

COMMITTEE: UNICEF

AGENDA ITEM: Protecting today's children for a sustainable future

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INTRODUCTON

The first and foremost duty of a government aiming to have a sustainable and secure future is undoubtedly providing healthy living conditions for the country's children: Providing their most necessary needs both physically and psychologically while protecting them from potential harms. UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) define a child as a person under the age of 18, in all agreed 140 countries. UNICEF is the United Nations institution which specializes in promoting the practice of children's rights. Its work is supervised by a 36-member Executive Board made up of government representatives. This board establishes policies, approves programmes and decides on administrative and financial plans and budgets. UNICEF is supported entirely by voluntary funds, while two-thirds of its funding comes from governments, the remainder is raised from private groups and from individual donors by UNICEF's National Committees.

The work done by UNICEF is important because in today's world and as well as in history, the most vulnerable group in society, that being the children, were taken advantage of, poorly treated and exploited in different ways. Children in work force, underage marriages (mostly by the reinforcement of parents/guardians), intrafamilial violence which is commonly paired with psychological and verbal abuse, restrictions concerning education (for girls in particular) and in economically non self-sufficient countries; malnutrition and inaccessibility to clean drinking water are common examples to the problems we are dealing with.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

UNICEF's Global Priorities;

- a) Help babies survive infancy and provide them with medical care, nourishment, emotional and mental support for a healthy development,
- b) Actualize children's laws, influencing societies in a way that gender equality is well integrated with the society itself in all aspects, educating mothers for the healthy upbringing of future generations and help all children at least finish primary education, secondary education and higher education if possible,
- c) Fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS viruses among the youth and help infected children and their families to continue their regular life without fear or shame,
- d) Create opportunities for the vocalization of the young, especially in matters which directly affect their lives.

Frequently seen violations of the Children's Rights are;

- 1- Early termination of education by the force of parents/guardians or because of obligations (financial matters),
- 2- Underage marriages, forced marriages (forced by parents/guardians or tradition whose nature don't meet Human Rights regulations),
- 3- Children in workforce,
- 4- Intrafamilial violence (verbal, physical and psychological abuse),
- 5- Sexual exploitation of the child (assault, abuse, trafficking).

For understanding the roots and the cause-consequence relationships of frequently arising problems, a historical overview of each problem is clearly necessary.

- 1- Early termination of education by the force of parents/guardians or because of obligations

In the twenty-first century education has an irreplaceable role in developed and developing nations, but it wasn't always like this. In fact, throughout the Middle Ages where global literacy rates varied anywhere from 1-2%, that being the clergy and certain nobles of significance, if you were economically disadvantaged you had no chance of getting any sort of education because education as we understand it today was something seen as unnecessary or simply unrelated to the life of the average person, so there were no "early termination of education for the child" because anyone to receive an education ever was very much privileged to begin with. Before the 1800s, education was not free and poor children got what education they could in Dame schools or Sunday Schools.

With the industrial revolution in the 19th century, literacy rates increased as there were improvements on the economy, thanks to the globalized trade market (also trades at bigger scales with mass production), a rising middle class who can afford more goods and services than they ever did ever before resulted in the global literacy rate of 12%. Education was starting to become more important, but often than not it was overshadowed by the overwhelming demand for low-qualified labourers. Especially if you were among the group who struggled to get by, it was not uncommon for children as young as 5 to work in factories for up to 12 hours (12-20 changes according to the type of labour) a day yet still be underpaid. These children were condemned to work in unsafe and unsanitary conditions and education was, unlike today, a luxury for the majority. In 1833, the British government passed the Factory Act making two hours of education a day compulsory for children working in factories which was one of the first regulations ever concerning a child's education. The government also granted money to charities to help schools for the first time.

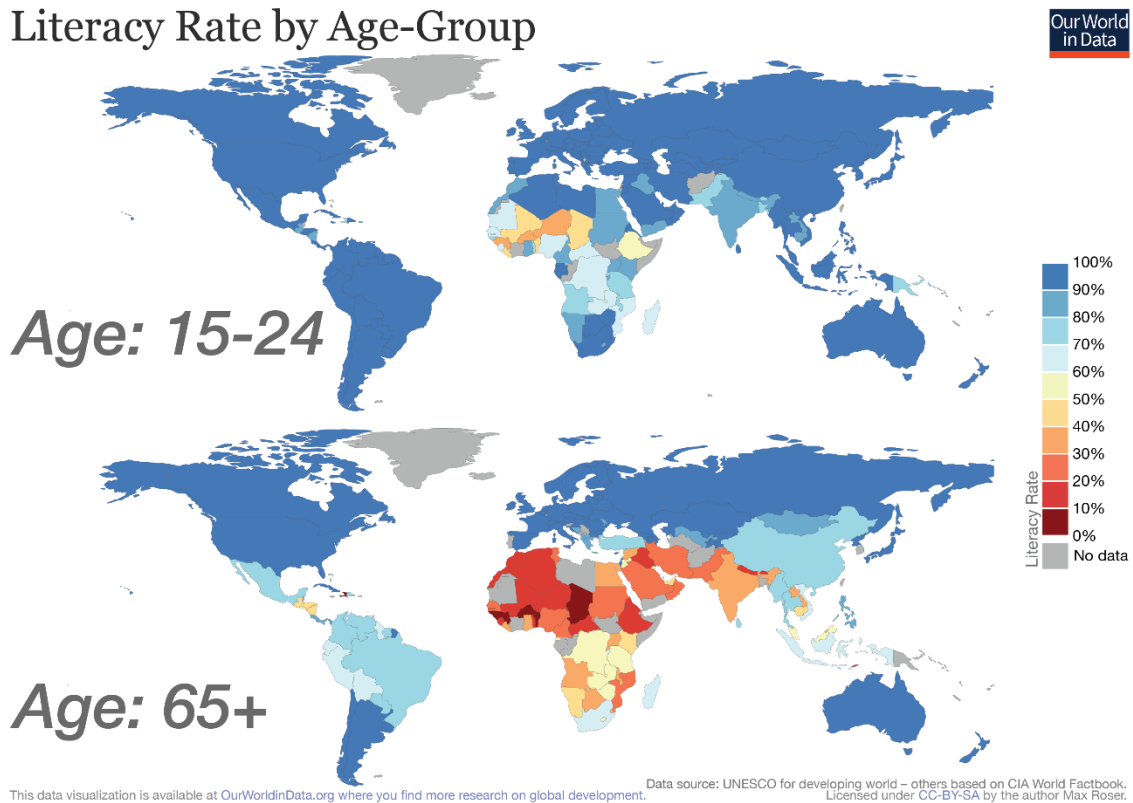
With the adoption of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on 10th December, 1948 and The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

(ICESCR) on 16th December, 1966 by the United Nations General Assembly, a widely accepted regulation concerning education was created for the first time.

