

**People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**  
**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**  
**University of Ammar Thelidji, Laghouat**  
**Faculty of Letters and Languages**  
**Department of English**



**Struggling against the Imperfections of  
Labour Organization: The Lasting Impacts of  
Child Labour**

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of Master in English Literature and Civilization

**Supervised by:**

- SEDDIKI Mohamed Cherif

**Submitted by:**

-KHELIFI Salima

## *Dedication*

I dedicate this work for all those who have contributed to the fulfilment of this work either by psychological encouragement and or via any other kind of aid.

To my beloved parents, sisters and brothers

To my second mother, sister and brother

Finally, to my husband for his endless support.

## *Acknowledgment*

The completion of this dissertation could not have been accomplished without the patience and guidance of my supervisor Mr. Mohamed Cherif Seddiki. I would like to thank him precisely for his precious advice. Above all, I want to thank Allah the Almighty for the strength he gave me for achieving this moment.

## **Abstract**

The threat directed to children's rights and liberties is highly connected to the concept of child labour. The legislative imperfection found on behalf of children's rights creates a wide range of violations. Thus, employers seize the opportunity of exploiting children for personal gains. The concern of this study is to demonstrate children's urgent need for legislative interference for banning child labour through protecting children's rights. Child labour emerged earlier in the eighteenth-century Britain. At that time, children were subject to the highest levels of exploitation, deprivation, and abuse. All the rights were violated including education and safety during work. In Britain, The campaign against child labour took a long decade of struggling. In recent times, millions of children around the world are forced into different forms of labour that are harmful to their physical and mental development. More important still, the spread of other worse forms of labour like sexual exploitation and the involvement in armed conflicts has long-living psychological and physical effects. So, what are the causes and consequences of child labour on children's rights and how can it be abolished? A combination of some social, economic, and political factors had led to the emergence and spread of child labour in Britain in the eighteenth century. At that time, children's health and statues were affected severely. Cutting this problem from roots required the cooperation of political figures, social awareness, and updated legislations in addition to imposing strict censorship on employers. Although, some international organizations' programs have succeeded in eliminating the issue of child labour in some parts of the world, yet the problem is still prevalent and in the worst forms in the other parts. In this vein, the topic is significant for it recommends promoting children's rights through consolidating new legislations with strict censorship.

**Keywords:** The rights of children- Legislative imperfection- Child labour.

## Résumé

La menace des droits et libertés des enfants est étroitement liée au concept de travail d'enfants. L'imperfection législative a de nombreuses violations des droits de l'enfant. Sans le déséquilibre, les employeurs manquent de possibilité d'exploiter les enfants dans les gains personnels. Cette étude est intéressée à clarifier la nécessité d'une intervention législative afin de régler la situation de l'enfant dans le monde en participant à l'œuvre des enfants. L'emploi des enfants a d'abord été apparu en Grande-Bretagne, où les enfants du Huitième siècle ont été exploités à l'exploitation et aux profondeurs en plus de mauvais traitements, tandis que tous les droits ont été violés, y compris votre sécurité pendant le travail et l'éducation. La campagne contre l'emploi des enfants dans une femme a pris beaucoup de temps, mais maintenant les enfants sont considérés par le phénomène qui affecte leur croissance négative et mentale. Cependant, de nombreux types de travail des enfants, l'exploitation sexuelle et le recrutement anticipé ont des effets dramatiques sur ces enfants. Alors, quelles sont les causes du travail des enfants et quel est leur effet et comment peut-il être à l'occasion de ce qui est présent? Pour des raisons sociales et économiques, la propagation des travailleurs des enfants s'est répandue en Grande-Bretagne, qui a été endommagée par l'ombre. Cependant, l'élimination de ce problème de ses racines a appelé à la coopération de la variante et à la modernisation de la législation principalement, en plus de l'imposition de contrôle strict sur les employeurs et la propagation de la sensibilisation des membres de la communauté. Malgré la baisse du phénomène de l'enfant au moment des efforts des organisations internationales, mais ce problème est toujours déployé et en l'absence de leurs formes, en particulier dans les cercles médiocres et instables. Ceci est considéré comme très important parce qu'il demande à la promotion des droits de l'enfant en combinant un nouvel achat avec une prévention stricte.

