

# **THE ROLE OF MASS MEDIA ON THE CHILD LABOUR PROBLEMS OF INDIA**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Child labor is the employment of children under an age determined by law or custom of the government of India. The complex issue of child labour is a developmental issue worth investigating. The notion that children are being exploited and forced into labour while not receiving education crucial to development, concerns many people. India is the largest example of a nation plagued by the problem of child labour. Estimates cite figures of between 60 and 115 million working children in India -- the highest number in the world (Human Rights Watch 1996, 1). According to the International Labour Organization, there is an estimated 218 million children aged 5 to 17 in child labor worldwide, excluding child domestic labour. The most widely rejected forms of child labor include the military use of children as well as child prostitution. The employment of children in labour work remains less controversial, and often becomes legal with some restrictions, with child actors and child singers, as well as agricultural work. The labour wages for children remains low even though the work involves drudgery and being hazardous. Work forecloses the opinion of school education for most children. From the perspective of various social problems prevailing in our country, the mass media have a decisive role to play in mobilizing the people for exploiting the children and forcing them into labour. The present dissertation analyses will be based on the media's role in the child labour problem and abolishment from India. The problem of child labour in India, it's different types and abolishment pathways as a topic being focused for communication by the print media and how prevalent this topic has been addressed by the news media of India. The above analyses and investigation will display the status of interest the news media shows towards the societal issue of both national and international concern.