[(UDHR) Article 26, (ICESCR) Article 13-14]

Today considering the world population older of teenagers older than 15, 86% are literate and in many countries more than 95% have basic literacy skills but almost 70 million children across the world are prevented from going to school each day. According to the data from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), about 263 million children, adolescents and youth worldwide - one in every five - are out of school, a figure that has barely changed over the past five years.

Literacy Rate by Age-Group

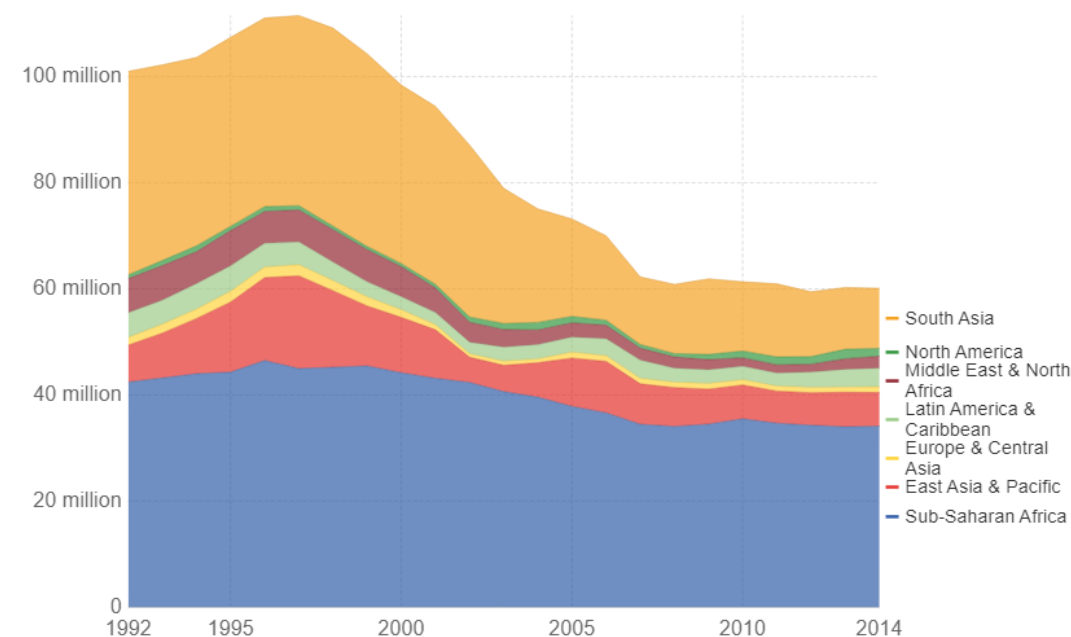


61 million adolescents of lower secondary age (about 12 to 14 years) and 139 million young people of upper secondary age –one in every three – are not enrolled in school.

These young, between the ages of about 15 to 17 years, are four times more likely to be out of school than children of primary age, and more than twice as likely to be out of school as those of lower secondary age. The UIS figures confirm that across sub-Saharan Africa one in every three children, adolescents and youth are out of school - with girls more likely to be excluded than boys. For every 100 boys of primary age out of school, there are 123 girls whose right to education is violated.

Out-of-school children of primary school age by world region

Children in the official primary school age range who are not enrolled in either primary or secondary schools.



Source: World Bank

OurWorldInData.org/primary-and-secondary-education • CC BY-SA

2- Underage marriages, forced marriages (forced by parents/guardians or tradition whose nature don't meet Human Rights regulations)

Underage marriages as we know it today by modern definition were not possible throughout the majority of history because in many societies a minimum age of consent to marriage simply did not exist. Most patriarchal (and often religious) societies had arranged marriages as the norm, although exceptions were possible. The short lifespan of the average person compared to today and the high lethality of diseases are definitely influential to why marriage at an early age was favorable. Especially before medical advancements on obstetrics and gynecology, many women died during childbirth. This led men to feel the need to have multiple wives (if they could afford it or if the culture allowed it) for the continuation of the bloodline and girls to be married off as soon as they were able to bear children. Another thing to always keep in mind is the fact that the vast majority of women were not allowed to work or were not able to find appropriate work considering career options were severely limited by the patriarchal nature of the society whom they belonged. Usually children of the upper class (giving European nobility as an example) suffered worse from large age gaps between the couple, but people of lower status were able to act more freely in their choice of partner.

There were many reasons of why a marriage could take place before the Declaration of Human Rights. Some examples are;

- Political alliances: Wealthy or/and powerful families uniting for possible benefices; securing a political position, uniting armies, uniting farmlands.

- Financial difficulties: In this case, usually the bride or the groom is married off in exchange of something with value.
- Religious/cultures reasons: In some religions/cultures marriage at an early age is promoted because the religion/culture has the idea that remaining single will create sinful, lustful ideas in a person's mind.
- Socio-economic status related reasons: Aiming to find a husband who is of higher social class and economically well was completely normal in cultures such as China and Japan, and even expected. This kind of marriage was considered as a quick way to move upwards in the social ladder and to have comfortable life.
- Reasons related to health and lifespan: Infant mortality rate was high which meant having a lot of children was an obligation. Unfortunately, one in all three women who gave birth would die due to post-delivery complications making marriage and motherhood a duty to all females, including young girls.

Traditions whose nature don't meet Human Rights regulations;

- Bride kidnapping (Practice in which a man abducts the woman he wishes to marry.)

