

Q. *What are three practical ways each one of us can help prevent child labour?*

– **Nandita Das, India 04/03/07**

Rated: ★★★★★ by 7 Council Members

A. 1 *From: C. Raj, United Kingdom, Council Member on Ammas.com*

Dear Nandita Das,

Good Question and a noble cause for you to support.

Children are future and if that future is not cared for, mankind's future is in question.

My suggestions-

1- Implementing the rule of Compulsory Education till a child is 18, which means, the state must pick up the tab for educating every individual until they are graduates. Presently, compulsory education system, means that the education is free, the children do not have to pay any fees for being educated, but the children who are availing this facility are from poor backgrounds and though they can afford to come to school, their uniforms, books, textbooks, food are not free or not entirely free. This defeats the concept of Compulsory Education. It is trying to grow a tree without roots. The government must ensure that the note books, text books, uniforms etc must be provided and a morning snack, and midday meal must be provided. This will encourage even poor families to send the children to be educated.

2. Child Labour - One of the main reasons for existence of child labour is poverty. Poverty is a existing concept even in advanced countries. But the poverty line in India covers a larger % of the population. Government must formulate plans to lift the poor by providing realistic opportunities for growth. Many poor people do not receive the minimum wage, the government must ensure this. Government in India can create more work and monitor it directly instead of passing it to private contractors. This will ensure a fair dispersal of income to poor. Even recruitment for government jobs, defence forces, must earmark a certain quota for poor people. If this income level increases then the need to send the child out to work will not be

necessary

3- The most potent reason for a child to give up education and take up labour is disinterest in education. In our country (as in many other countries including advanced countries) the education system needs a revamp. The focus of education for a child till he or she is 15 is very focussed in giving book information. despite including other practical skills, the lack of realistic skill based education disinterests many children. They dread the concept of studying for 9 months and trying to take and exam at the end of it and pass it. with the child not understanding the seriousness of having to learn, remember, and take exams many children fail. This failure leads to disinterest, due to the stigma attached to kids that fail. The education system must formulate a scheme, where knowledge and skills are equally provided. The teachers must be able to identify the child's interests and track their interests and start to operate a interest based education to children. This need not be a change in the present system of education, all it needs is an early start of skill based education. For example, if a child is identified to be good at mechanical aspects, the skills classes that schools teach must exploit this talent in the children. At present, the entire class is taught one or two skills which is not the right way forward. A more personalised approach will help students stay on in education system rather than fall out.

4- You have sought only 3 points, but I guess I have one more suggestion. I am sure we can go one step further for those kids..... In simple words, bring tougher laws to deal with people indulging in Child Labour. Jailing and fine will ensure children and left in classrooms

Keep up your good work Nandita!!

Rated: ★★★★★ by 7 Council Members

A. 2 *From: swapna nair, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

Dear Maam,

THREE PRACTICAL WAYS TO ERADICATE CHILD LABOUR

1. CHILD LABOUR The first step in arriving at a solution is to first recognize the causes of this dilemma: these include poverty, burdens on the family to pay off standing debts, the general Indian attitude toward child labor, the irrelevant and often inaccessible education system, and the inefficiency of protective legisla-

tion for working children. In the post-reform years the problem has assumed extra importance due to the likely inclusion of the social clause in the WTO agreement. Although it is a fact that child labour in India is concentrated in a few pockets and regions, the issue acquires significance in view of the recent reports that India share of the total world percentage of child labour is amongst the highest.

2. Causes The causes of the high incidence of Child Labour in India are discussed in brief. It will be seen that the causes discussed also provide the remedy to the issue at large.

(a) Illiteracy, Population and under equipped for Modern Industries 75- 80% of the population is rural based, whose sustenance is agriculture and small scale and cottage industries. Major percentage is illiterate or semi literate. The illiteracy level of Indias one billion populations is 40%. 36% of this population is unemployed. This category is unable to find jobs in modern industries. Main traditional crafts manufacturing has almost collapsed due to lack of demand in international market has further aggravated unemployment crisis.

(b) Family Debt Often family debts are passed on to the next generation forcing young children into bonded labor. This leads to a vicious cycle of debts, repayment defaults, debt again and then pledge their own children in to labour for life.

General Attitude The general Indian attitude toward child labor presents yet another factor in the continuance of this social problem. This attitude comprises a feeling of indifference and helplessness towards the problem of child labour .

(d) Lack of Accountability Laws and legislations are in place, however they are not implemented due to the oft repeated pretexts of social disparity, huge size of the country, and political pressures.

3. Three Practical ways to eradicate Child labour Infact there are more than three measures that can be taken to eradicate child labour, which are:-

(a) Education Impart 100% literacy to eradicate 100% child labour. A case in point is the comparison between Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. Kerala has the highest rate of school going children and conversely the lowest/negligible No of children engaged in child labour. Andhra Pradesh, in contrast, is a case study in reverse order.

(b) Social Security In Org/Unorganised Sector Create infrastructure and shift industries and manpower intensive units out of the metro cities to the rural areas. This will restrict the flow of employment related migration and the consequent im-

plications that lead to child labour. Have more SEZs.

Strict Implementation of Legislations and increased people awareness

For all the laws and legislations to really come in to force, it is the people who have to give the final push. If people were to take a conscious and deliberate decision to boycott goods involving child labour, drastic changes will be forced onto the environment.

(d) Contribution of Religious and community leaders Religious leaders are very helpful; taking religious leaders into confidence would definitely contribute to partial success.