**Mots clés :** Les droits de l'enfant- l'imperfection législative –Les travail des enfants.

## ملخص

يرتبط التهديد الموجه لحقوق الأطفال وحررياتهم ارتباطا وثيقا بمفهوم عمالة الأطفال. أدى الخلل التشريعي إلى انتهاكات عديدة بالنسبة لحقوق الطفل. وفي ظل هذا الخلل يغتتم أرباب العمل الفرصة لاستغلال الأطفال في مكاسب شخصية. تهتم هذه الدراسة بتوضيح الحاجة إلى التدخل التشريعي من أجل تسوية وضعية الطفل حول العالم من خلال حضر عمالة الأطفال. ظهرت عمالة الأطفال لأول مرة في بريطانيا حيث تعرض الأطفال في القرن الثامن عشر الي الاستغلال والحرمان إضافة إلى سوء المعاملة، في حين تم انتهاك جميع الحقوق بما في ذلك حقي السلامة أثناء العمل و التعليم،. استغرقت الحملة ضد عمالة الأطفال في بريطانيا وقتا طويلا، إما في الوقت الحالي فيعاني الأطفال من هذه الظاهرة التي تؤثر سلبا على نموهم الجسدي و العقلي. غير أن أنواع عديدة من عمالة الأطفال كالاستغلال الجنسي و التجنيد المبكر لها آثار دامغة على هؤلاء الأطفال. إذن ماهي أسباب عمالة الأطفال و ما تأثيرها و كيف يمكن إنهاؤها في الحاضر؟ لأسباب اجتماعية و اقتصادية انتشرت عمالة الأطفال بشكل كبير في بريطانيا مما أدى إلى تضرر الأطفال بشدة. إلا أن إزالة هذه المشكلة من جذورها استدعى تعاون كبار الشخصيات و تحديث التشريعات بشكل رئيسي بالإضافة إلي فرض رقابة صارمة على أرباب العمل ونشر الوعي بين أفراد المجتمع. بالرغم من تراجع ظاهرة عمالة الأطفال في الوقت الحالي بفضل جهود المنظمات الدولية إلا أن هذه المشكلة مازالت منتشرة وفي أسوأ أشكالها خاصة في الأوساط الفقيرة و غير المستقرة. لهذا يعتبر هذا الموضوع مهما جدا لأنه يدعو الي تعزيز حقوق الطفل من خلال دمج التشريعات الجديدة مع الوقاية الصارمة.

**الكلمات المفتاحية :** حقوق الطفل- الخلل التشريعي-عمالة الأطفال.

## **Table of Contents**

Dedication.....	I
Acknowledgment.....	II
Abstract.....	III
Résumé.....	IV
..... ملخص	V
Table of Contents.....	VI
List of Abbreviations.....	IX
<b>General Introduction.....</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>Chapter One: An Overview on the Living and Working Conditions up 1780</b>	
Introduction.....	06
<b>I. Economic and Social Changes Following 1780.....</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>II. The Political Scene and the Insufficiency of Legislations.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>II.1. The Political Supporters of Child Labour.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>II.2. The Lack of Legislations in Favour of Children.....</b>	<b>18</b>
Conclusion.....	21
<b>Chapter Two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier (1870-1800)</b>	
Introduction.....	22
<b>I. Parish Apprentices.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>I.1. Free- Labour Children.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>II. Harsh Living Conditions.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>III. Deplorable Working Conditions.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>III.1. The Working Day.....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>III.2. Employment Age.....</b>	<b>29</b>

III.3.Abuse.....	30
III.3.a.Physical Abuse.....	30
III.3.a.1. The Reaction of Parishes toward the Physical Abuse.....	33
III.3.b.Sexual Abuse.....	34
III.3.c.Other Types of Abuse.....	34
IV. Psychological Distress.....	35
V. Young Workers and their Health Conditions.....	36
VI. Work Accidents.....	38
VII. Poor Education.....	40
Conclusion.....	42
 <b>Third Chapter: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800</b>	
Introduction.....	43
I. The Abolition of Child Labour in Britain.....	44
II. The Total Decline of Child Labour within the British Society.....	46
II.1.The Last Years of Child Labour.....	46
III. The Progress of Education in Britain from 1870.....	47
IV. Child Labour in the Present.....	49
IV.1.Forms of Child Labour around the World.....	50
IV.1.a.In Africa and the Middle East.....	50
IV.1.b.In Asia and the Pacific.....	51
IV.1.c.In Europe and Eurasia.....	51
IV.1.d.In Latin America and the Caribbean.....	52
IV.2.Other Worse Forms of Child Labour in the Present.....	52
IV.2.a.Child Trafficking.....	52
IV.2.b.Children in Forced and Bounded Labour.....	53

<b>IV.2.c.Children in Armed Conflicts.....</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>IV.2.d. Children in Sexual Exploitation.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>IV.2.e.Children in Illicit Activities.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>V. Recent Campaigns against Child Labour.....</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>V.1. Campaigns from the Part of The International Labour Organization (ILO).....</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>V.1.a.The International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC).....</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Conclusion.....</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>General Conclusion.....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Works Cited.....</b>	<b>64</b>

## **List of Abbreviations:**

ILO	International Labour Organization
IPEC	International Program on Elimination of Child Labour
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Fund

# *General Introduction*

## General Introduction

---

For several decades, employer-employee relationship has been known for the domination imposed by employers on their employees. Moreover, exploitation is considered the mere equivalence to this domination. In this light, many organizations have been established calling for the rights and liberties of workers. Consequently, the majority of workers are enjoying their work clear from all the signs of exploitation or abuse. Yet in recent times, another type of labour is expanding. The workers belonging to this type are deprived from their minimum rights. In fact, the developed countries considered this type of labour illegal since it exposes its labourers who are generally under 17 years to several issues. The growing phenomenon of child labour is definitely an absolute threat to children's rights and liberties.

