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Implication of Father's Education on Child Labor in District Multan

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HEC Y Catogory

Abstract
Child labour continues to be a prevalent issue in many societies around the world, with millions of children forced to work in dangerous and exploitative conditions. There are various factors that contribute to the prevalence of child labour, including poverty, lack of access to education, and societal norms that perpetuate the idea that children should work to support their families. The implications of child labour on society are far-reaching and profoundly negative. Children who are forced to work at a young age miss out on important opportunities for education and overall development. This can perpetuate the cycle of poverty, as these children are often unable to break out of the cycle and improve their circumstances in life. Additionally, child labour can have long-term physical and mental health consequences for children, as they are often exposed to dangerous working conditions and are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Furthermore, the prevalence of child labour can have broader societal implications, such as perpetuating income inequality and undermining the overall social and economic development of a country. Children who are forced to work are denied the opportunity to reach their full potential, which can have a negative impact on the future workforce and overall productivity of a nation. Efforts to combat child labour must be comprehensive and multi-faceted, addressing the root causes of the issue and providing support to families and communities in need. Governments, non-governmental organizations, and international bodies must work together to enforce laws and regulations that prohibit child labour, while also implementing programs that provide education and support to vulnerable children and families. In conclusion, child labour is a complex issue that requires a concerted effort from all sectors of society to address. The implications of child labour on society are profound and far-reaching, and it is crucial that we work together to eradicate this harmful practice and ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential and lead fulfilling lives.

Keywords: *Implication of Father's Education, Child Labor, District Multan*

Introduction

Child is an individual who is under the age of 18 years. "Child labor" is defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential, and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. Federal Bureau of Statistics conducted the National Child Labor survey in order to measure the child labor in Pakistan. It was found that 3.3 million of the 40 million children (ages form 5-14) were working on a full-time basis. 73 % of total child labor belonged to boys while 27 % were girls. The number of economically active children in the 10-14 years age group is more than four times the number of children in the 5-9 years age group. The agricultural sector engaged 67% of child labor, the manufacturing sector engaged 11%, while wholesale and retail trade, and restaurant and hotels sector engaged 9% and 8%respectively. In the manufacturing sector, Bidi making, Carpet weaving, Cement manufacture including bagging of cement, Cloth printing, dyeing and weaving, Manufacture of matches, explosive and fireworks, Mica-cutting, Soap manufacturing, Wool-cleaning, Building and construction industry, Manufacture of slate pencils, including packaging, Manufacture of products from agate, Manufacturing processes using toxic metals and substances such as lead, mercury, manganese, chromium, pesticides and asbestos. (Mansuri, G 2006)

The activities performed by persons of less than 18 years of age that contribute to the production of a marketable product, good, or service, whether that activity is done for pay or not. This includes household work performed in the parent's home, in situations where such work can be assimilated into an economic activity as, for example, when a child must devote his or her entire time to that work so that his or her parents can be employed outside home and is therefore deprived of the possibility of going to school. (Emerson, 2008)

Agriculture can also be hazardous for children because of exposure to dangerous chemicals such as chemical herbicides or pesticides, exposure to heat or weather, repetitive work injuries, and threats posed by animals, reptiles, insects, parasites, and some plants. (Rosati et al. 2003)

There are factors outside of the family that dictate the participation of children in the economic activity of the family unit. School often takes second place to work in families that are dependent on children's contribution to the family income. Children who live in situations of poverty for an extended period often have to quit or at the very least interrupt their schooling in favor of working to support the family. (Memon, N.2004)

Rational and significance of the study

Child labor is a worldwide problem and victims are the children who are the builders of the nation, it is important to find out the root causes of child labor that affect the children health and education. A large number of children are working in factories, mines, auto workshops, selling food items, and as home servants rather than going to school. Present research is an approach to analyze the factors of child labor participation in different sectors that focuses at a comparative

analysis of wage differences and work hours of children involved in various forms of child labor and investigates the most dominant form of child labor in the study area.

Objectives of the Study

This research addresses the following objectives:

1. What are the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of respondents?
2. Which form of child labor is more common in the study area?
3. What are the main causes of child labor in different kinds of work?
4. Analysis of the wage differences and work hours of children involved in various forms of child labor.

Review of Literature

Fassa et al. (1999) concluded that child labor can have positive effects; in some situations, it has negative effects on the health and development of the children. It is mainly a problem in developing countries, but it is possible to find child workers in developed countries, some of them, working in hazardous activities. In this paper researcher described the child labor profile in developed and developing countries, and the principal occupations and their hazards. The researcher summarized the epidemiologic evidence of the greater impact of some occupational exposures on child health when compared to adults and the theoretical concerns about the impact of child labor on health.