—swapna

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 3 *From: DS Mathur, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

You have emphasised on individual effort to help stop the practice of child labour. At the individual level following steps may help in the right direction:

1.The main issue is poverty. A child is sent to work because he helps the family to meet the day to day expenditure through whatever little he earns.We can start free vocational classes at a time when most of the working children are free. These classes should not be very long and should teach the child basic lingusitic skills and such other skills that after a while he would be in a position to start earning on his own. Most of us are good at one such skill or the other. These days computer data entry work is widesread.Once a child is good enough to start reading and writing, he can be grommed into this skill. We must not insist that he gave up his current job for admission into such a course. This would be counter productive as the family would not allow that. But with his current job if he can be imparted these skills perhaps the family would also cooperate.

2.It is very easy to start funding the expenses of a child in a family but such charity does not work in the long run.We have to ensure that we are able to provide an equally good alternative to the family in place of the job that the child holds.Many children attend schools in the hope that they would get a full meal there. Unfortunately the lower government functionaries siphon off the food stuff into the black market and the children are deprived of the benefit of these supplies. The atten-

dance in schools fall off. In many states committees of non officials are formed to oversee this activity. We can take a leading role in such committees.

3. There are very many government schemes for the welfare of poor families. These families are either not aware of these schemes, or they are unable to get benefit of them due to their limitations. We can play a leading role in getting such benefits to them on express condition that the benefits are being ensured to balance the loss of wages that the child used to earn. He should now attend school instead of toiling at petty jobs.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 4 *From: HIMANSHU MOHAN, Registered Member on Ask Agent*

Dear Nandita,

Namaste.

Keep up the good work for good cause. However One must remember that GOoD can not exist without GOD.

Three steps at individual level that come to my mind are-

1. Boycott such items of luxury which are known to employ child labour, as also those items hazardous to human health in general and children in particular. Examples are Hand-woven Carpets, Bidi/Cigarette industry, fireworks etc.

2. Support needy children to the extent possible from our individual or collective resources, because indiscriminate boycott of child labour results sometimes in acute poverty and loss of avenues to children of the deprived families, who manage somehow to survive by all members of family working, due to loss of breadwinner of the family or other such reasons. All political campaign against child labour overlooks this spect of the problem, that by employing child labour, in some cases, one may be actually trying to help them financially. It may be act of benevolence and kindness rather than oppression. It is suggested that we must support them (children) financially either unconditionally, or their employment can be of such nature that they are not required to exert and toil physically but their job helps them in their education also. Such jobs where they are required to read and write, maybe reading newspaper to an elderly person, writing letters and applications or teaching tiny-tots ABC, 123 etc. could be among such jobs.

3. Helping children attain education upto the level of 8th standard and possibly beyond is most vital link of this exercise. Fallout from schools only augments labour at scooter/bike/auto repair shops and dishwashers at roadside restaurants and dhabas. Dhabas-owners particularly misuse and abuse children in ways more than one. So we must help children in getting education, as also rescue them from such dhabas. Another angle of this aspect is related to rising population coupled with illiteracy, so that parents kind of "sell" their children to dhaba owners where they get two square meals and the parents collect salary in cash, thus making children alternative source of income. So my focus would be "Education with stress on population control". Education can play a vital role in curbing all evils, let alone child labour and education of girl child can do wonders since one aware woman can make one family as well as her progeny aware and educated.

Thus the third step we can take is -"Accepting the load of education of children, at least one child other than our own, from the needy, with specific leaning towards the girl child".

This list need not be full, final or exhaustive, but the idea is that a beginning must be made by each one of us, not waiting for the government or some other body to come and take the lead. I have therefore suggested what I have already seen my father and mother doing throughout their life and what I have also therefore learnt and implemented in my limited individual capacity. On the ending note, let me explain my opening remark. Worship to the GOD is achieved through such deeds that are intended towards helping the needy, not by simply reciting some chants or visiting shrines and temples/mosques/churches. If we believe that such Acts of helping the needy are actually Worship of GOD, ways and means shall be available with paths opening up by the grace of GOD almighty.

God Bless You Nandita, and may grant you strength always for every good cause you undertake.

Mohan, H.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 9 Council Members

A. 5 From: **mini nathan**, Registered Member on Ammas.com

Hi Nandita,

Glad to have u here in ammas.

The main reasons for child labour r population, poverty and illiteracy. In India, child labour is insisted only because of poverty. Out of poverty, one can not able to afford education, food, shelter, or any other basic aminities.

In India, there r many industries targeting children as labours. For ex, firework industries, match factories etc. They r looking for thier profit and exploiting the children and their parents. First, we need to pour awarness on them and insist them the merits and demerits in labouring a child. How a child is being troubled physically and mentally? In the case of a girl child, it is even worser. Most of the girl children r physically asaulted and threatened.

Most of the countries has the age limit for the child labour, for eg, in Egypt, it is 12, in Philipines, it is 14, in Honkong, it is 15. But how long they are implemented. Most of the children starts working at the age of 7 and even below. Are making laws enough to prevent a child labour?

Obviously not. Though the United Nations has already created a large number of international

conventions, setting legal standards to prohibit the exploitation of child labour, the problem remains

widespread. After all, laws mean very little if they are not enforced. Besides, specific measures attacking

child labour must be taken at the national level.

UNICEF recommends the following:

Immediately end hazardous and exploitative child labour including bonded labour, commercial sexual exploitation and work that hampers the child's development.

Provide free and compulsory education, ensuring that children attend primary education full time until completion.

Expand legal protection, ensure consistency and implementation in mutually supportive ways.

Register all children at birth, in order to protect the child's right to have evidence of the childs age.

As rightly said by Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the Government should,

1. Introduce action programmes to remove and prevent the worst forms of child labour;
2. Provide direct assistance for the rehabilitation of children and their social integration;
3. Ensure access to free education;
4. Identify children at special risk;
5. Take account of girls and their special situation.