Child labour is not a recent phenomenon; it can be traced to the earlier decades of the eighteenth-century Britain. At that time, huge numbers of children from all ages were exploited in different occupations mainly in factories, mines or as chimneysweepers. Throughout the eighteenth century, young labourers were deprived even from the basic rights as sufficient payment, rest, and safety at work. In Britain, the campaign held against child labour needed a long period of time, strong supporters, and huge efforts to realise its goal, which was the total abolition of child labour. Nevertheless, recently millions of children are forced into labour. In fact, this phenomenon spread widely in the world depriving further children of their rights. More important still, child labour encompasses worst forms that are unprecedented neither in Britain nor in elsewhere. Therefore, children's rights are threatened more than it was in the eighteenth century.

## General Introduction

---

The significance of this study lies on identifying the existing social issue of child labour through historical lenses. Through which, it works on providing a clearer image about the social issue of child labour and its results on children in Britain during the early period of Industrial Revolution. Furthermore, the existing work intends to present the same issue in addition to its new forms that are devastating for children in recent times. Nonetheless, this research works on revealing the factors that led to such issue as well as its consequences on children on the first place. Eventually, presenting the different ways that helps in abolishing or at least eliminating this problem in both previous and recent times.

Certain interests motivate this study. Most importantly, children are the most vulnerable part of the society whose voices are not heard especially in developing countries. Therefore, they are always in need for someone who is able to convey their voices and call for their rights. Moreover, child labour is spreading rapidly in the third world as result for the spread of natural disasters and armed conflict. The number of young labourers is increasing. Thus, international organizations are alarmed to interfere sooner. Raising the awareness about such issue is vital for barring further spread of this problem. Equivalently, any child in the world is subject to exploitation even in the most developed countries.

The presented work strives to answer the following questions. First, what are the leading factors for the emergence and growth of child labour within the British society? Second, what were the living and working conditions of young labourers during the early period of industrialization? In addition to investigating how were children treated at work. Lastly, how was child labour abolished in Britain? Furthermore, is child labour still existing

## General Introduction

---

in the present day and what are its forms? Moreover, how it can be eliminated and what are the means used?

Several hypotheses may serve as answers for the questions raised above. Firstly, the spread and growth of child labour within the British society can be rendered to the upsurge of poverty and destitution in that period. Second, another hypothesis that is correspondent to the stated question is that the working and living conditions of young children touched the bottom during the absence of censorship on factories and mines. Third, a hypothesis that is suitable for the third question may be that the abolition of child labour in Britain was a plain task. It was only the result of the legislative system contribution at that time. Another hypothesis comes to say that child labour is very limited recently while it has similar forms of the British child labour. Whereas; it can be abolished thanks to the efforts made by the international organizations.

A descriptive method is used in this study to investigate the validity of the mentioned hypotheses. A historical approach is also used for conducting sufficient data about the factors that led to the emergence and spread of the issue of child labour. Additionally, the mentioned approach is used for underlying its impacts on children. Furthermore, making use of this approach will help to investigate the effective efforts made to abolish child labour completely from the British society.

The exiting work is composed of three chapters. The first one presents an overview on the living and working conditions before (1780) i.e. before the upsurge of child labour within the British society. Through which, the major leading factors of the spread and emergence of

## General Introduction

---

child labour is presented. The second chapter however explores the working and living conditions of young labourers for the sake of providing a clearer image about the suffering and deprivation experienced by those children during the period of the early Industrial Revolution. The last chapter is intended to discover the way in which child labour was abolished in Britain. In addition to that, it provides set of information about the existence of child labour in the present. More important still, this section presents new forms of child labour that did not exist previously as well as identifying its impacts on children. Lastly, a set of information is provided about the major efforts done in recent times by international organizations for the sake of abolishing or at least eliminating the issue of child labour in the world.

For its significance, the topic of child labour has been tackled by different scholars in different fields especially in the field of civilization. Consequently, several references were used for conducting this work. First, as this work seeks to investigate the background of child labour. Peter Kirby provides one of the most valuable books about child labour in Britain. It is entitled *Child Labour in Britain, 1750-1870*, where he presents the main reasons that pushed poor families to employ their children. Additionally, the book identifies all the kinds of work delivered to children. Furthermore, an accurate description for the reaction of state toward child labour is included in this book. Jane Humphries also has a vital contribution to the topic of child labour especially through her article *Childhood and Child Labour in the British Industrial Revolution*. This work introduces general overview about child labour, yet it concentrates further on the causes and chronology of child labour giving certain significance to the Industrial Revolution.

