

**100  
MILLION**

**FREE.SAFE.EDUCATED.**



# CHILD LABOUR

**ACTION PACK**

## STEP 1: KNOW

Child labour continues to be one the greatest injustices facing the world. Every day it exposes millions of children to serious physical and psychological harm and denies their right to be free, safe and educated.

Child labourers do many different types of work, from agriculture to manufacturing, from domestic chores like cleaning and cooking to mining minerals, from selling goods to fighting in wars. Girls are often hardest affected, facing the double burden of household domestic work *and* labouring outside the home.

The worst forms of child labour trap children in especially dangerous situations. 70% of child labourers are in the agriculture sector, and they, alongside those working in industry or mining, are exposed to dangerous chemicals and machinery. Child domestic workers are often vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse from their employers, and child soldiers are exposed to horrific levels of violence.

Governments and laws across the world have, as a result of incredible work by dedicated activists, made strong progress towards ending this exploitation. Every government, through the UN Sustainable Development Goals and through the International Labour Organisation, has committed to meet the target to eradicate child labour by 2025.

However, at the current rate, the world is not on track to meet this important milestone, keeping millions of children's lives at risk in the process. Child labour still exists in almost every country across the world, with almost half of child labourers aged between 5 and 11 years old.

But the world has managed to ensure that 9 out of 10 children are not working, so let's work together to protect the freedom and childhood of the final one.

# 152 MILLION

children are still working as child labourers. That is almost

# 1 in 10

of all children in the world.

# 181

states have internationally agreed to eliminate the

## WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

but they are still happening.

# 73 MILLION

children across the world are still working in the 'worst forms' of labour, such as slavery, sexual exploitation, and armed conflict.

Between the years

# 2000-2016

the number of child labourers fell by

# 94,000,000

100 MILLION ACTIVISTS SHARE WHY THEY ARE TAKING ACTION TO END CHILD LABOUR AND WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THEM:

"Child labour shouldn't be hidden, it should simply be unheard of."  
ANGEL. - CAMPAIGN ORGANISER, **KENYA**

"Complete elimination can be done by collective efforts of all sections from society."  
SHUBHAM - FORMER CHILD LABOURER AND ACTIVIST, **INDIA**

"Children are facing inhuman behavior in our society, and we are responsible for this by remaining silent. I cannot remain silent, can you?"  
SUNIL - FORMER CHILD LABOURER AND ACTIVIST, **INDIA**

"Young people need to be speaking up because they're the ones this issues applies to."  
KIRAN - HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, **USA**

# CHILD LABOUR IN YOUR COMMUNITY

It is all of our responsibility to demand an end to child labour, wherever it happens and in whatever way we are involved. The first step is to explore if and how **YOUR COMMUNITY IS CONNECTED TO CHILD LABOUR**.

To answer this question, first ask yourselves what your first reaction was to thinking about child labour and your community. Then, using the three boxes below, map different ways child labour could exist, or be supported by, the places, products and people around you. You can do this together, individually or split into three groups and rotate between the topics.

## PLACES



Identify places where child labour might happen or be promoted locally.

These places will be different depending on where you live, but could be:

- Nearby factories, mines, farms or markets that employ children
- Houses that have child domestic workers
- Shops and businesses that sell products made with child labour

*TIP: Think beyond workplaces! Poor education and conflict can also contribute to child labour.*

## PRODUCTS



Think of products, goods or services in your community that could be using child labour.

Again, these things will depend on your own community, but might include:

- Natural resources, like wood or precious metals
- Man-made products, like mobile phones
- Services that a child labourer might provide, like cleaning or collecting rubbish

*TIP: If you're not sure what things could be made with child labour, check [this list](#) as a starting point.*

**WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED EXPLORING THESE DIFFERENT AREAS USE YOUR ANSWERS TO TALK ABOUT THESE THREE QUESTIONS TOGETHER:**



- 1) Before the activity, did you think your community was connected to child labour? Have you changed your mind? If so, why?
- 2) What is the biggest way you think your community contributes to child labour? This could be a place, product or person.
- 3) How could you start to tackle this connection? Could you raise awareness to other members of your community? What about asking authorities to investigate places you suspect or getting local businesses to use child labour-free suppliers?

## PEOPLE



Child labour exists partly because of those who use, promote and tolerate it.

Who are the people that might contribute to child labour, like:

- Businesses who hire, recruit or force children to work
- Politicians who don't implement legislation to protect vulnerable young people
- Adults who think that child labour is better than schooling or doesn't exist

*TIP: This isn't about blaming a few people for child labour, but rather a space to explore the attitudes and behaviours that allow this injustice to continue.*

## STEP 2: CONNECT

Creating allies and connecting with others is key to successful campaigning: we are stronger when we work together. The Global March Against Child Labour demonstrated how powerful we can be when we unite to demand change. Starting with a physical march 1998, it soon became one of the largest social movements to end the exploitation of children in history that continues to create change across the world today.

For their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we're inviting all 100 Million activists to connect with Global March activists and, together, push for a complete end to child labour in their **VIRTUAL MARCH AGAINST CHILD LABOUR**.

### WHAT IS GLOBAL MARCH AGAINST CHILD LABOUR?

Global March works to end child labour, trafficking, and slavery, and ensure that every child and young person has access to a free, meaningful and high quality education. Their impressive global network includes NGOs, trade unions, and youth rights groups and is active across five continents.

Thanks to the tireless work of Global March, and its founder, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Kailash Satyarthi, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) adopted the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, which became the fastest ratified convention in history.