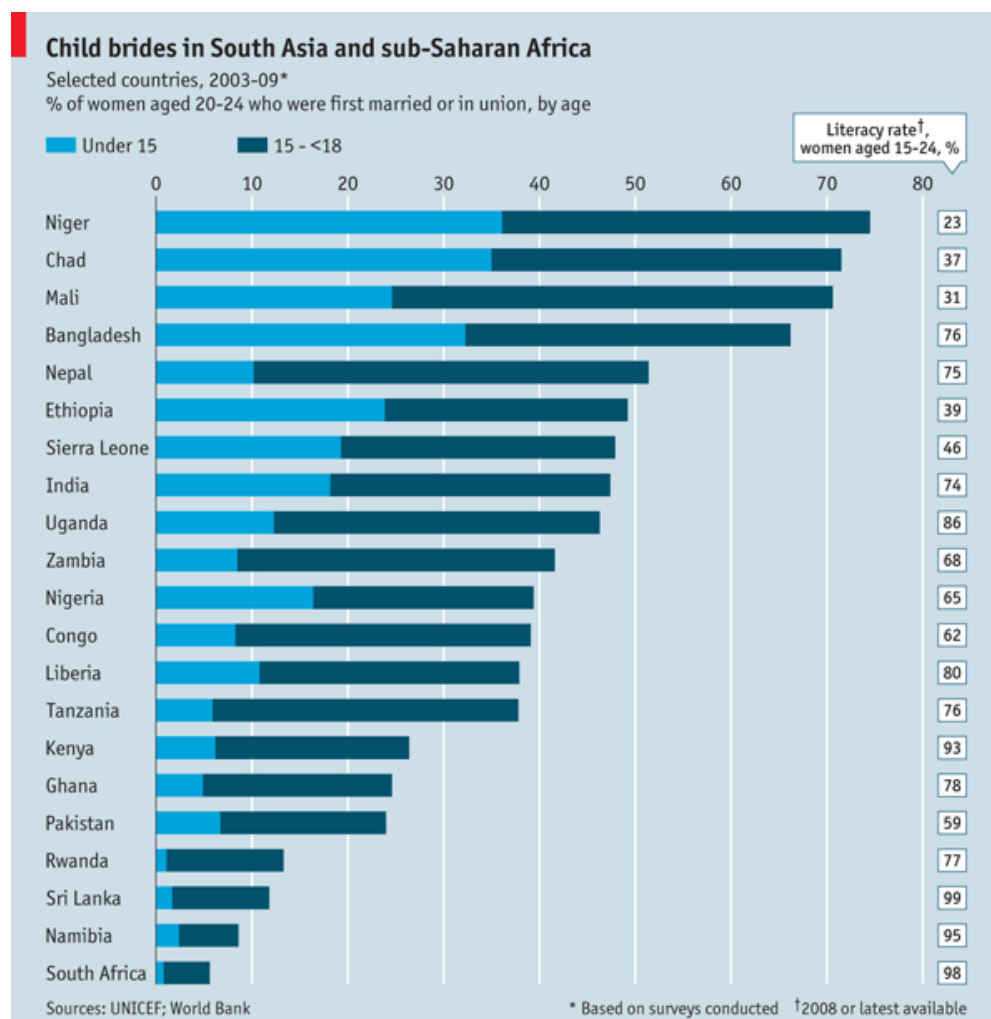
In most nations, bride kidnapping is considered a sex crime rather than a valid form of marriage. Some types of it may also be seen as falling along the continuum between forced marriage and arranged marriage.

Sadly, the actual practice is still present all over the world and it continues to occur in countries in Central Asia, the Caucasus region, and parts of Africa, and among people as diverse as the Hmong in Southeast Asia, the Tzeltal in Mexico, and the Romani in Europe. Most recent, significant example to this practice is in Kyrgyzstan.

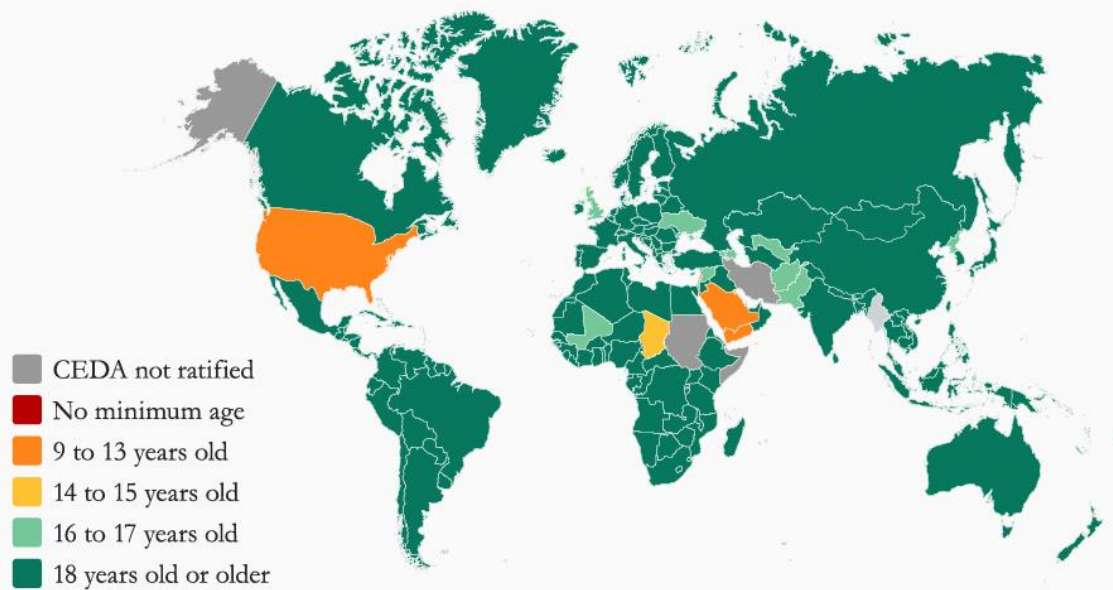
Today, child marriage is defined as a marriage or similar union, formal or informal, entered into by a child or youth under a certain age, typically age "eighteen". Child marriage violates the rights of children and has widespread and long-term consequences for child brides and grooms. It affects both boys and girls, but it is more common among girls. The legally prescribed marriageable age in some jurisdictions is below 18 years, especially in the case of girls. Even where the age is set at 18 years, cultural traditions may take priority over legislative law and many jurisdictions permit earlier marriage with parental consent or in special circumstances, such as teenage pregnancy. In many cases, only one marriage-partner is a child, usually the female. Causes of child marriages include poverty, bride price, dowry, cultural traditions, laws that allow child marriages, religious and social pressures, regional customs, fear of remaining unmarried, illiteracy, and perceived inability of women to work for money.