## General Introduction

---

When addressing the issue of child labour in the present context it is vital to introduce its worst forms. The article *of Data on the Prevalence of the Worst Forms of Child Labour* written Robert William Avis has made its contribution. Through this article, the worst forms of child labour are presented in relation to the region of prevalence and statistical data.

The above references are useful ones in which they provided a valuable information about the topic of child labour. Yet, none of them has dealt with the topic of child labour as permanent issue that needs an urgent interference. The mentioned references are either tackling child labour in the past only or in the present without looking back to the origins and causes of child labour. Thus, the collaboration between investigating the early causes of child labour along with the problem itself for better solving the issue of child labour is missing in the above references.

# *Chapter One*

*An Overview on the Living and Working Conditions up*

*1780*

## **Introduction**

Child labour was a social phenomenon that emerged and prevailed in Britain from the end of the eighteenth century until the beginning of the nineteenth century due to different factors. It was an awful social phenomenon which did seriously violate children's rights and turn their lives around. Children who belonged to the working class that was sinking in poverty, were totally affected by the absence of legislation that could serve their basic rights. The working class was the largest class in terms of population, which meant that the numbers of children who were subject to exploitation could not be underestimated. The leading factors that produced such social problem were rendered to several changes that occurred in different fields starting by the economy in the first place then to the social and political fields. This chapter is intended to clarify the leading factors that helped in the emergence and growth of child labour in Britain starting by the seventeenth century. In other word, this study strives to find out the factors that indubitably led to the spread of child labour in Britain from the seventeenth until the nineteenth century.

**I. Economic and Social Changes Following 1780:**

The emergence of child labour during the eighteenth century was mainly rendered to economic change and its impact on the British society. At that time, the economy of England witnessed decisive changes with the coming of technical developments. The admission of the new invented machineries in manufacturing brought great advancement especially for coal mining and textile industries. Consequently, the English society changed from agricultural to industrial at the turn of the eighteenth century. Therefore, the industrial production witnessed a huge advancement (Pradon 7). However, the Industrial Revolution did not affect economy only, the English society was consequently affected; It is true that industrialization made England much more affluent, yet it had produced controversial social problems for the working class (“Effects”). In her article entitled *Childhood and Child Labour in the British Industrial Revolution*, Jane Humphries asserted that child labour was the result of the effect of Industrial Revolution on the economy as well as the society. According to Humphries, the social issues grew immensely in Britain, especially after the integration of the newly developed industry with the British constant family life. This challenging social issues resulted in what is called “broken Britain” or a shattered society in which parents had no time for their children due to long hours’ work (4). According to Griffin the effects of industrialization were not restricted to imposing additional working hours on the workers nor to raising their salaries, but it had a direct effect on the relationship between the individuals as well as on the individuals themselves. For instance, if the father’s wage was not enough for covering the basic needs of survival, it was not the responsibility of the father only; however, each member of the family was responsible for raising the family’s income including children (41).

The demographic change that occurred in late eighteenth century in Britain led to the spread of poverty and thus forced children to work. In 1773 The Enclosure Act<sup>1</sup> was passed by the British Parliament as an attempt to benefit from the common lands. As a result, many farmers were left without work or employment; They were obliged to immigrate to the urban areas seeking work in factories. This endless immigration led to unprecedented demographic growth in the urban districts as well as a growth in the rate of unemployment and poverty (Pradon 13). Through his study of London Poor in 1823, Henry Mayhew found that “there is barely sufficient work for the regular employment of half of our labourers, so that only 1,500,000 are fully and constantly employed, while 1,500,000 more are employed only half their time, and the remaining 1,500,000 wholly unemployed” (Thompson 250). Furthermore, Humphries suggested that during this period of population growth, workers’ wages were stagnant and saw no improvement, whereas these wages could barely cover the necessities of a small family members, how for the standards families with many members. At that, time parents were obliged to send their children to work in factories in order to raise the family income (18). Because of the endless arrivals to the urban districts, poverty prevailed the living conditions of the working class.

The prevalence of poverty upon the working classes in Britain was also rendered to mechanizing several industries. During the period of the early Industrial Revolution, the usage of machineries became highly spread in the British factories. Indeed, Mechanization simplified the tasks for the workers and boosted production. Consequently, the prices of commodities fell. Yet, it had negative impacts on the skilled workers who had lost their works and thereby fell in poverty. Therefore, those families who became deprived from their professions were obliged to employ their children in factories. According to Griffin, the

---

<sup>1</sup> According to Encyclopaedia Britannica, this concept Refers to “dividing the common lands and providing its ownership to certain figures for the sake of raising productivity”.

partial interpretation to the spread of poverty among the working class of Britain was rendered to mechanization. The most affected category was the families who were involved in the proto-industry and lost their professions due to mechanization (35). All though, mechanization brought an economic evolution for Britain, yet it had a dreadful result on the society.

