

# Child labour essay sample

[Life](#), [Childhood](#)



Child Labour has negative or harmful effects on the child.

Child Labour refers to any work or activity that deprives children of their childhood. In effect, these are activities that are detrimental to the physical and mental health of children and that hinder their proper development. This encompasses domestic tasks carried out over long hours in an unhealthy environment, in dangerous places requiring the use of dangerous tools or materials, or forcing the child to carry objects that are too heavy. Child labourers are at a high risk of illness, injury and even death due to a wide variety of machinery, biological, physical, chemical, ergonomic, welfare/hygiene and psychosocial hazards, as well as from long hours of work and poor living conditions. The work hazards and risks that affect adult workers can affect child labourers even more strongly. For example, physical strain, especially when combined with repetitive movements, on growing bones and joints can cause stunting, spinal injury and other life long deformation and disabilities. Children often also suffer psychological damage from working and living in an environment where they are denigrated, harassed or experience violence and abuse. The difficulty of tasks and harsh working conditions create a number of problems such as premature ageing, malnutrition, depression, drug dependency etc.

From disadvantaged backgrounds, minority groups, or abducted from their families, these children have no protection. Their employers do whatever necessary to make them completely invisible and are thus able to exercise an absolute control over them. These children work in degrading conditions, undermining all the principles and fundamental rights based in human nature. Additionally, a child who works will not be able to have a normal

education and will be doomed to become an illiterate adult, having no possibility to grow in his or her professional and social life. In certain cases, child Labour also endangers a child's dignity and morals, especially when sexual exploitation is involved, such as prostitution and child pornography. These children are often victims of physical, mental, and sexual violence. Childhood is a critical time for safe and healthy human development. Because children are still growing they have special characteristics and needs, in terms of physical, cognitive (thought/learning) and behavioural development and growth, that must be taken into consideration.

#### Bibliography

<http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/briefingpapers/childlabour/>

[www.humanium.org/en/child-labour/](http://www.humanium.org/en/child-labour/)