for Committing Terrorist Actions

Section 73 of The Child Act mention Anyone causing any child to convey or transport fire arms or illegal or banned articles will be deemed to have committed an offence under the Act for which he shall be punished with imprisonment for up to three years or fine of up to one lac taka or both.

5. Penalty for Exploitation of Child

If any person delegated by the Children's Court with custody or care of a child or with the duty of upbringing a child or any other person keeps any child ostensibly for the purpose of employment as a servant or for employment in any factory or establishment under the Bangladesh Labor Act, 2006 but in fact exploits the child for his own purpose, or confines the child or lives of the child's earning. This act shall be considered as an offence under this law and he shall be punished with imprisonment for not extent two years or a fine of up to fifty thousand taka or both. In the same way in fact, if such person leads such child to a dishonest path or prostitution or immoral activity then he shall be deemed to have committed an offence under this Act for which he shall be punishable with imprisonment for up to five years or fine of up to one lac taka or both under section-80 of this Act.