The deterioration of the living standard witnessed in the eighteenth-century Britain was strongly related to low wages. During this period, the living standard of Britain was very low. Definitely, the majority of the population was sinking in destitution. This deterioration was stemmed from the low wages provided to workers. Accordingly, Griffin asserted that the living standard of a certain society is directly linked to the wages of its workers (4). In this regard , Hobson reckoned the number of population as 42,000,000 within this population around 12,000,000 had a comfortable life and about 7,000,000 were able to cover only the necessities, whereas the remaining 23,000,000 were under the line of poverty. The contribution of Professor Leone Levi in 1884 revealed that the income of the worker was very restricted: around 32s a week. It could barely afford a livelihood with medium standard. Baring in mind, that this income was not based on the father's wage only, but it referred to the general familial income including that of children (22). Griffin asserted that despite the fact that the majority of the working class had employment, however most of them found themselves in a position of penury due to the very low wages (9). Lowering the workers' wages in Britain had a tremendous affects on the standard of living of its society.

The social crises witnessed in the period of the economic turmoil had contributed to the upsurge of child labour in Britain. It was best exemplified in 1806, the period of the

continental blockade led by Napoleon Bonaparte<sup>2</sup> who aimed at depriving England of trading with the rest of the European countries. In the long run, Britain witnessed a decisive economic stagnation due to the need of the fundamental raw materials brought from Europe. Meanwhile, the deeply affected industry after the blockade was textile industry because of its need for exported cotton. Under these circumstances, factory owners seized the opportunity to employ children in the behalf of adults. Since, children were considered as a cheap labour. Such actions were done in the period of the economic crises for the sake of reducing salary charges which would certainly raise profits (Pradon 13).

The lower classes in Britain were not suffering from lower wages only, but also high prices. The majority of labourers at that time worried about the price of rent in the first place. Since, the majority of the workers were poor farmers who had been driven from their agricultural lands seeking work. Therefore, a large number of workers had to rent in the industrial districts. Consequently, the owners of the dwellings seized the opportunity to raise the prices. Yet, the renting prices were exceeding the abilities of the workers, for instance renting a room in the large overcrowded districts of London cost about four s. a week. More important still, the prices of rent in central London was much higher, since it cost about six s. for one room. In fact, those dwellers had no other choice except paying high prices for living next to their work. Actually, the dwellings had the quality of slums for being overcrowded and dirty (Hobson 10). In a matter of fact, the working classes were highly exploited in the industrial districts.

---

<sup>2</sup> According to Britannica Encyclopaedia “he was a French emperor and an upstanding general who revolutionized military organization and worked for expanding the domination of France”.

During the eighteenth century, the working classes in Britain were also suffering from foods' high prices. During this period, poverty along with high prices worked on ripping the British society into pieces. The prices of vegetables and other articles of consumption were very high for poor men because of two elements. Firstly, the middleman who transmitted the goods from the producer to the consumer and raise his benefit in consequence; It has been argued that the prices of food brought directly from the farms were ten times lower than the prices in East London shops. Secondly, the high prices of food referred to the shopkeepers who strive to defeat the competition emerging from the rest shops in the same district. In addition to that, shopkeepers were also suffering from high rent (Hobson 11). Furthermore, a survey was done by Davis and Eden revealed that throughout the period from 1787 to 1796 , 187 families were spending a large amount of their income on food only ,about 72 % , from which 62 % was spend on bread . Astonishingly, in the 1830s things worsened, since the prices went forward to change the percentage of bread from 62 %to 71 % (Griffin 13). According to Hobson , the prices paid by the poor for their food ; which was best described as morsels was higher than the prices paid by the rich for a food of better quality.

The evolution of child labour in Britain was supported by different elements, one of which was the spread of fatherless families. The spread of fatherless families within the British society resulted in the spread of child employment in factories. The families who had no breadwinners were dominating a third of the whole society. Therefore, orphans were very numerous in Britain; the percentage of this category was around 18 %. In fact, orphans were more likely to be exploited especially during the prevalence of poverty. Consequently, child labour spread immensely within the British society. In a matter of fact, the majority of the disappeared fathers left their families in search of a better livelihood. However, many of them found no work which led them to fall in depression and drunkenness as for Baker's father. As

an illustration, Baker's mother was obliged to send her little children to work while she continued spinning in order to feed them. From 1793 to 1815, France declared war against Britain. Therefore, recruitment added many adults and a number of orphans aged 10-to 14 to work as sailors or soldiers. The problem was that most of these adults did not returned to their families, or at least returned suffering from physical and psychological issues as for after war trauma. The compensation sent to their families was barely enough for drink that might ease their suffering a bit. The British family income was wholly centralised upon male wages, which render it impossible for fatherless family to escape poverty in the period of falling wages. Accordingly, all the families who have a disappeared or died or even a disabled father, had no other choice except employing their young children (Humphries 20). In other hand, Humphries argued that, "One in four children in the United Kingdom comes from a fatherless family with mothers the vast majority of single parents. Lone parenthood sets the scene for child poverty" (4). In the factories, the wage of a working man might reach 24s, and 15s for a working woman. Hence, the poverty and hardship within a fatherless family at that time could be easily imagined (Hobson).