But of all, the main thing the Government and the society should take at the earliest is,

to promote education as a key strategy to prevent child labour.

And at this situation, I feel proud to tell that i am sponsoring two kids for their education and everyone should extend their hands in sponsoring a kid to reduce the burden of our government by providing her/him some basic study materials, clothes or any other thing by which they will be more thankful to us.

We together can make a new era! Good luck.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 6 *From: Pandit. Dakshinamoorthi R, Council Member on Ammas.com*

Dear Member:

1) Child labour exists because people recruit children thinking that they may be "cheap" alternatives to grown ups who must be compensated more invariably. So, if everyone takes a moral stand that they will not recruit children to work which is detrimental to their educational development and consequently their life progress, child labour will not exist.

2) Public apathy to instances of child labour should end. It is not an uncommon sight to see "tea boys" barely into their teens supplying tea to even police stations....when there is a law banning child labour, how do the custodians of law turn a blind eye to child labour before their very eyes? When this is the case, what do we say

about mechanic shops and household helps which are the other major areas where children are recruited. At least these are o.k. What to speak of the thousands who perish in the matchbox factories/ cracker industry in places like Tenkasi in Tamil Nadu...Can these escape the eyes of the people when they are so obvious? The problem exists because, law enforcement is lacking and public will to stand up against such instances is wanting. We should - in addition to avoiding recruitment of child workers - have the guts to take the law breakers in this regard to task.

3) We can form a panel of eminent citizens of an area comprising of head masters of all schools (both govt. and private), local police station house officers, Friends of police volunteers, NGO volunteers residing in an area, and other notable persons who have an influence (like say astrologers, cine artistes, eminent singers, doctors, etc. who are held in high esteem by the society and hence who are more likely to be listened to if they intervene in cases where violation of child labour act happen) who should scour their area for instances of child labour and ensuring that those children are enlisted in schools.

No reform can happen unless it has the support from the grass roots of the society. So, getting people involved in this is the best way to prevent child labour. Otherwise, child labour act will remain another paper tiger as have so many well-intentioned acts of our glorious nation. We do not lack in legislation or action plans; but the will to implement the acts objectively and effectively is what is lacking. These lacunae should be overcome at least in this instance of child labour.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 9 Council Members

A. 7 *From: **Geetha Gopakumar**, Council Member on Ammas.com*

I am glad to hear and see a celebrity - popular even in the south is active now a days in this great site. I personally welcome her to provide her contribution by answering and commenting the queries and responses. This is such a great encouragement of like me to work alongwith her in this site with creative outlook and positive dreams of mankind as a whole. I truly feel has highlighted a very serious mater - an epidemic- even after creating/implementing clear and accurate/effective laws - still continuing the child labour - even to our naked eyes. Every law is made for the good of the public and for their well being. Create awareness in the community and the workplace and also the general public is highly required.

Child labour can be considered as slavery -hard work, less income - torture/physical abuse on them by the provider.

Find out such children and inform the authorities, Also charitable organisations have to look into the well being of them, to find out the root cause and the base and back ground of they attracted to do labour for food and shelter. Charitable homes can do much more in this field. If we can give such children love and affection then we will be able to eradicate the infant children from this labour field. If we can provide them at least 2 times food, cloth and shelter and backup then we can make them ready to resume/start the education.

Joint efforts from the part of General public, charity organisations, missionaries, Govt. machineries and financial aids from the part of them is essentially needed for the same. Also by consolidating and integrating the work as a team and the implementation without delay is required. A close watch on the financial condition of such children's family and financial assistance to have their day to day life in the family he belongs to - because poverty in their home forces them to take the decision to do something for their family- is the basic cause for this evil.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 9 Council Members

A. 8 From: **ASHOK KOPARDAY**, Registered Member on Ammas.com

font color="0000FF";FIRST WAY

It is imperative that I first speak to the child's parents/employers/peers.

Take the onus of educating the child. Often you will have to employ the child for doing chores in a well-meaning family who will look upon the overall growth of the child.

Some important don'ts:

Do not depend upon government, politicians or NGOs

Your own family members may be piqued at you. Do not coax others to follow your footsteps.

Do not bank upon formal education.

Money matters: One must remember that the child or dependants NEED money.

SECOND WAY

Learning of skills like mobile repairing, pc hardware repairs or working in a shop

to assist are the avenues I encourage. This working place becomes the University where the child learns the tricks of the trade and can eventually do business/trade.

Definition of rich: I consider myself to be rich if I can bear the expense of nurturing at least one child. I am proud to say that my parents are richer than me. I am following in their footsteps.

Begin at home: I am focusing on teaching computer and the internet to the 12 year old daughter of our domestic maid. Eventually, I hope to reach out to Telugu speaking NRIs who can take her career graph upwards.

Labor in vain: The child is accustomed to immediate gratification that s/he gets from the ready cash at hand. Such a smart child has to be lured with the **vision** of higher socio-economic status.

THIRD WAY

Do it. Plans devoid of action are impotent. A noble action is a reward in itself.

DR. ASHOK KOPARDAY

www.mydoctortells.com - - - we care;/font;

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 9 *Council Members*

A. 9 *From: NEERAJA NAVEEN, Council Member on Ask Agent*

hi nanditha,

There is a need to develop an integrated policy and programme of action worldwide to provide quality, universal and free education that is relevant and accessible to children of poor families to which the majority of child labourers belong. Child labour concerns should be explicitly addressed and integrated into such a policy. A holistic approach to education is necessary. In addition, quality education must not stop at primary level if young people are to be adequately prepared for the labour market and for decent work within it, rather than being confined to low-skilled, unprotected jobs in the informal economy.