Today, child marriage is still fairly widespread, particularly in developing countries, such as parts of Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, West Asia, Latin America, and Oceania. However, even in developed countries such as the United States legal exceptions mean that 17 US states have no minimum age requirement. The incidence of child marriage has been falling in most parts of the world. The most current data from UNICEF (2018) shows that about 21 percent of young women worldwide (aged 20 to 24) were married as children; this is a 25 percent decrease

from 10 years ago. The countries with the highest observed rates of child marriages below the age of 18 are Niger, Chad, Mali, Bangladesh, Guinea and the Central African Republic, with a rate above 60%. Niger, Chad, Bangladesh, Mali and Ethiopia were the countries with child marriage rates greater than 20% below the age of 15, according to 2003–2009 surveys.



The minimum legal marriage age for girls worldwide



* USA – Several places, including the state of Massachusetts in the United States, allow girls as young as 12 to get married in "exceptional circumstances" with the consent of a judge



Sources: World Policy Center,
State Department



INDEPENDENT

statista

3- Children in workforce

Child labour refers to the exploitation of children through any form of work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school, and is mentally, physically, socially or morally harmful. Such exploitation is prohibited by legislation worldwide, although these laws do not consider all work by children as child labour; exceptions include work by child artists, family duties and supervised training.

Childhood as we know it today was defined much differently in the Middle Ages. For example, in Europe Church law and common law regarded children as equal to adults for some purposes and distinct for other purposes, children were perceived as mini adults. If you were of the lower class, taking place in the family business at a young age was an obligation. But during the 1600s, a shift in philosophical and social attitudes toward children and the notion of "childhood" began in Europe. Adults increasingly saw children as separate beings, innocent and in need of protection and training by the adults around them. And that understanding came to be our philosophy in terms of childhood.

Child labour has existed to varying extents throughout history. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, many children aged 5–14 from poorer families worked in Western nations and their colonies alike since there was a grand demand for low-qualified cheap labour to keep up with consumption demands. These children mainly worked in agriculture, home-based assembly operations, factories and mining, some worked night shifts lasting 12 hours. With the rise of household income, availability of schools and passage of child labour laws, the incidence rates of child labour fell.

International Labour Standards on Child Labour;

Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) - [ratifications]

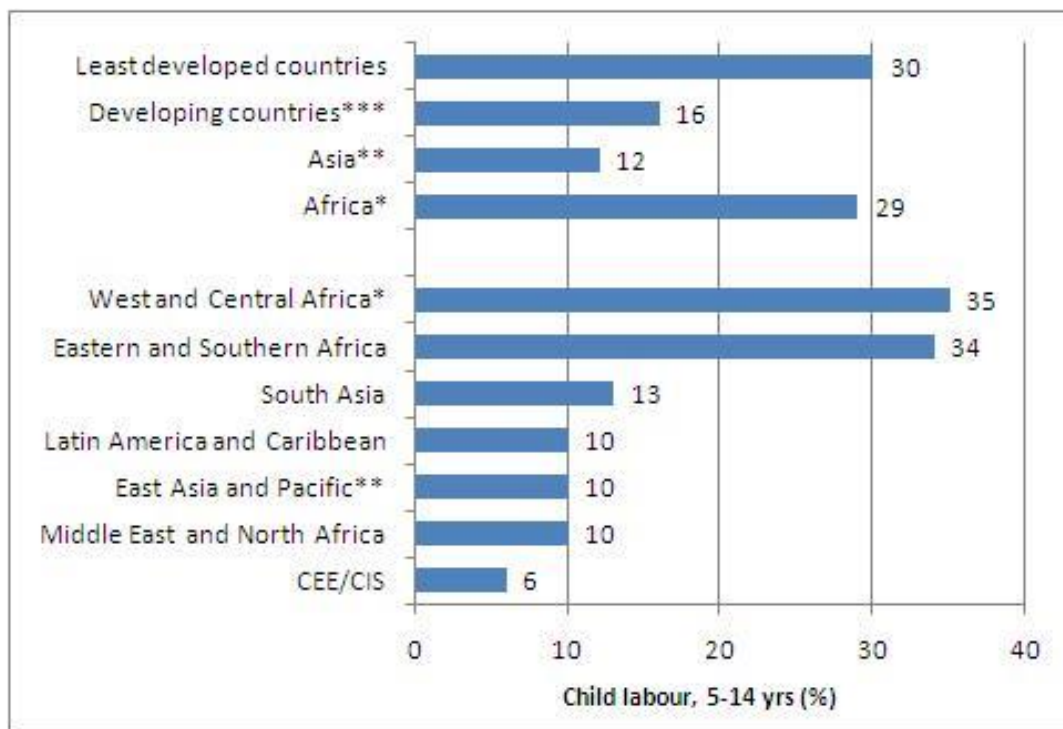
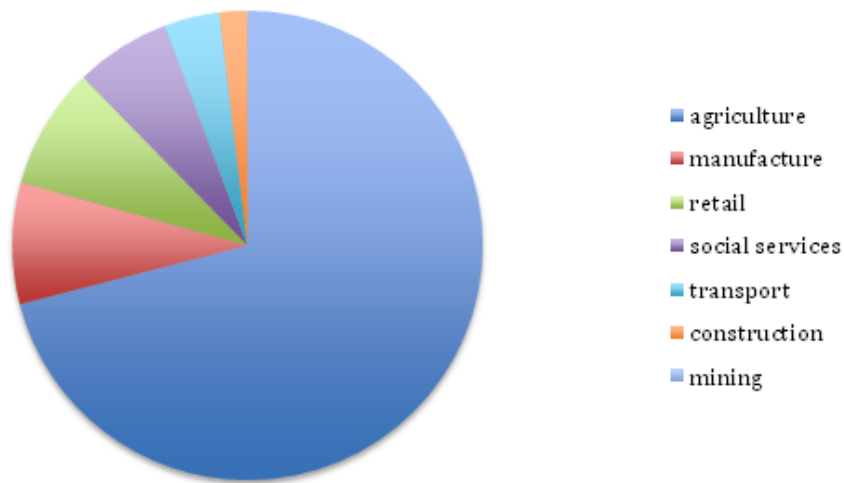
This fundamental convention sets the general minimum age for admission to employment or work at 15 years (13 for light work) and the minimum age for hazardous work at 18 (16 under certain strict conditions). It provides for the possibility of initially setting the general minimum age at 14 (12 for light work) where the economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed.

Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

This fundamental convention defines "child" as a person under 18 years of age. It requires ratifying states to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; child prostitution and pornography; using children for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and work which is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. The convention requires ratifying states to provide the necessary and appropriate direct assistance for the removal of children from the worst forms of child labour and for their rehabilitation and social integration. It also requires states to ensure access to free basic education and, wherever possible and appropriate.

The International Labour Organisation states in its latest World Report on Child Labour (2013) that there are around 265 million working children in the world, almost 17 per cent of the worldwide child population. According to the publicly available data discussed in more detail below, Sub-Saharan Africa is the region where child labour is most prevalent. While absolute numbers are still high, particularly in those countries with the lowest standards of living, from a historical viewpoint there are concrete examples of countries that managed to virtually eliminate widespread child labour in the course of a century. The United Kingdom is a case in point. In terms of recent developments, global trends show a significant reduction in child labour over the last couple of decades. However, there is wide gap in the progress that different countries have achieved.

Child Labour



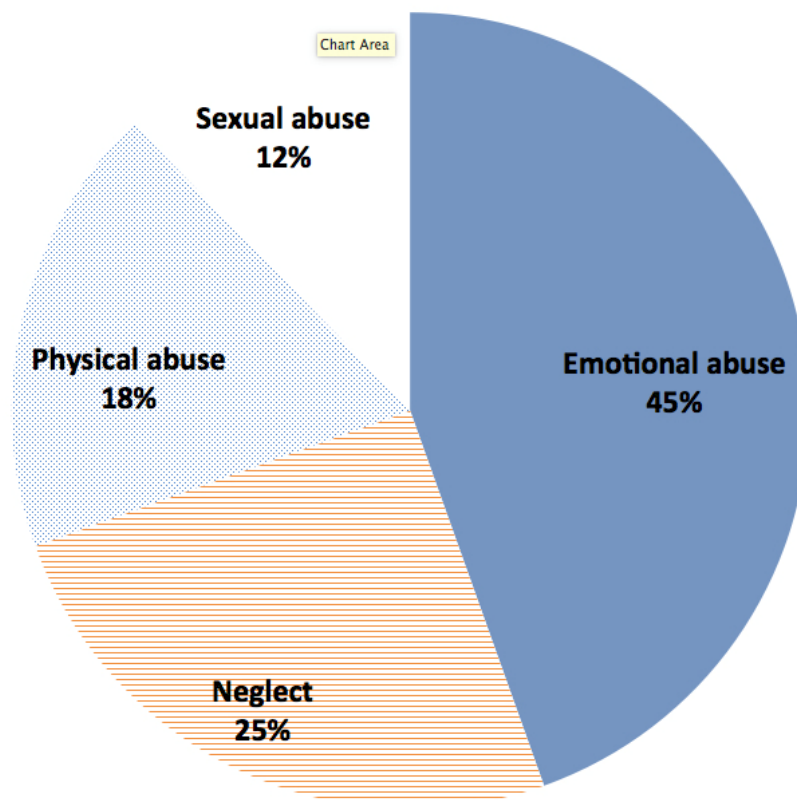
4- Intrafamilial violence (verbal, physical and psychological abuse)

Domestic violence is violence or other abuse by one person against another in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation. It may be termed intimate partner violence when committed by a spouse or partner in an intimate relationship against the other spouse or partner, or it can take place between former spouses or partners. Domestic violence can also involve violence against children. It takes a number of forms, including physical, verbal, emotional, economic, religious, reproductive, and sexual abuse, which can range from subtle, coercive forms to marital rape and to violent physical abuse. Domestic murders include stoning, bride burning, honor killings.

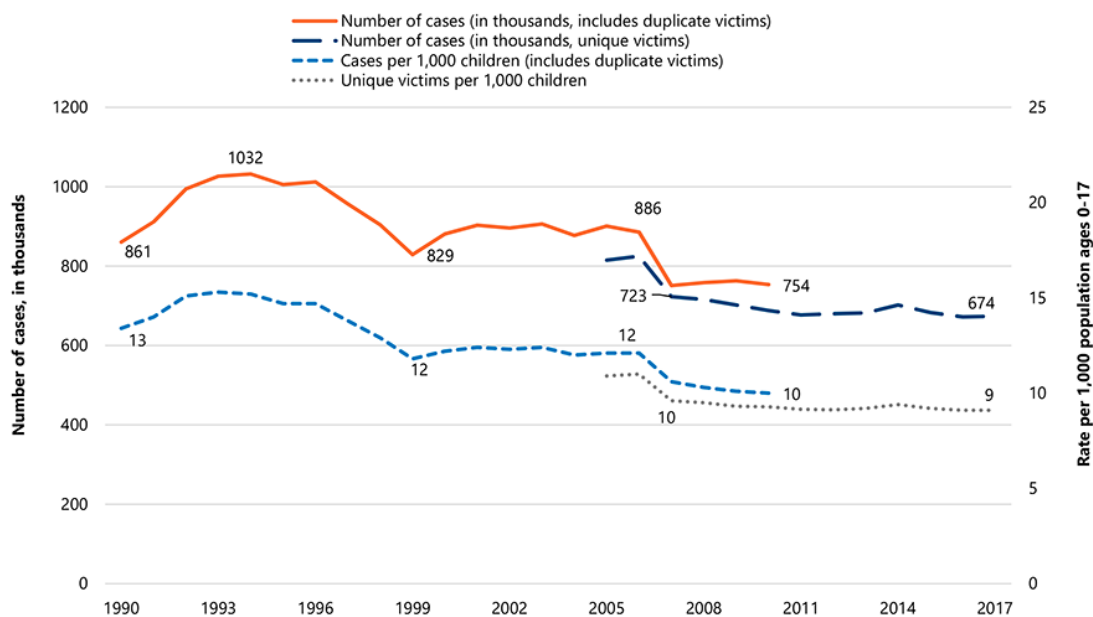
Because of the effects of child abuse, most of the victims leave school and in correlation to that, lose the opportunity to live a higher quality life and become defenseless. They need

someone who protects and guides them in order to regain control of their lives. A large majority of abusers choose to or instinctively do continue the vicious cycle of abuse because they were exposed to some kind of abuse during their own childhood or/and adolescence which had made them to become abusers themselves. In abusive relationships, there may be a cycle of abuse during which tensions rise and an act of violence is committed, followed by a period of reconciliation and calm. Victims of domestic violence may be trapped in domestic violent situations through isolation, power and control, cultural acceptance, lack of financial resources, fear or shame.