The upsurge of the phenomenon of child labour within the British society during the late eighteenth century occurred due to some economical factors as mechanization. Marx suggested that, the manufacturing process led by children saw a noticeable advancement after mechanizing several industries. Nevertheless, mechanization boosted child labour on behalf of adults (Humphries 10). After the adoption of new machineries within the manufacturing process of textile factories, the need for skilled workers became very restricted. Because of the machineries that simplified the tasks for workers. Therefore, numerous job opportunities were given to the unskilled workers (Humphries). Under these circumstances, Employers seized the opportunity to employ the cheapest labour force that was children. In essence,

mechanisation simplified the tasks related to manufacturing which led to an increase in the demand for unskilled workers on behalf of skilled workers ( *Whaples* ).

In fact, the division of labour force in factories and workshops took a large share within the development of child labour in Britain. Andrew Ure through his book *the Philosophy of Manufactures* pointed out that the idea of labour division was first encouraged by Adam Smith's writings. Through which he clarified the significance of the division of labour for the improvement and progress of manufacturing. Smith admitted that if each handicraftsman was to focus in one single point of the whole process of manufacturing, he would be quicker and cheaper which meant mass productivity in shorter term (19). In this regard, Humphries identified the results of the division of workers depending on Galton's bibliography. Earlier, many families who depended on skilled work as Galton's family were enjoying prosperous lives. However, the raise of competition in manufacturing forced the employers to adopt the system of labour division in an attempt to boost production. Indeed, the system was beneficial for employers. But it was not for the skilled workers who lost their work in consequence. Due to mass productivity, competition increased whereas wages and prices fell in addition to the living standard of the working class. Children found more job opportunities after the application of this system, because the division of labour was always in a desperate need for the small hands for the fulfilment of certain tasks (Humphries 16). In this context, Chalmers admitted that whenever free competition exists between employer then the exploitation of the venerable and the weak part of such society emerged (Bray 25). Under such circumstance, Humphries described the number of children working in the newly established factories as being larger than the number of adults (10).

Child exploitation in the late eighteenth century was backed up by several reasons. In a matter of fact, child's exploitation was supported by the increase in supply and demand. In one hand, the families who belonged to the working class strived badly to make a living. Therefore, they were obliged to involve their children in factory work as an attempt to resist starvation in a very destitute society. Likewise, the British society valued work immensely, in which they consider it compulsory for every able person, children at that time were considered as "little adult" therefore they were anticipated to support their families. On the other hand, factory owners increased the demands for children because not only they cost less than adults did but also because they helped in boosting productivity thus, maintaining competition. However, these were not the only reasons that led to exploiting the weak. Children were accepted in factory work because they were manageable, malleable, and easily disciplined. Consequently, child employment became common in the industrial districts. Furthermore, children as being small sized were very helpful in fulfilling different tasks that were hard for adults. For instance, to work with the machines which were low to the ground, or to crawl in the very narrow tunnels of coal and steel mines( Grief et al).

Child exploitation was also encouraged by the optimists. In fact, this category was very influential on the public opinion. Because, it was constituted of writers, politicians and other upstanding figures in the society. The British politician and writer Andrew Ure was one of these optimists. He claimed that child labour was a necessity for the prosperity of the country in the broad sense and for the children and their families in the narrow sense. Many of these optimists agreed on the idea that the working conditions in factories were neither bad nor dangerous for children. They also indicated that the tasks delivered to children were definitely simple and plain. John Wesley described child labour as an effective mean used to keep children busy therefore forbidding the spread of idleness among them (Grief et al). In

general, child labour was not to be that prevalent without the support gained from some upstanding figures in the society.

## **II. The Political Scene and the Insufficiency of Legislations :**

Not only the social and the economical factors had resulted in the spread of child labour in Britain, but also some political decisions. The political decisions passed throughout the early industrialisation had a direct impact on the spread of poverty and thereby the emergence of child labour. During the early stages of the Industrial Revolution, the British Parliament was under the leadership of the Tories' Prime Minister William Pitt from 1738 to 1801. In 1789, Britain lost its colonies and trade in the Americas after the American War of Independence. Consequently, the national debt was doubled. Nevertheless, the action taken by the Prime Minister William Pitt worsened the situation further. The parliamentary decision included imposing new taxation on the factory owners who were against such reforms. Therefore, they decreased wages as well as the taxation of exported goods. In fact, the consequences of the decision made by Pitt and his parliament had no impact on the politicians or on factory owners. The only victims of such decisions were the poor and the working class. Who suffered from the high prices of exported goods and the fundamental articles of consumption in particular. The historian John Belchem described the situation, "Government spending, financed by borrowing and sharply regressive taxation, widened the gap between rich and poor and led to the stagflation syndrome: prices rose while industrial output slow down" ( Pradon 12).