Experience has shown that providing basic literacy and numeric skills through non-formal education does not guarantee that children will be permanently withdrawn from work, which is why mainstreaming these children into formal education systems

is vital. Furthermore, investments in basic education normally only reach the more privileged social groups, whereas efforts should be spread more evenly, focusing more on children at risk. Social exclusion mechanisms are another strong factor that keep children out of school and push them into work.

There is a need to give priority to the expansion of public educational systems to accommodate the numbers of children who still do not have access to school. This means that:

More schools need to be built, teachers need to be recruited and trained and educational materials need to be made available.

Alternative approaches need to be developed to provide for the education of children when geographical conditions pose obstacles or the communitys lifestyle involves mobility.

The formal and non-formal education systems need to be linked in a more systematic manner to allow for easier transitions from the non-formal to the formal sector, and both systems need to be improved and upgraded in many countries.

School admission and retention policies should facilitate the entry or re-entry of children into schools by providing alternative placement options and independent learning approaches with adequate guidance and support for over-aged children or children who re-enter school.

A substantial increase in the availability of public education in rural areas at the pre-primary, primary and secondary levels will diminish the pressure and existing congestion in schools in the urban centres where poor families migrate in search of both jobs and educational opportunities for their children.

In many cases, children in the worst forms of child labour belong to the lowest strata of society in terms of ethnicity and culture.

Prevention, removal, and rehabilitation are the three pillars of any strategy to eliminate child labour. The important question of determining relative weight to each of these components will depend on country-specific conditions. All are of course important. The withdrawal of children from work, especially from particularly hazardous and degrading work, is what tends to capture the attention of public and the media - most particularly when it concerns their removal from export industries. But while this may be good for the conscience of consumers, the consequences of removal without adequate financial support, access to education and other services,

can be dramatic for children. The children "liberated" from work in this way, and sometimes their families as well, may face destitution and may be obliged to find work in even more hazardous and clandestine conditions. Therefore, a child's withdrawal from work needs to be accompanied by a whole range of supporting measures. He or she requires education, training, health care and nutrition, and children who have been exposed to the vilest forms of exploitation from an early age are likely to need intensive counselling, a safe environment and sometimes legal aid and police protection. This involves a whole range of professional services - social workers, family or child therapists, psychiatrists, lawyers etc. - supported by volunteers and community workers who, however devoted they are, will require training and operating budgets. The costs of proper rehabilitation measures can be high. This is, of course, no reason for not undertaking these measures, but the difficulties involved and the costs of implementing them must be recognised and budgeted for at the outset.

A further question is how best to target such programmes. A number of programmes and projects have been designed for children in specific industries or occupations where large numbers of children are known to be employed, and where conditions are known or thought to be particularly deplorable, e.g. carpet-weaving or match making. The problem with the sectoral approach is that it could push working children into other industries or occupations where conditions might be even more hazardous or exploitative. It is, therefore, important to incorporate projects for specific targets and sectors into broader programmes addressing all exploitative and hazardous child labour in a specific geographical area, and addressing such programmes both to children who are already working as well as those at risk of becoming child workers.

Indeed, it is also important to identify those children who are in the greatest danger of being drawn, or lured, into intolerable forms of child labour before it is too late. For instance, a particularly vulnerable group, at least in some countries, are young girls from poor families who are likely to be lured into prostitution and perhaps subsequently find themselves in prison-like conditions in a foreign country from which they may never be able to escape and where they will hardly be protected by law. Programmes designed to provide such girls with education, skills and access to dignified forms of livelihood, have proved to be most effective. And there can be no doubt that the provision of free, universal and compulsory education has a central role to play in preventive measures and in the ultimate eradication of child labour.

see also the link below for more information:

www.ilo.org

Rated: ★★☆☆☆ by 7 *Council Members*

A. 10 From: **vaish reddy**, Council Member on *Ask Agent*

Hi,

Its nice to know celebrities using this site for such noble causes.

Here are a few ways to prevent childlabour:

1.Give focus to their shelter,food and clothing.Govt schools do give free education and free food but the motivation isnt enough i guess.The main reason behind this is the education system not being future friendly.These children are beyond poverty line and to them book knowledge alone isnt enuf for secure future.It helps only when one plans to finish college and get their degree and find a job in a 9-5 scenario.this shd be changed.Give them option to take occupation oriented subjects,more like vocational training and similar streamlines.They cud be interested in subjects like these and since it guarentees their future with such knowledge,am sure they wud be interested.Also the system of stiphend or salary cud be implemented in higher classes.They cud be involved in small jobs or projects related to their vocational training subjects and a pay cud be given as token of their efforts.This way am sure they cud finish their schooling and whether they enter college or not is their personal choice.but we wud be educating them and providing them a secure future with skills in hand.Also,boarding facilities cud be arranged in case of children who have no proper shelter.Am sure money to fund these can be collected and this set up wud definitely prove worthwhile.

2.laws against childlabour shd be made clear to the public.one shd not employ such children in homes or offices.anyone noticing such incidents shd be able to complain easily.make hotline numbers for such complaints wherein ppl dont have to go thro various formalities.Strict punishemnts to the employer and the parents shd be the result of such laws.

3.Make this issue a public interest by advertising in all medias.Celebrities can hold workshops or shows to support this.Movies or documenteries shd be taken with this in focus and am sure children will be able to learn the importance of it.posters,banners,slogans in shopping bags are few ways to create awareness.The first step shd be taken by ourselves.stop employing such children and each one shd

complain such cases without overlooking.

