

## Essay

### Child Labour: A neglected issue

#### Outline

#### 1) Introduction

#### 2) Child Labour is a neglected issue

- i) Increasing number of child<sup>ren</sup> working in factories.
- ii) Child Labour is a violation of basic rights
- iii) poverty is a major cause
- iv) Child Labour is becoming normal in society.
- v) Lack of free education is one of the cause of Child Labour.

UNICEF (25 million children in Pakistan are out of school)

#### vi) Lack of government policing to reduce child labour

- a) Existing laws are not fully implemented.
- b) lack of strict enforcement

#### vii) Children are cheap labour

- a) Nearly 138 million children worldwide are engaged in child labour

#### viii) Slow down of national development

### 3) Way forwards to reduce child labour

- i) Government should enforce strict laws against child labour.
- ii) provide free education for all children
- iii) Educate parent and communities about the harms of child labor
- iv) Give economic support to poor families to reduce their dependence on children's income.

### 4) Conclusion

Everyday, countless children are made to work instead of learning and playing, losing the joys of childhood and chance to grow into a better future. Many of them work in factories, industries, farms and households. These problems affect their mental and physical health.

In Pakistan, child labour affects around 12.5 million children. Major reasons of child labour are poverty, lack of law enforcement, lack of free education and social acceptance. Many families depends on these childrens to fulfill their needs. Millions of children are forced to work instead of going to school and enjoying their childhood. In Pakistan 25 million children remain out of school.

Many children work in hazardous environment which badly affect their health. In factories and workshops children are exposed to extreme heat, dust and chemicals. Children work long hours in this fields which cause serious injuries and long-term health

problems. child labour is a serious and neglected issue that harms millions of children worldwide and it can only be addressed through strict law enforcement, free education and awareness campaigns to protect their future.

The number of children working in factories in Pakistan has been steadily increasing. Children are often employed because they are inexpensive, obedient and can perform multiple tasks. Factory work exposes them to work for many hours with heavy machinery, toxic chemicals and unsafe conditions, which can cause permanent physical and mental harm.

According to UNICEF millions of children in Pakistan are engaged in textiles, glass production and brick kilns where safety standards are almost non-existent. Children in these environments frequently suffer from injuries and respiratory problems. Therefore the increasing presence of children in such factories need to be checked and enforce strict law to protect children.

Moreover, child labour is a direct violation of children's basic human rights, denying them the opportunity to live and learn freely. Every child has the right to get education, health facilities and protection. However, millions of children in Pakistan are forced into work instead of attending school. It is the fundamental right to every child that he get free education. UNICEF reports that the number of children which are out of school are rapidly increasing especially in rural and less developed areas.

Health is another basic right of child but it is compromising in Pakistan as well as global level. Children work many hours in factories and farms where they exposed to chemical and heavy machinery.

In addition, poverty remains one of the primary reasons children are forced into labor. Poor families rely on their children's income to meet basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter. As a result children are sent

to work in factories and farms. Majority of child labours come from low-income families. poverty not only pushes children into work but also prevents them from education. Children's are backbone of our society. If they don't get education then economy of country will also suffer. Therefore, alleviating poverty through social welfare programs is essential to reduce child labor. Government can also help such families through financial support to avoid them from child labour.

Furthermore, child labour has become persistent normalize in society making it a neglected problem. In many area it is common to see children working from a very young age and society often views their labour as necessary for family survival. Such children's are considered as contributing member of society rather than victim.