The parliamentary reformation made by the Tories' Party had a significant role on the emergence and the development of the social issue of child labour within its society. The

British parliament tended to reform the English Poor laws<sup>3</sup> by another, which was Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 in order to ease the prevalent problem of poverty. The latter however, aimed at giving the relief only for the able workers for encouraging the poor to work. However, the Tories' act made the poor much poorer and the wealthy much wealthier. In fact, the motive lying behind the reformation of Poor Law was that the middle class and the aristocracy became unable to pay the taxes of the poor due to their rising numbers. After one year of passing the Poor Law Amendment Act, the living standard of the poor saw no improvement, while poverty was still prevalent in which it reached 1.34 million people and the third of this estimation was rendered to children. As a consequence to the reformed Poor Laws, pauper children were raised by the church's charity that would employ them under its governance in return ( Pradon 13). This means that child employment was encouraged by the government itself.

### **II.1. The Political Supporters of Child Labour:**

The British politicians of the early Industrial Revolution were also involved in strengthening the existence of child labour. As it has been noted, William Pitt the Younger was an upstanding politician within the Tories party at that time. Since, he had occupied the position of prime minister twice in his history. William Pitt believed in the idea that child labour was a crucial element for the development of economy and the prosperity of Britain, in 1796 he wrote:

Experience has already shown how much could be done by the industry of children ,and the advantage of early employing them in such branches of

---

<sup>3</sup> . According to Britannica Encyclopaedia, "It referred to the Elizabethan age, in which relief were gathered by the parish overseers and distributed to sick and aged poor; in addition to poor children. The relief was also given in a form of work in the workhouses for the able men".

manufacture as they were capable to execute . . . if anyone would take the trouble to compute the amount of all the earnings of the children who are educated in this manner , he would be surprised, when he came to consider the weight which their support by their own labours took off the country ,and the addition which, by the fruits of their toil, and the habits to which they were formed, was made to its internal opulence ( Honeyman 4).

Other Prominent writers and politicians supported child labour as Edward Baines. The latter believed that the demanders of regulation for the working conditions in factories were distorting the real image of real factory work, where children work in good and safe conditions. These conditions according to his claim were only found in the textile factories. Additionally, he claimed that children who suffered from health issues were already suffering even before being employed in textile factories (Edward Baines (1774-1848): Spartacus Educational). Furthermore, his book *History of Cotton Manufacture in Great Britain* included many illustrations about the good working condition found in the textile factories. From which, he denied all the facts in relation to the suffering children in such factories. For the sake of convincing the public opinion, that child labour was not a problem that should be treated. Through his book, he indicated that:

The noise and whirl of the machinery, which are unpleasant and confusing to a spectator unaccustomed to the scene, produce not the slightest effect on the operatives habituated to it. The only thing that makes factory labour tiring is that they are confined for long hours, and deprived of fresh air: this makes them pale, and reduces their vigour, but it rarely brings on disease. The minute

fibres of cotton, which float in the rooms, are admitted, even by medical men, not to be injurious to young persons (457)

Andrew Ure's political perspectives concerning factory labour were highly influential within the British society. In fact, he was not a politician, but a professor at the University of Glasgow. Through his book *the Philosophy of the Manufacturer* published in 1835, he tried to clarify the image related to the working conditions for the reformers, in which he described the situation in factories as being plain and enjoyable for children since he argued:

I have visited many factories, both in Manchester and the surrounding districts, during a period of several months, entering the spinning rooms, unexpectedly, and often alone, at different times of the day, and I never saw a single instance of corporal chastisement inflicted on a child, nor indeed did I ever see children in ill humour. They seemed to be always cheerful and alert, taking pleasure in the light play of their muscle, enjoying the mobility natural to their age (301).

## **II. 2.The Lack of Legislation in Favour of Children:**

The insufficiency of legislations passed to regulate labour in Britain led to the expansion of child labour phenomenon during the early era of industrialization. In the mid-nineteenth century, workers were suffering from many issues in relation to factory work. These issues were related to long working hours, low wages, and terrible conditions. At that time, laws and legislations were very limited which meant that the workers' rights were not protected. This situation included all the workers employed in factories as for women and young children. Under such harsh circumstances and with the absence of governmental

actions, the tendency toward employing children in factories was very common especially within the families whose income cannot afford the cost of living (Foundations of Western Culture). Within this scope, Humphries indicated that the period that followed the 1750s was characterised by deregulation, which meant that during this period there exist no organizations nor protective labour legislation that might held the economy in its highest rank without employing children (17).