Hope i have given few steps to the best of my knowledge.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 6 *Council Members*

A. 11 From: **Sharadha Sundaresan**, Registered Member on *Ammas.com*

Dear Nandita,

Though everyone talk about child labour and its eradication, it is a sad plight still to see that it is prevalent. Morethan the government's campaign against child labour, the answer to this mammoth evil lies in the hands of the "PEOPLE."

1. Poverty eradication is the main part whereby this issue can be taken out. Why is this poverty prevailing? The answer is a long one where one needs to probe and research in to it. Though we all know the main cause is lack of education, it is only through educating and thereby providing people a means of survival will be an end to this cause and issue of Child labour.

2. Though our constitution has laid out "Compulsory Education to all till 18 years of age," it is not being followed by many especially in the villages. It is the duty of each and every citizen to see to it that every child gets the right kind of education at the right time and right age. The State government can still go further and introduce a programme to find out how many children are there in a family and thereby provide them the compulsory education and to create an awareness among the parents in particular about the need of education. This is easy because every state government has "CENSUS" record with it. The NGO's play a main role in this regard. They can gather the children and enlighten about the positive effects of education.

3. We as responsible citizens of our nation should see to it that we don't engage any child for work at home or in offices or in any petty shop or tea shop or in any other place. Educational curriculam should be patterned in such a way that it caters to the needs of everyday survival. Instead of the old fashioned history which dates back to centuries, it should be patterned whereby the children can make use of their education in everyday life. More self employment avenues should be thrown open for children once they complete their secondary schooling which will pave way for their earning and thereby their standard and economic development will also raise. The old fashioned history can be termed as "Quiz" subject seperately. With the

invent of modern technologies, the villages should also be easily reached with these modern gadgets like the internet, computers, etc; They also should be educated and enlightened about the usage and importance of these modern gadgets. All these are possible only through "Effective Campaigning for education." Exploiting the children should be eradicated at all costs. Vigilant checks must be made in industries such as fireworks factories, etc; Bonded labourers should be abolished at all costs.

These are only some of the ways to prevent child labour. But, as I have mentioned earlier, the answer lies in the hands of WE people. Wherever we find child engaged in work, we as responsible citizens should lodge a complaint with the police against the employer which will serve as a "deterrent" and precedent for all other employers.

Good luck!!!

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 10 Council Members

A. 12 *From: Geetha Thanga Mariappan, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

Dear Nandita,

1. The first way is to create awareness among poor and illiterate people regarding family planning and importance of taking care of child with parent's income. In most of the poor families, although there is problem for food, there are lot of children too, to increase their burden. So, the first thing is creating awareness regarding planned family and the benefits of that.

2. The second thing to do is create awareness about education and its impact on life particularly child education and the disadvantages of child labour on their future. Once the people are getting aware of the facts clearly, most of the things will be sorted out.

Poverty is not an excuse to escape from the burdens of life, instead the poor people can sort out the ways to eradicate poverty. There are plenty of works available in this world for them to do. But most of the poor family, the father is a drunkard, his only duty is to have children, but no bothering about their life. So, the important thing is to change the mind setting of these type of parents.

3. The third important thing is from our side, i.e., we should stop keeping children for household jobs or any sort of works. If we found someone is doing that, at once

we should inform it to the respective authority so that we can at least try to stop child labour from our side.

Also, everyone of us are paying lot of money as income tax to government. In that, we can spend a portion of money for the education and welfare of poor children via organisation or those who are staying near to us. In that way, we ourself can try to sort out the problem to some extent.

If there is a will, then only there is a way. So, let us hope that we can able to do all these things.

The most important thing is instead of blaming government and others as well as making it only as an issue but doing nothing for this purpose, everyone of us will work with full heart to eradicate child labour whatever possible from our side, the child labour problem will be eliminated soon.

Regards

Dr. T. Geetha

Rated: ★★☆☆☆ by 10 Council Members

A. 13 From: **sathia priya**, Registered Member on *YeRite Answers!*

Hai nandita it is very happy to see you here posting a responsible and useful question.

India's child labour comes around 3.6% of the total labour force according to National Council for Applied Economic Research, but in realistic it is more than 3 millions child.

The common cause is poverty, this only drives them to work. We should not eradicate the child labour completely, We have to consider their economic conditions also.

My answer would be

Child labour can be encouraged if it meets the following conditions:

1. The working time should be around 3 hrs daily (Without disturbing their school timings).
2. The work should not be under stressful conditions and not hazardous.

3.It should be age appropriate work.

4.The wages should be satisfying.

5.The child should be in good health.

By this employment they have the following advantages;

1.they are economically independent.

2.they come to know about the value of money.

3.they come to know about their responsibility very earlier and would not go in the wrong direction.

4.they would show a good result in their school progress report.

5.the get to know about the world and other things apart from school.

If the above conditions is practically possible

goverment and public can employ them.

Every where some peoples are there to misuse the good projects. In that case we should go inspections to the factories and rewards should be given to public if they report such cases.

Thankyou

Sathia.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 10 Council Members

A. 14 *From: astro que, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

1. ¡B¿iU¿Education of Primary and Secondary Level;/U¿i/B¿: There is a strong need of education to prevent child labour.Must open primary and higher secondary schools in slums and villages.These schools must be providing free education, free uniform, free books etc to the children.Primary Education is must to develop school going habits in children.Govt must take initiative in running schools for deprived children, drop-outs(children who have left education) etc.

¡B¿iU¿Establish Children Home;/U¿Home;/B¿:Must establish more & more child

homes which impart education and give residential accomodation to deprived children, children of labourers, sex workers etc.

U;B; Vocational Training; /B; /U;: To olders children must provide vocational training like tailoring, embroidery, electrician, mechanic, carpenter. Initially must provide them free taining and when they able to earn livelihood take nominal donation which they can afford monthly. It will give them self respect, zeal to do something and earn livelihood with talent & hard work.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 10 Council Members

A. 15 From: **Ajay Kukreja**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Dear Nandita das,

Hare Krishna

This is very good question.