Ray (2000) analyzed child labor participation and its key determinants in Peru and Pakistan. It was concluded that income and related considerations do not have much of an effect on children's work input. In contrast, community variables have significant effects on child labor. An increased provision of public services leading to improved `quality' of life discourages a household from putting its children into outside paid employment, and encourages their school enrolment.

Galli (2001) described the economic impact of child labor. Three main categories of economic impact of child labor were analyzed 1) the effects of child labor at the micro family level, particularly on family poverty both in the short and in the long run; 2) the effects of child labor on long-run growth and social development through several different transmission mechanisms; 3) the international economic effects of child labor particularly on foreign direct investment; and 4) the effects of child labor on adult labor market. The empirical survey has shown that the economic effects of child labor can sometimes be ambiguous or counter-intuitive and that in many cases the available empirical evidence is not sufficient to assess the direction or size of the child labor impact with certainty.

Cigno et al. (2002) described the globalization and increase in child labor. Parental decisions on whether a child should work or go to school depend on the costs and benefits of education. In a country that starts with a largely uneducated workforce; globalization raises the wage rates of uneducated, relative to educated workers. That reduces the incentive to educate a child and raises the incentive to make the child work at the earliest opportunity. According to a

variant of new trade theory, a country that starts with a largely uneducated workforce risks being excluded from trade in intermediate goods with the more developed countries as the latter form exclusive clubs.

Admassie (2003) has investigated the implications of children's participation in household activities on schooling using a household survey from rural Ethiopia. International concern over the problem of child labor often focused on children working in the manufacturing and export sectors. Yet, most children in developing countries provide unpaid agricultural and domestic labor, often at the expense of their education. The empirical data presented in this study indicated that children in rural Ethiopia were expected to perform multiple of tasks, which may often be beyond their physical capabilities even at the expense of their education.

Edmonds and Pavcnik (2004) studied the relationship between changes in the relative price of an exported commodity and child labor using household-level data from within a poor country. Researchers described the effect of trade liberalization on child labor". Researchers related child labor to regional and inter-temporal variation in the real price of rice surrounding national and international rice market integration in Vietnam. Rice price increases are associated with the largest declines in child labor in households that are large net producers of rice. These findings showed that greater market integration can be associated with less child labor.

Mull and Kirkhorn (2005) determined the occupational hazards experienced by children harvesting cocoa in western Ghana to design a vocational literacy life skills curriculum and radio social messaging campaign with a safety component to decrease hazardous work exposures in child agricultural work. An observational analysis was conducted of children aged 9 through 17 based on personal interviews of agricultural workers, focus groups, and direct observation of work practices and activities. Job site analysis incorporated task mapping, job hazard review, and a review of equipment and use of protective gear. Children and young people aged 9 through 17 are exposed to hazardous occupational exposures including strenuous work, sharp tools, and pesticides. Lack of training in proper safety practices and inadequate personal protective equipment were commonly noted.

Fafchamps and Wahba (2006) concluded that urban proximity and household composition have relationship with child labor." The data was collected by the Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal (CBS). The questionnaire and survey methodology were designed for data collection. Data was collected from those aged between 5 and 15 years of age–19,176 individuals in total. It was found that children residing in or near urban centers attend school more and work less in total but are more likely to be involved in wage work or a small business. The larger the urban center, the stronger the effect is.

Khan et al. (2007) explored a dark side of institutional entrepreneurship by considering how the long-standing institutional practice of child labor was eliminated from the world's largest soccer ball manufacturing cluster in Sialkot, Pakistan. The focus was upon the operation of power rather than the agency of the coalition of entrepreneurs. It shows how power operated

hegemonically in solving and reporting the issue of child labor in a way that deflected attention from `darker' problematic aspects of this seemingly progressive and benign institutional reform.

Dammert (2008) compared the child labor and schooling status of children who reside in coca-growing states to children living in non-growing states. The data was used from the Peruvian Living Standard Measurement Survey (PLSMS). It collected information about household and individual characteristics. Children's activities were grouped into domestic and market work. The main results in this paper suggested that child labor increased by 18 and 40% in coca-growing states in 1997 and 2000, respectively. Not only the probability of market work increase, but work hours and domestic work as well.

