

# Police science, 2 page critique



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In spite of the laws passed and concern by international organizations such as UNICEF on the violence on children and women, data proves that these concerns are still very much prevalent and a growing concern among poor and developing countries. There are many factors that contribute to these abuses as to why they are still prevalent and even if governments of concerned countries have passed laws in order to protect women and children, abuse is still seen. The Progress for Children report card ("Progress for", 2009) deals with old issues dealing with child abuse, violence and child labor.

One of the influential factors seen that affect the prevalence of abuse stems from cultural beliefs that form the identity of a certain group of individuals. For example in the issue of child brides where the majority of which are seen in India, studies show that women in these countries are wed or engaged as children as part of their custom and traditions. Because it is a local custom, this abuse is seen not only among women children but even among males who are married before the age of ten.

Even if there were missing data from some countries, the report was able to show the current issues faced by children and women in terms of violence and abuse. These countries that had no data provided such as China which has the largest population in the world and have a one-child policy may have declined giving data. There is also a recommendation to improve the gathering of data in these countries in order to strengthen the cases of reported abuse among children in these regions.

Poverty was also targeted as the cause for the majority of children not being registered at birth in South Asia. This non-registration according to the report makes these children ineligible for basic rights such as voting, going to

school or getting passports. One of the disadvantages in the data given regarding the registration of births among South Asian children is that the author focused on poverty alone as the reason for the parents not to certify or register the births. Poverty alone does not play a part in this aspect since there are other factors such as children being delivered by midwives. This is because there is limited to no access to health care facilities in rural areas and the responsibility of registering the births fall on the midwives.

One consideration that needs to be done with the paper presented that people have to respect the individuality of people from other countries in terms of culture and beliefs. What a westerner may deem as child abuse, parents from this region see it as opportunities that will benefit their child and their family. But the report also shows that there has been a decline in some traditions that are forms of abuse for women and children such as female genitalia mutilation and that child marriage incident are also decreased. There is also improvement on child labor issues in some countries, but there are some countries where prevalence of child labor is still being seen or have increased. Few countries such as Mexico have reported a decrease in the participation of child laborers in their workforce. Some recommendations have been made in the report in order to improve the cases of abuse amongst children and women. Building a protective environment where government and society work hand in hand in order to make sure that these cases of abuse become eradicated in the near future.

## References

Progress for children. (2009). : UNICEF.