1. we should limit the population and mainly poor and uneducated people have more chlid and this is because they know that after 6-7 years he will start earning and so Indian Government should make a law that maximum one or two children are permitted. This will help in preventing child labour in longer run.
2. Arrest some big persons who are giving employment to child labour so that no body employs them.
3. Governrnt or NGO should take care of child doing child labour and father and mother should be arrested.

We have to take some harsh steps against those parents who give birth to children for doing child labour.

I think you are doing a noble work and I will feel happy to help you in some way.

I wish you all the very best in your endeavors and pray to almighty to give you courage for fighting against child labour and other issues, bestow health, happiness and prosperity on you.

With kind regards

Ajay Kukreja

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 9 Council Members

A. 16 From: **Priya Singh**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Hi Nandita!

That is quite a good query you have posted.

Three practical ways to rid child labour:

1. Inform: inform the public, as much as possible, particularly vis-a-vis the media on the ill effects of child labour.
2. Inform parents: inform villages and residing in parts of the world that are vulnerable to child labour of the ill effects of child labour, work conditions, how easy it is for 'child labour' to turn into child slavery.
3. Inform perpetrators: inform those whom hire child labours for miniscule amounts of money on the dire effects of their actions. Prosecute them and hold them accountable and collectively, drive them out of your neighbourhoods, towns, cities et cetera.
4. Get politicians involved: sign petitions from members of the community and include children, and child labourers on basic UN human rights violations.

I pray that one day the children of the world will run free and enjoy childhood as it is intended to be lived.

Blessed,

Priya

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 7 Council Members

A. 17 From: **Latha Jayaprakash**, Featured Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Dear Nandita,

It is nice of you to think about this. People as influential and wellknown to everyone like you can initiate topics like this and increase the awareness.

All of us have servants, part time or full time. They will have kids, some of them

who work at small jobs / errands etc. That is their pocket money. Those people we can encourage to go to school and study. But if they have no incentive to attend school they will not attend. So food, clothing and books should be given freely to them to encourage them.

Some people keep school going kids to help at homes, construction work and mostly the way we hear about kids working in the matches and explosives making etc.

There should be a rule/ ordinance from the government to ban children from working. They should be asked to go to school.

We can see the mothers who go to work , make their elder ones sit at home looking after their younger ones and do cooking at home. If it is a son , he is asked to help his father in his business.

These should be stopped at any cost.

What we can do is to tell the parents who do not send their kids to school, to send them and not spoil their lives by making them sit at home. Let them study and get well, only then our country will come up and become a developed nation.

All the best

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 10 Council Members

A. 18 *From: She , Registered Member on Ammas.com*

Hello Nandita ,

Let us look from the child's point of view .

The first foremost thing that needs to be addressed is *cause* for child labour - *Poverty*

Secondly , the *reason*

Money

Thirdly *what* the child is doing with respect to the money he gets - *Food,Cloth,Medicine,Education*.

so what can *I* do to help such a child

1. Sponsor a child (there are institutions like CRY that help you do this).

This will cover his education books clothes, medicines

2. Help/Assist/Educate the parents to effectively set up a means of livelihood without depending on the child.

3. Report firms/hotels/shops that engage in child labour.

If one of us starts, others will follow.

Thank you

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 8 Council Members

A. 19 From: **Adraya Subramaniam**, Registered Member on *Ask Agent*

Child Labour forced mostly by uneducated living in slums. Those parents especially the father part are the major offender in this matter. They have the intention to fill up their stomach with arracks and don't have the sense about the standard of their livings. These become most common because their parents lived such a life style and never thought about their standard of life and in turn their children grow in the same manner.

1) Main and foremost point is educate the mother and fill up her mind with confidence that they too can have a better life if their children grow in good standard of education which ultimately swing their life to fortune. It requires social awareness and boosting their self confidence.

2) Training the children in education requires most patience and should keep them in good atmosphere. Because the children hardly will be at school just 6 hours remaining 18 hours should be spent only with the parents whom never have the intention to educate their children to get a better standard of life

3) The employer should not encourage the employment of poor children whereas putting their children in convent for their betterment of life. Those children who knock the door for a job should be kindly treated and should be taken to NGOs and offer their contribution towards the education of the children. This most of the employer never want to do because he can get the job done at lower cost by encouraging the poor children.

I hope this scenerio should get changed unless all section of the society come forward against chold labour.

Rated: ★★☆☆☆ by 11 Council Members

A. 20 From: **Malleeswari GVN**, Council Member on *Ammas.com*

Hi Nandita,

It's good to see that even celebrities are using ammas.

The more practical ways I suggest are

- 1.First stop appointing children anywhere we can take desicion like our own offices, homes etc.
2. Help atleast one child to live life. For example provide some books, clothes even if they are used. Give food atleast to one child at home. If possible for more.
3. Create more awareness campains at schools. Children can do any thing if we can motivate them in a right way. They will start helping poor kids who are forced to work.

Even though we can make kids stop working at early age the biggest problem would me of their survival. No one is ready to take their responsibility. I think celebrities and people who are having good money should take initial step to provide some shelter and life to these kids.

PROVIDING SHELTER, EDUCATION AND FOOD IS THE ONLY BEST WAY TO AVOID CHILD LABOUR. Everyone works for their own life. The same case with them also. They need to fight for their life. That is why they are working

I hope people like you, who has a lot of influence on society would take initiative to prevent child labour. All the best!