List of Propositions

1. Children who are involved in hazardous work come from those families having low income, low level of education, and having large family size
2. Socio-economic factors are responsible for children's involvement in work.
3. "Macroeconomic growth and development increase child labor"
4. "Higher commodity prices are associated with declines in child labor".
5. "Unemployment a major cause for child labor"

Research Methodology

Research methodology refers to the specific strategies or techniques for systematically conducting research. The objective of this is to explain the tools, techniques, and conceptualization and operationalization of the key concepts used in the study. The researcher used quantitative research methods to explore the "Child labor participation and discrimination of wages in different sectors a factor analysis approach". Various tools and techniques engaged for the data collection, analysis and discussion of the data are present in this.

Universe /population

All children involved in child labor in the city Multan, Respondent's information

Age

Children aged 5-15 were the universe population.

Sex

All of the respondents were male in the study area.

Sampling procedure and sampling technique

It is quantitative research based on the information taken from different sectors where children are directly involved. After conducting a benchmark survey following population units were identified

- Auto workshops
- Canteen

Sample

A sample of 200 children was selected through the purposive sampling method. Purposive sampling was used because the researcher had to reach those children who were the victims of

child labor in different sectors like auto workshops and canteens. Out of the 200 respondent's majority of the respondents, 120 (60%) working in auto workshops because parents mostly send their children to this sector because they have no other choice and another reason is so that children can learn this work and will be able to open their shop in order to support their parents. A small number 80 (40%) of respondents were working at canteens. Following are the number of children involved in different sectors.

Category	Number of children
Auto workshop	120
Canteen	80
Total	200

Tools for data collection

After drawing the sample and designing the appropriate research techniques data was collected through semi-structured Interview schedule. Children aged 5-15 were interviewed by the researcher during face-to-face contact. Interview schedule was designed to measure the demographic characteristics, socio-economic causes and the wage discrimination in different sectors of the child labor.

Statistical Tests Applied

1. %age
2. Chi-square

%age

In order to being the data into comparable from the %age of various categories data were used in the present study the %ages were calculated by using the formula

P=F/N*100

F=frequency

N=total number of frequencies

P=%age

Chi-squire

O = observe value

E = Expected

Submission Σ = sum of values

$$x^2 = \Sigma \frac{(fo - fe)^2}{fe}$$

Conceptualization and Operationalization

Conceptualization

"The process developing clear, rigorous, systematic conceptual definitions for abstract

ideas/concepts" (Newman, 6th Edition, page no. 182)

Operationalization

"The process of moving from a construct's conceptual definition to specific activities or measures that allows a researcher to observe it empirically" (Newman, 6th Edition, page no. 184)

Conceptualization of major concepts

"Child is a boy or girl between birth and puberty or a human offspring; (World English Dictionary)

Labor

"The work accomplished by or the role in production of all workers, especially workers for wages" (Webster's New World Dictionary, Third Edition 1986)

Child labor

"Child labor" is defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. (International Labor Organization 1996)

Family

"A basic social unit consisting of parents and their children, considered as a group, whether dwelling together or not *the traditional family*. (World English Dictionary 2009).

Education

"The process of training and developing the knowledge, skill, mind, character, etc. thus developed." (Webster's New World Dictionary, Third Edition 1986)

Illiteracy

"Illiterate is the one who is unable to read and write". (World English Dictionary, 2009)

Income

"The money or other gain received, especially in a given period by an individual, corporation, etc. for labor or services or from property, investment, operations, etc." (Webster's New World Dictionary, Third Edition 1986)

Operationalization

Dependent variable

Researcher in the present research included those children who were involved in child labor and were aged 5-15. Data was collected from these children to find out the cause of child labor, the demographic characteristics of the child's family.

Independent variables

Family size

Researcher used this concept as how many members are in the family which represents the family size. It was asked in question number five, consists three further categories as up to 5, 6 to 7, and 8 and above. Families having 6 and above family members were included in large family size. It was analyzed that families having large size of families were more indulge in the child labor.

Illiteracy

Illiteracy is a major cause for child labor. Researcher in the interview schedule uses this concept as the educational level of the child's father and mother in question number seven and eight. In the present research a large number of parents were illiterate which shows that illiteracy plays a vital role in the occurrence of child labor.

Unemployment

Unemployment is a major cause for child labor. Researcher in the interview schedule uses this concept as the number of earning members in a family in question number twelve. Results showed that families having unemployed adults are more likely to send their children to work.

Poverty

Poverty is a major cause for child labor. Researcher assessed this factor by asking the respondents why they are supposed to work in the question number eighteen, and majority answered that to earn money which shows that poverty is independent variable causing child labor.