Globally, the victims of domestic violence are overwhelmingly women, and women tend to experience more severe forms of violence. They are also likelier than men to use intimate partner violence in self-defense. In some countries, domestic violence is often seen as justified, particularly in cases of actual or suspected infidelity on the part of the woman, and is legally permitted. Research has established that there exists a direct and significant correlation between a country's level of gender equality and rates of domestic violence, where countries with less gender equality experience higher rates of domestic violence. Domestic violence is among the most underreported crimes worldwide for both men and women. Due to social stigmas regarding male victimization, men who are victims of domestic violence face an increased likelihood of being overlooked by healthcare providers.



Number and Rate of Child Maltreatment* Cases/Victims: 1990-2017



*Child Maltreatment refers to substantiated victims
 Sources: Rate per 1000 for 1990-1999 and number of victims for 1994, 1998, 1999, and 2000: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families. Child Maltreatment 1999. Population estimates for 1999: Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. All other estimates for 1990-1999 except rate per 1000: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Trends in the Well-Being of America's Children and Youth 2001. [Table HC 2.10].; Population estimates for 2000 and 2001: Original analysis by Child Trends of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (2003). Bridged Race 2000 and 2001 Population Estimates for Calculating Vital Rates. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/popbridge/popbridge.htm>. Data for 2000-2016: Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau. (2002-2019). Child Maltreatment 2000-2017.

childtrends.org

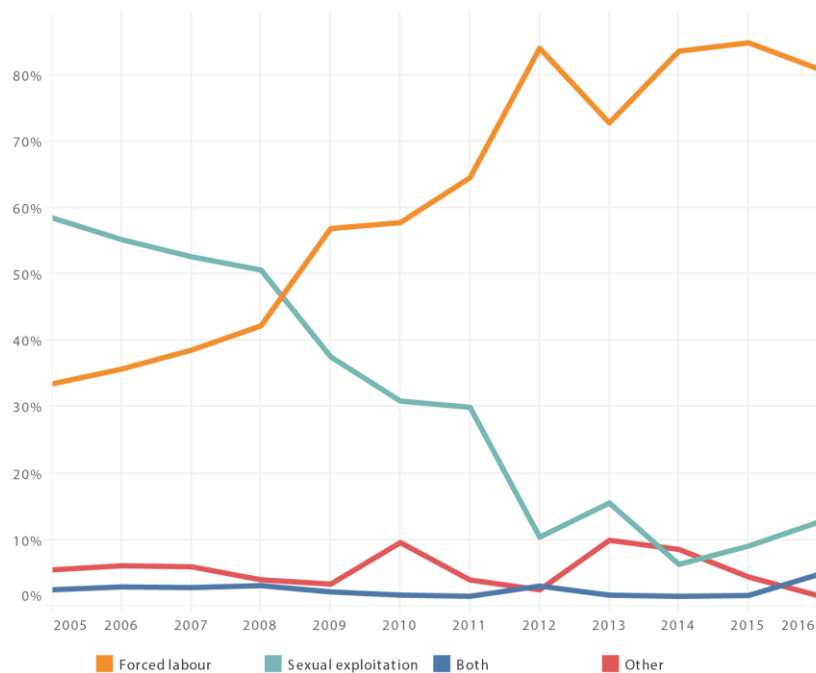
5- Sexual exploitation of the child (assault, abuse, trafficking)

Child sexual exploitation is a type of sexual abuse. When a child or young person is exploited they're given things; gifts, drugs, money, status and affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities. Children and young people are often tricked into believing they're in a loving and consensual relationship. This is called grooming. They may trust their abuser and not understand that they're being abused. Children and young people can be trafficked into or across borders multiple times while suffering from abuse.

The global prevalence of child sexual abuse has been estimated at 19.7% for females and 7.9% for males. Most sexual abuse offenders are acquainted with their victims; approximately 30% are relatives of the child, most often brothers, fathers, uncles, or cousins; around 60% are other acquaintances, such as "friends" of the family, babysitters, or neighbors; strangers are the offenders in approximately 10% of child sexual abuse cases. Most child sexual abuse is committed by men; studies on female child molesters show that women commit 14% to 40% of offenses reported against boys and 6% of offenses reported against girls.

Child sexual abuse can result in both short-term and long-term harm, including psychopathology in later life. Indicators and effects include depression, anxiety, eating disorders, poor self-esteem, sleep disturbances, and dissociative and anxiety disorders including post-traumatic stress disorder. While children may exhibit regressive behaviours such as thumb sucking or bedwetting, the strongest indicator of sexual abuse is sexual acting out and inappropriate sexual knowledge and interest.

Exploitation types among identified victims of trafficking, 2005-2016



Note: The "other" includes: forced marriage, forced military service, low level criminal activities, and trafficking for blood, organs or other body parts.

Source: IOM's Human Trafficking Global Database, 2017.

© IOM 2017 www.migrationdataportal.org

OF ALL VICTIMS UNDER 18, 2 OUT OF 3 ARE AGES 12-17



34% under age 12 **66%** age 12-17

RAINN

National Sexual Assault Hotline | 800.656.HOPE | online.rainn.org
Please visit rainn.org/statistics/children-and-teens for full citation.²

DEFINITION of KEY TERMS:

- Violation: an action that breaks or acts against something, especially a law, agreement, principle, or something that should be treated with respect.
- Child: A person between toddlerhood and adolescence, a person under the age 18.
- Child Abuse: Physical, sexual or psychological maltreatment by an adult, which is violent or threatening to the child.
- Child Marriage: A marriage of a girl or a boy who is under the age of 18.

Important conventions to know;

- Convention of The Rights of The Children (UNCRC)
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention

Involved countries and organisations:

World Health Organization (WHO)

WHO works with 194 member states worldwide and one of their main goal is “working for better health for everyone, everywhere” (WHO official website). It combats with diseases and help people all around the world who need medical treatment by providing the safety of air, water, food and access to medicines and vaccines regardless of age, ethnicity, race, gender, religion. Alongside dealing with a wide range of health problems and ensuring air and water to people everywhere, it works for prevent maltreatment of children, sexual violence and elder abuse.