Rated: ★★☆☆☆ by 8 Council Members

A. 21 From: **xxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx**, Registered Member on *Ask Agent*

1)Make education compulsory upto class ten for all

children.Provide free food,books,clothes and if possible lodging also.

2) All of us should not employ children for any work and if violated the labour law should be strictly implemented.

3) Educate the parents not send their children to

work by all of us. Government can also assist

by providing sufficient opportunities to the unemployed so that they don't send their children

to work.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 8 Council Members

A. 22 *From: bhaskara ramam g, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

Your question is the most burning problem in India noticed by our rulers after 60 years of attaining independence. During the period poverty has increased. Though our rulers are boosting of the economic growth and other developments these results are being enjoyed by a few people and some poor have become middle class and a few middle class have become upper middle and rich too. But these are only a few and more have become poorer by selling away their lands and becoming labour. For labour class the count is significant and that is the reason they don't adopt family planning and each child born will become an earning member after attaining the age of 7.

To change this thought they must be free from poverty. Government is thinking to send them to schools and make them learn. I am talking about the villages where our major chunk of population exists.

Government must open different schools to teach them not this curriculum but entirely different one. They have to learn reading and writing and mathematics along with some course which will earn their bread and butter in future. They must be taught with the agricultural courses too. Only those who excel have to be taken into regular curriculum and others should be encouraged to develop their own skills. Mid-day meals should be provided and they must be nutritious. Nothing should not be forgotten here. A child can start working in the field at 12 otherwise he cannot work in the fields or lift heavy weights as at that age only they know the techniques of labour and adopt that culture.

Rated: ★★☆☆ by 8 Council Members

A. 23 From: **ashik salim**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Hi, Nanditha yours question is most valid one. I am glad to give the suggestion. In our country Child labor can include factory work, mining or quarrying, agriculture, helping in the parents' business, having one's own small business (for example selling food), or doing odd jobs. Some children work as guides for tourists, sometimes combined with bringing in business for shops and restaurants (where they may also work as waiters). Other children were forced to do tedious and repetitive jobs such as assembling boxes, or polishing shoes. However, rather than in factories and sweatshops, most child labor occurs in the informal sector, "selling on the street, at work in agriculture or hidden away in houses far from the reach of official labor inspectors and from media scrutiny."

First, we will have to make awareness of the childrens education. Like arrange the campaign to grow the awareness with parents.

Second one is, children, who are coming to work by their poverty. They need to be sound on the economic position. What is their parents economic source? Help them to their economic Growth.

Third, at the same time make the awareness with the companies and working places. How will affect if child labor is their?

Rated: ★★★★★ by 9 Council Members

A. 24 From: **Siva Prasad Reddy Gorrepati**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Hi NANDITA,

the 3 practical ways to remove child labour according to my views are :

- 1) Do not provide any means of livelihood to any child u see working i.e aa koollies and sellers and floor cleaners in railway stations and trains, in parking lots, in gas stations, etc.....
- 2) There are many people who just dream of of school..... So plz help them by any means....
- 3) Do not appoint them as house maids or washers in daily household activities and prevent paper/milk boys from delivering paper/milk and as boys in colleges n

offices.....

These are my views on abolision of child labour in INDIA n making our country CHILD LABOUR FREE INDIA.....

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 25 From: **naveen kumar**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

The three practical ways to prevent child labour is explained below:-

1) First of all ,parents should tale care about them,that is parents should love them and there should be no misunderstanding between them.all the parents should tell their children about the world,that is they should give options for there children to choose what they like,like reading ,dancing,going to schools.

2)the childrens should also have a strong aim in their mind which they like to achieve.

there should be a determination of what they like to become.

3)even if the childrens dont like going to schools or studies,one must encourage them to go to schools or some other activity.may be the children can learn any activity other than studying.

[sorry for my bad english]

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 26 From: **Rabin Majumder**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

What are three practical ways each one of us can help prevent child labour?

1. General awareness amongst all concerned against Child Labour. Agencies should be National & State level accredited institutes and not by any fly-by-night NGOs.

2. Stringent application of Rule of Laws.

3. Motivate the affected groups i.e. children to learn first & then earn. Carrot & stick policy is what we need in dealing with this socio-economic issues in India.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 7 Council Members

A. 27 From: **Ahmed** , Registered Member on *Ammas.com*

Hi,

I think the only way it can be done is by sponsoring every child known to us for his/her education.

It should start with the ones we know in our families, extended family then to locality and town and city and thus can reach everybody.

We should take it as a personal responsibility to educate the children working as Child labourers.

On the other side , we can go on a national drive with the help of Govt Agencies to liberate children from the clutches of their employers

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 28 From: **sabhpathi** , Registered Member on *APOnline*

To whom so ever it may be,

I had a view on this, let me respond as you required(ie three practical ways)

* When each one found that a child is working as a labour file a case on those who made to work(Instruct family the consequences they are going to face as a result of this)

* Provide organisational, financial, moral support to those organisation which are truly working hard to uplift Economic/Education status of poor people/Childrens

*If Possible help or adapt the family or child to give good education to the child

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 29 From: **Ashish Oberoi**, Registered Member on *Ammas.com*

1.We need to set up volunteers to keep track of no. of children in their area.Incase if any person has hired a child for domestic work,a law should be enforced to fine these people and they need to educate that child upto the age of 18 yrs.

2.We need to motivate poor class about family planning and give their children free

education, food and clothing by the government till he gets an employment.

3. The government can give work to one of their parent so that they don't become helpless and push their children into labour.

Thanks

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 30 *From: Anupam Mishra, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

I think it is futile to suggest three methods since methods work when there are authorities to make them implemented. Till the time our leaders do not work for their selfish gains and behave like power hunger people we find it hard to improve anything. Still there are lot of laws to prevent the child labour and lots of social organisations are also working in this direction but still the things are going on.