Hypothesis

H_0; There is no association between father occupation and child labor (with respect to working field of child)

H_1; There is some association between father occupation and child labor (with respect to working field of child)

Cross tabulation between Father's Occupation and working field of child

Working field of child	Father occupation			Total
	Laborer	Own Business	Job holder	
Workshop	92 (46%)	10 (5%)	18 (9%)	**120 (60%)**
Canteen	55 (27.5%)	17 (8.5%)	8 (4%)	**80 (40%)**
Total	**147 (73.5%)**	**27 (13.5%)**	**26 (13%)**	**200**

Chi-Square = 7.264 d.f. = 2 P Value = 0.026 Gamma Value = 0.391

Information revealed from above table shows the relationship between father's occupation and child labor. Data depict that 147 (73.5%) respondent's fathers belonged to the laborer occupation and their 92 (46%) children were working in auto workshops while 55 (27.5%) were working in canteens as waiters. A small majority i.e. 13.5% and 13% come from the categories whose fathers were holding occupation other than laborer. It shows that father's occupation is directly associated to the child labor. This data show that a majority of the children were engaged in auto workshops and canteens were either those whose fathers were working as laborers or those who are self-employed (own business). From the results it is shown that the p-value is zero (0.026)

which prove that the result is highly significant also the gamma value is 0.391 which indicates the direct relationship between father occupation and child labor.

Summary

The present quantitative research was conducted to study the "child labor participation and discrimination of wages in different sectors A factor analysis approach." The study also investigates the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of respondents, causes of child labor participation and wage differences in different sectors, and in particular which form of child labor is more common in the study area. A semi-structured interview schedule was use for data collection. The hypotheses formulated for the present study were;

a) Large family size increases the probability of child labor,
b) Children with low family income are supposed to be involved in child labor,
c) Low level of father's education leads to child labor,
d) Low level of mother's education leads to child labor,
e) Father Occupation affects the probability of child labor.

Major finding of the present research are given below

55 % respondents were in the age category 5-10 while 45% of the respondents were lie in the 11-15 age category. All were male children because it's our culture male person earns and the female do the household work mostly. 36.5% belonged to rural area while 63.5% belonged to the urban areas. 41.5% fathers were illiterate while 23.5% of them were literate at the level of primary and 23.5% were at the level of middle while a very less 11.5% are at the level of metric. 73.5% working as laborers while 13% were job holders, and others 13.5% having their own business. Most of the respondents' fathers 67.5% were earning up to 5000 while 21% were earning 5001-10,000 per month, and only 11.5% getting monthly 10, 000 and above.

Policy Suggestions

i. **Awareness rising among parents**

1) Media can play an effective role in the awareness rising among parents to send their children to schools instead of exposing them to hazardous types of child labor.
2) NGOs can launch some awareness rising programs that will help to decrease the probability of child labor.

ii. **Family size should be reduced**

Large family size is a cause for child labor. Family size should be decreased so that the basic needs can be fulfilled without making children work. For this purpose there is need of awareness rising among parents through media implications etc.

Investing in education

1) Education should be free up to higher secondary level because most of the parents don't send their children to schools because of financial constraints.

2) Policy should be designed to provide technical education to children so that children can learn skills and will be able to earn money in order to support their families. It will help to reduce the child labor.
3) There should be recreational facilities available in schools. So that children are attracted to go to schools.
4) Different study programs for children should be telecasted on Television, so that an interest should be developed among children.

iii. **Equal job opportunities**

Policy should be designed in a way that the adult family member can avail equal job opportunities. As research results showed that mostly children who were involved in child labor come from families having unemployed adults that causes children to work. So to overcome this situation job opportunities should be provided so that poor families can earn their livelihood and will be able to afford children' education. To eradicate child labor, Pakistan must first ensure more employment opportunities for its adult working population.

iv. **Role of NGOs**

1) NGOs can play an important role in the reduction and elimination of child labor. NGOs working for the rights of children should concentrate on this segment of neglected children by providing all the children free educational facilities without any discrimination.
2) Improve the quality of schooling by investing in education so as to increase its value to children and parents.

v. **Policy implications**

1) Advocating effective laws and their engagement to control the factors that generate the flow of children into the workforce is required.
2) Government should support poor families from welfare departments like; Pakistan Bait-ul-mal, family support programs, and other financially supporting organizations.
3) Provide subsidies to poor families prone to having working children so they can afford their children's schooling (income subsidies, nutritional supplements).

vi. **Further Proposed Study**

The present study was limited but the magnitude of the problem is so large that a more comprehensive study on a wider scale needs to be conducted to gain further knowledge and insight into the nature and magnitude of the problem of child labor in specific fields, in particular, in carpet weaving, tailoring, hotels, farming and agriculture, newspaper selling, boot polishing and brick kilns.

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