United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

The efforts of the UNHRC can be seen throughout by their request from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to develop a report on the protection of the rights of the child in the execution of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Sub-Saharan African Countries

Sub-Saharan African countries has the world’s highest incidence rates of child labour. More than 40% of all children aged 5-17 labour for survival, or about 48 million children.

South East Asia

South East Asia has the highest rates of child marriage in the world. Almost half (45%) of all women aged 20-24 years reported being married before the age of 18. Almost one in five girls (17%) are married before the age of 15.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

ILO created a programme called International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). IPEC, currently has operations in 88 countries. The main goal of this programme is implementation of progressive elimination of child labour. IPEC has taken a lot of actions for achieve this; through, awareness raising to promote ratification and effective implementation of ILO child labour Conventions, and through country –based programmes which advocate policy reform.

Major Events (Timeline of events)

-Necessary informations and further details are added down below if there is a (*). -

Establishment of: Save the Children Fund	Commonly known as Save the Children was established in the United Kingdom to improve the lives of children through better education, health care, and economic opportunities, as well as providing emergency aid in natural disasters, war, and other conflicts.	15 April 1919 United Kingdom
Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child (*1)	The League of Nations adopts, drafted by Eglantyne Jebb, founder of the Save the Children Fund. The Declaration articulates that all people owe children the right to: means for their development; special help in times of need; priority for relief; economic freedom and protection from exploitation; and an upbringing that instils social consciousness and duty.	26 November 1924 Geneva, Switzerland
Universal Declaration of Human Rights	The United Nations General Assembly passes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which Article 25 entitles mothers and children to ‘special care and assistance’ and ‘social protection’.	10 December 1948 Paris, France
The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child (extended form)	Extension recognizes, among other rights, children’s rights to get education, to play, to have a supportive environment and access to proper health care.	1959
The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) (*2) (*3)	With ICESCR, United Nations Member States promise to uphold equal rights – including education and protection – for all children regardless of socio-economic, religious or ethnic origin.	Signed: 16 December 1966 Effective: 3 January 1976 UN Headquarters New York

The International Conference on Human Rights (*4)	The International Conference on Human Rights is convened to evaluate the progress made by countries in the 20 years since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. An agenda for future work is drafted and national commitments to upholding human rights are bolstered.	22 April 1968 - 13 May 1968 Tehran, Iran
Convention 138 of the International Labour Organization (*5)	The International Labour Organization adopts Convention 138, which sets 18 as the minimum age for undertaking work that might be hazardous to a person's health, safety or morals.	6 June 1973
The Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict (*6)	The Declaration prohibits attacks against or imprisonment of civilian women and children, and upholds the sanctity of the rights of women and children during armed conflict.	1974
The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice	Principles of a justice system that promotes the best interests of the child is aimed to be created, including education and social services and proportional treatment for child detainees.	29 November 1985
Convention on the Rights of the Child	Children's roles as social, economic, political, civil and cultural actors is recognised. The Convention guarantees and sets minimum standards for protecting the rights of children in all capacities	Signed: 20 November 1989 Effective: 2 September 1990
Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency "The Riyadh guidelines"	Creation of strategies for preventing criminality and protecting young people at high social risk.	14 December 1990
Child Rights International Network (CRIN)	Formal establishment of the Child Rights International Network (CRIN)	1995
Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention "ILO Convention No 182." (*7)	The International Labour Organization (ILO) adopts the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, calling for the prohibition of any form of work that is likely to harm the safety, health or morals of children.	Signed: 17 June 1999 Effective: 19 November 2000
Two Optional Protocols to the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child (*8)	Actions to ensure that children are protected from partaking in hostilities during armed conflict, sexual exploitation and abuse of different kinds. While allowing children to submit complaints, appeals and petitions.	2000
Optional Protocol to the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child	the Committee on the Rights of the Child can field complaints of child rights violations and undertake investigations.	2011

(*1)

The text of the documentary, as published by the International Save the Children Union in Geneva on 23 February 1923:

- 1- The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.
- 2- The child that is hungry must be fed, the child that is sick must be nursed, the child that is backward must be helped, the delinquent child must be reclaimed, and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.
- 3- The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress.
- 4- The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood, and must be protected against every form of exploitation.
- 5- The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men.

(*2)

SUMMARY of ICESCR

Part 1 (Article 1) recognises the right of all peoples to self-determination, including the right to "freely determine their political status", pursue their economic, social and cultural goals, and manage and dispose of their own resources. It recognises a negative right of a people not to be deprived of its means of subsistence, and imposes an obligation on those parties still responsible for non-self-governing territories (colonies) to encourage and respect their self-determination.

Part 2 (Articles 2–5) establishes the principle of "progressive realisation" – see below. It also requires the rights be recognised "without discrimination of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status". The rights can only be limited by law, in a manner compatible with the nature of the rights, and only for the purpose of "promoting the general welfare in a democratic society".

Part 3 (Articles 6–15) lists the rights themselves. These include rights to

- work, under "just and favourable conditions", with the right to form and join trade unions (Articles 6, 7, and 8);
- social security, including social insurance (Article 9);
- family life, including paid parental leave and the protection of children (Article 10);
- an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and the "continuous improvement of living conditions" (Article 11);
- health, specifically "the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health" (Article 12);
- education, including free universal primary education, generally available secondary education and equally accessible higher education. This should be directed to "the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity", and enable all persons to participate effectively in society (Articles 13 and 14);
- participation in cultural life (Article 15).

Many of these rights include specific actions which must be undertaken to realise them.

(*3)

1960's should be further researched concerning the topic, as this era is particularly famous for culturally impactful events and changes.

(*4)

The Conference also adopted Resolution XVIII, on the Human Rights Aspects of Family Planning, which stated: '[...] couples have a basic human right to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and a right to adequate education and information in this respect.' (Resolution XVIII: Human Rights Aspects of Family Planning, Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights. U.N. Doc. A/CONF. 32/41, p.15)

It should be noted that with the further prevalence of contraceptive usage, children's living conditions significantly improved since a higher percentage of the family income was spent per child.

(*5)

Article 1

Each Member for which this Convention is in force undertakes to pursue a national policy designed to ensure the effective abolition of child labour and to raise progressively the minimum age for admission to employment or work to a level consistent with the fullest physical and mental development of young persons.