You can say that poverty and illiteracy are the reason for the child labour. But again the needle turns towards the people who are sitting on the top of our heads. They are plundering the country if this money can be used for the downtrodden and for their educational upliftment do you think child labour can exist then.

People send their children for work when they have no option to survive. So, the reason is compulsion and lack of means. No doubt we can do a lot but the thing is we can't stop it completely unless and until we have co-operative hands of the responsible authorities.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 31 *From: Ekta Sharma, Registered Member on Ammas.com*

1. Child labour is everywhere. Even at your home also. Discourage first at home. And encourage or help the child go to school.

2. Discourage it at public places wherever possible.

3. Instead of putting money to reserve seats at education institutes, if government starts uplifting the lower class (any caste), lot of problems would disappear including child labour.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 32 From: **Vinodini SK** , Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Promoting general public awareness that child labor is a crime.

Not put the entire responsibility on govt officials to enforce the law. As responsible citizens we can keep our eyes open to any such injustice and report the same to officials.

Ensuring elementary education is mandatory and enrolling children in schools. Education must be made compulsory.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 7 Council Members

A. 33 From: **Sampaadak Editor**, Registered Member on [APOOnline](#)

- Implement all child labor laws currently in place.

- Report all child labor being used in construction, factories, house industries. This seems harsh for a household operations, but awareness of such action discourages parents from involving their own children in child labor.

- Discount education heavily. Provides incentives for educating all children, including girls, in a given household. Cut off panchayat funding where enrollment is lagging.

FYI, I will add this is an issue challenging Andhra Pradesh to my website. Here is a link to other social challenges of India on my website.

www.maharashtraweb.com

www.maharashtraweb.com

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 34 From: **Satya B**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Dedication . Dedication and Dedication.

Being unreasonable in thinking what is possible and what is not, who can help or not, when you take up an activity.

It is a great task , takes time. You need to understand that.

Timely goals and achieving goals no matter what is the way to go.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 9 Council Members

A. 35 From: **Omie G**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Have to have a crack down team in place, the team has to be well paid and well organized and should be help accountable at all times. they should be assigned to inspect work places, factories and different industries where child labour is suspected and there should be heavy fines for the companies using these immoral ethics. and companies that dont pay the fine should be shut down

Rated: ★★★★★ by 11 Council Members

A. 36 From: **sanjay joshi**, Registered Member on [Home Jobs For Indians](#)

1. all children be given free food and education.
2. if anybody is found guilty of employing child at labour he should be fined to bear all charges on that child livelihood
3. parents should be punished for indulging thier child to labour

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 37 From: **kedarnath jonnalagadda**, Registered Member on [APOnline](#)

namsthe,

there always is the letter of the law and the spirit of the law.

letter of the law we must follow else we land in jail.

spirit of the law is to provide a base for the future of the child - humane fun based work and guarantees for growth and this is no longer exploitation of the child.

implementation?

Rated: ★★★★★ by 9 Council Members

A. 38 From: **Kamala Swaminathan**, Council Member on [Ammas.com](#)

Hi,

As far as India is concerned, engaging children for work is punishable under law. So if we see any child is working, we can immediately inform the police. Avoid using children for domestic help. Advertise extensively about the Child Labour Law so that nobody will dare to utilise child labour.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 39 From: **Naresh Kadyan** , Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

The Indian Laws preventing the child labour must be implemented honestly & the owner of the Institutions socially biocoted - who promote child labour. The education & employment policy of the country be implemented at grass root level, so that poor people easily approach them for get study their kids, incentives-stipend also to be given to the students below poverty line.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 11 Council Members

A. 40 From: **r kannan**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

- 1) Stop Child labor in ours place like residence, work place, etc.
- 2) Parents cannot be educate at this age, so educate children for future.
- 3) Pay the minimum salary to the workers, so they wont encourage their children's to go for work.
- 4) open a free website, and allow the public add who and where child labors are present. So, let the public knows (eg. X person, the MLA/MC/officer of X company, of this city has child labor at x place).

Rated: ★★★★★ by 9 Council Members

A. 41 From: **V V**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

1. Make Education for every kid compelsory atleast till 10th standard
2. Govt offers discounts on Ration card for the families with school going kid.
3. Offer internships in govt office to get a feel of a govt job.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 42 From: **krishna murty**, Registered Member on [APOnline](#)

first; let us not employ a child as labour.

second; let us not allow others to do so.

third; complain to appropriate authorities about the abuse.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

A. 43 From: **kanthi avaserala**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

hi,

first of all we should not engage any child as a worker or helper.then the problem will be solved to some extent.then come to others,if u see any child as a worker inform the police.to some extent even this helps to solve the problem.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 7 Council Members

A. 44 From: **Seema Khanna**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

1. Govt. can allure children for providing education, meal, clothes and games facility within the school campus.

2. By awaring the people and parents for not hiring the children

3. Making a strict rule of "No Child Labour" If found then will be punished or penalised.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 9 Council Members

A. 45 From: **Testing Samurai**, Registered Member on [Ammas.com](#)

j!- google_ad_section_start-;

1. Encourage children and their parents to send kids to govt schools where, schools provide food for children who are coming. We can also encourage missionary schools in this direction.

2. Educate citizens on legal alligations they may face, if they employ a child.
3. Introduce some sort of reward (can be monitary or non moneytary) for people who report cases of child labour.

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Rated: ★★★★★ by 10 Council Members

A. 46 *From: hema latha, Registered Member on Ask Agent*

fine the maximum rate who ever employ child labour for work even as a maid also.

Rated: ★★★★★ by 8 Council Members

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