**7,000,000**  
people across the world  
extended their solidarity.

**80,000km**  
were covered by physical  
marchers across 103 countries



**20 YEARS** of demanding an end to child labour and poverty, and supporting education for all

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

Click the link to join the [VIRTUAL MARCH EVENT ON FACEBOOK](#) on or before 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018, the World Day Against Child Labour, when Global March will be hosting a joint event with the International Labour Organisation in Geneva.

Connect with thousands of other people across the globe who also refuse to accept this injustice and hear the stories of former child labourers who have become successful rescuers.

Share a photo of yourself 20 years ago, a quote or person that has inspired you or a message to those still trapped in child labour.

Don't forget to share the event on social media and invite your friends, family and followers to the event to help make this online moment of solidarity as big and as global as we can.



## WANT TO DO MORE?

- Global March has also made **POWERFUL POSTERS AND MESSAGES** to share. Choose your favourite and post it on Facebook and Twitter to add your voice to the global call against child labour.
- Sign **THIS PETITION** asking world leaders to end child labour by 2025. Once you're done, share it with your friends, family and other members of the community – the more signatures, the more pressure politicians will feel to respond!

## STEP 3: MOBILISE

If 9 out of 10 children in the world aren't child labourers, then global leaders and communities can work together to make sure the final child is free from child labour too. It is possible, it is just, and it is time.

Inspired by Global March's story, this activity will help show your community that we've come far, but that the fight to end child labour for all children isn't over yet. Ready to inspire your friends, family and neighbours to call for a world free from child labour? Follow the simple steps below:



### MARCH FOR FREEDOM



#### YOU'LL NEED:

- 10 PEOPLE
- CHALK/RIBBON
- A PUBLIC SPACE

**FIRSTLY**, choose a place in your community (or school/university) to hold your march for freedom. Mark the finish line of your march in chalk or with a ribbon and write an inspiring vision to aim for, such as: *A Child Labour-Free World!*

**SECONDLY**, ask **ten** people to march with you. You can get creative with placards or shout chants such as "*Children's freedom's under attack! What do we do? Stand up fight back!*" or "*Free to learn, free to play, child labour ends today!*". The more it looks and feels like a march, the more attention you will attract for your grand finale.

Invite other people to join as you march through your community or school, or suggest they gather at the finish line to cheer you on, but make sure your **10 core marchers** stand out.

**THIRDLY**, when you reach the end of your march, only **9 out of 10** of your core marchers can cross the finish line, leaving one of your marchers standing behind the chalk or ribbon. Explain how this represents how **1 in 10** children in the world are still trapped in child labour.

Ask those who have joined you why they think there is still one child being left behind. What are the barriers preventing us from ensuring **10 out of 10** children are not working and achieving your march's goal of a child labour free world?

*Examples of obstacles could be poverty, extreme global inequality, a lack of free and quality education, discrimination, war and conflict, and social attitudes. Use the examples you explored in the **KNOW** activity to help make the discussion relevant to your community.*

**FINALLY**, explain that it is up to all of us to make sure **10 out of 10** children are not working as child labourers, and that we are almost there! Together explore different ways to overcome the barriers you identified and then end your action with loud cheers as the last core marcher crosses the finish line into a child labour free world!

Write down any and every good idea that people suggest - you can use these to **INFLUENCE** decision-makers to take action.

# STEP 4: INFLUENCE

Influencing those in power to take action is an important step to achieving sustainable change.

Child labour affects different communities in different ways, so who you influence, what you ask them to do and why, will vary hugely. You can use the steps below to plan how you will get your voice and your demands heard.



## WHO?

Choose a person or body who has the power to change local laws, practices or attitudes relating to child labour.

This could be:

- Your local parliamentarian
- A trade union or employers' guild
- The manager of a nearby market or large business owner

**TIP:** For more ideas, look back at your answers from the **KNOW** step.

## WHAT?

Once you've decided who to influence, think about something realistic and effective that you can ask them to do.

This could include:

- Strengthening laws against child labour
- Not selling or buying products made using child labour
- Ensuring that no local businesses employ children

**TIP:** Look at the outcomes of the **KNOW** and **MOBILISE** steps if you need inspiration!

## HOW?

Now you have a target and a demand, decide how you are going to contact them.

You could:

- Write a letter, co-signed by your group and others from your community.
- Ask for an meeting in person
- Use social media to target them publicly

**TIP** Be as creative as possible to make your action stand out. For example, if you write a letter could you include photos, toys or pencils to represent the right to play and learn not work Or, if you use social media, why not upload a video with your demand?

## WHY?

As constituents, consumers and community members your opinion matters greatly to local decision makers.

They will want to be seen positively by you, as this will impact who you vote for and where you spend your money and time.

So, however you choose to contact them, include why taking action on child labour is important to you!

## WHAT NEXT?

You can use these steps to continue influencing your decision makers on a wide range of issues. If you hear back from the person or body you contacted about child labour and would like support in ensuring they commit to change or implement what they have promised, then contact [campaign@100million.org](mailto:campaign@100million.org) and we can work together to plan your next step.

# USEFUL LINKS

## [Global March Against Child Labour](#)

Official website of the world's largest civil society network working on child labour.

## [Global Estimates of Child Labour - ILO \(2017\)](#)

Recent comprehensive report on global child labour trends and statistics.

## [List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor, US DOL](#)

This resource provides information on some products made using child or forced labour. Although it is not comprehensive, it is a starting point for finding out about some of the everyday products which involve child labour. It is due to be updated in September 2018.



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