Article 2

3. The minimum age specified in pursuance of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years.

Article 3

1. The minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to jeopardise the health, safety or morals of young persons shall not be less than 18 years.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, national laws or regulations or the competent authority may, after consultation with the organisations of employers and workers concerned, where such exist, authorise employment or work as from the age of 16 years on condition that the health, safety and morals of the young persons concerned are fully protected and that the young persons have received adequate specific instruction or vocational training in the relevant branch of activity.

Article 9

1. All necessary measures, including the provision of appropriate penalties, shall be taken by the competent authority to ensure the effective enforcement of the provisions of this Convention.

2. National laws or regulations or the competent authority shall define the persons responsible for compliance with the provisions giving effect to the Convention.

(*6)

The Declaration states that women and children suffer victimization during armed conflict due to "suppression, aggression, colonialism, racism, alien domination and foreign subjugation". The Declaration specifically prohibits attacks and bombing of civilian populations and the use of chemical and biological weapons on civilian populations. The Declaration also requires countries to take measures to end "persecution, torture, punitive measures, degrading treatment and violence" especially when they are targeted against women and children, as well as recognizing "imprisonment, torture, shooting, mass arrests, collective punishment, and forcible evictions" as criminal acts.

Certain fundamental rights are also included in the Declaration, such as access to food, shelter, and medical care, which are to be provided to women and children caught in emergency situations.

Finally, the Declaration reminds the binding nature of other internationally accepted law instruments, naming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

(*7)

ILO Convention No 182., one of eight ILO fundamental conventions.

The ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) is responsible for assisting countries in this regard as well as monitoring compliance. One of the methods used by IPEC to assist countries in this regard are Time-bound Programmes (TBP). TBPs are designed as practical plans to ensure that governments can track improvements on the topic while trying to achieve well-defined targets. They arrange a set of integrated and coordinated policies with specific goals and a defined time frame.

(*8)

The Optional Protocol to the ICESCR (OP-ICESCR) does not create any new substantive rights. It sets a mechanism that makes it possible for individuals to submit a complaint to the Committee in regard to violations of their economic, social and cultural rights by a State party. For example, a community that was wrongfully evicted by the local authorities without being able to benefit from any remedies provided by national courts would be able to file a complaint directly to the CESCR (Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

Previous Attempts to solve major problems:

1- Early termination of education by the force of parents/guardians or because of obligations:

- The Safe Schools Declaration

The Safe Schools Declaration was opened for state endorsement in Oslo, Norway, in May 2015. It is a political commitment to better protect students, teachers, schools and universities during armed conflict, to support the continuation of education during war, and to put in place concrete measures to deter the military use of schools. Ukraine became the 100th country to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration. By endorsing the Declaration, States commit to restoring access to safe education and to developing education systems that are conflict-sensitive and promote respect between social or ethnic groups.

- UNESCO education strategy 2014-2021 - <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000231288>

- Convention on the Rights of the Child - <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

2- Underage marriages, forced marriages (forced by parents/guardians or tradition whose nature don't meet Human Rights regulations),

-Convention on the Rights of the Child -
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

- Every Woman Every Child movement

- UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

3- Children in workforce,

- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention

- Convention on the Rights of the Child

4- Intrafamilial violence (verbal, physical and psychological abuse)

- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- HeForShe movement

5- Sexual exploitation of the child (assault, abuse, trafficking)

- Convention on the Rights of the Child -
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

Possible Solutions:

- Providing high quality education for all children, particularly for girls through the laws, policies and practices.
- Training parents, especially mothers about how they can teach their child about his/her rights while raising him/her and how to treat their child in order to create a good personality development.
- Creating awareness campaigns through texting (sms) systems or social media for ensuring the money for least developed countries through organizations such as UNICEF, Children Connect etc.
- Providing clean drinking water, good nutrition and fundamental healthcare by the courtesy of such as WHO or UNICEF.
- While utilizing the natural resources for today's needs, being considerate of future generations needs and use just the amount required or consider saving.
- Preventing children to be drafted to the armed forces.
- Legislation is the main action to provide an ecosystem to protect the children and motivate people to act in favor of children and create a society meeting the terms of The Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- The continuation of previous attempts to solve the issue.

Useful links:

<https://www.preceden.com/timelines/358994-history-of-childhood>

<https://ourworldindata.org/search?q=literacy> – interactive chart <https://www.unicef.org/stories/learning-experience-19461979>

<https://www.unicef.org/stories/learning-experience-19801988>

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<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvRGVjbGFyYXRpb25fb2ZfdGhlX1JpZ2h0c19vZl90aGVfQ2hpbGQ>

<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvSW50ZXJuYXRpb25hbF9Db3ZlbnFudF9vbl9FY29ub21pYyxfU29jaWFsX2FuZF9DdWx0dXJhbF9SaWdodHM>

<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvSW50ZXJuYXRpb25hbF9Db3ZlbnFudF9vbl9FY29ub21pYyxfU29jaWFsX2FuZF9DdWx0dXJhbF9SaWdodHM>

https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C138

<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvRGVjbGFyYXRpb25fb25fdGhlX1Byb3RlY3Rpb25fb2ZfV29tZW5fYW5kX0NoaWxkcmVuX2luX0VtZXJnZW5jeV9hbmRfQXJtZWRFQ29uZmxpY3Q>

<https://www.unfpa.org/events/international-conference-human-rights>

<https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/library/united-nations-guidelines-prevention-juvenile-delinquency-riyadh-guidelines-ares45112>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/OPICCRC.aspx>

<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvSGlzdG9yeV9vZl9jaGlsZGhvb2Q>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zvmv4wx/revision/4>

<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvUmlnaHRfdG9fZWRIY2F0aW9u>

<https://www.wikizeroo.org/index.php?q=aHR0cHM6Ly9lbi53aWtpcGVkaWEub3JnL3dpa2kvQnJpZGVfa2lkbmFwcGluZW>

<https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/child-labour/lang--en/index.htm>

<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/ending-the-use-of-child-soldiers/>

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/pages/home.aspx>

<https://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm>

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convention_on_the_Rights_of_the_Child

<https://www.unicef.org/rosa/what-we-do/child-protection/child-marriage>

https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_child_labour.html

<https://www.who.int/>

https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_57972.html