The governmental actions were significant in the term of enduring the issue of child labour within the British society. The governmental record published in that period was highly questioned for two main reasons. In one hand, the factory visitors' reports were partially dismissed by the commentators due to the conspiracy held between the inspectors and factory owners. In other hand, the reliability of the information gathered from the factories was also doubted due to the selection method practised in generalising results. Baring in mind that this method was based on random selection of factories without an upstanding sample nor an identified subject (Honeyman 11). Furthermore, the statistical evidence submitted by the state was patchy for many reasons. Firstly, the investigation done about child labour were restricted to a certain number of factory workers or about only one hundred worker ,which meant that the results were not accurate. Secondly, the governmental reports suppressed effective ideas that supported factory workers' case. In fact, the state commissioners who consider it a kind of threat to their own values and doctrines harboured these ideas. Thirdly, the questionnaire from which the final reports were conducted belonged to employers whose factories had not been inspected. More important still, the inspection was very limited at that time. Because of the stringent budget that obliged the inspectors to work only with dominant employers whose factories located in the urban districts. These employers were usually in the side of reformation. Actually, inspection itself was faced by a

variety of obstacles one of which is the children who was excluded from the inspection done in the factories where they work, because they were employed by the factory operative only without any legal agreement (Kirby 14).

## **Conclusion**

Britain suffered from the social issue of child labour for long period of time, the problem was caused due to a number of factors. The result of major changes and variations that occurred within social and economical sectors was child labour. More importantly, this issue witnessed a huge expansion due to the support gained from the political side. The latter urged employers to employ children in order to raise the profit and decrease the spending as an attempt to build a strong and varied economy. For the social sector, the living standards of this class touched the bottom of destitution due to high prices and low wages witnessed at that time. Low wages in the other hand was the consequence of the changes that occurred within the economical sectors. For instance, the Industrial Revolution opened work opportunities for everyone, which raised competition and decrease wages. Under these circumstances, families belonging to the working class were living below the line of poverty. Consequently, many families were obliged to send their children to work in order to cover their basic needs as food. Another example is that industrialization mechanized industries, which meant that the tasks related to the process of manufacturing became much simpler any plain to the degree that even children were able to fulfil. Accordingly, factory owners seized the opportunity to employ children because they were malleable, much more obedient than adults and cost low wages for the same tasks fulfilled by adults with high wages.

# *Chapter Two*

*The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work*

*Earlier: 1780-1800*

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

### **Introduction**

Childhood in Britain during the early period of industrialization was stemmed by harsh livelihood and harsh treatment. Children who lived between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in Britain were subject to misery and deprivation from the moment of their birth. The deprivation of these children extended from the loss of their parents to deprivation of the basics of living, in which destitution and starvation took the large share of their wretched lives. Finding work at factories was the only hope at that time since many families and apprentices aimed to earn money and ameliorate their status .Yet, deprivation did not end at this stage, however, it was coined with other problems as harsh treatment low wages and several types of abuse. This chapter is intended to describe the hardship and deprivation experienced by the little children who were involved in child labour during the Industrial Revolution. In addition to, shedding light on the living and working conditions of these children.

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

### **I. Parish Apprentices:**

The exploited children during the period of industrialization were divided on two categories the first one was parish apprentices. This category contained a huge number of children that served for the parishes without any payment except being fed and clothed. Additionally, the parishes provided dwellings for these pauper children as for the poor adults called the workhouses in which they have to work for the benefit of the clerks and parishes for acquiring a relief. This decision was made after the repeal of the Poor Laws Act of 1832. Most of the children who lived at the workhouses were orphans, errand boys, or even children with ill or single parents who could not feed their children. Many historians agreed that parish apprentices were the major source of child labour in England (Pradon 14). Apprenticeship on the other side was a system that dates back to the feudal times. At that time, young children were sent to learn a profession from a master. His duty relied on providing the child with supervision and training about the profession. During this stage, the child must serve his master for long years without being paid, until the age of eighteen when the child would be free for starting his own work ( Bray 2).

Children were pushed to be exploited in factories by the clerks who were supposed to protect them. Indeed, parishes were considered the source of religious generosity for many years. However, during the period of industrialisation the reputation of the clerks changed awfully due to their greed. With the growth of the Industrial Revolution in Britain, the number of pauper children increased immensely in workhouses. Therefore, the parish's debts increased. At this stage, new factories were in a desperate need of cheap labour, which led the parishes to supply them with pauper children in huge numbers. Actually, parents that

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

lived at the workhouses were against sending their children to work in factories. Yet, they were obliged to agree with this, since they were under the protection of the clergymen. In this regard, John Waller in his book entitled *The Real Oliver Twist* stated that, “in 1790, the overseers of Hanwell in Middlesex threatened the local poor that if they didn't avail themselves of the offer of sending their children to the Nottinghamshire textile mill of Messrs W. Toplis and CO. Ltd., then they would be struck from the parish pension list”. Children at that time were sold as cattle according to an agreement signed between masters and parishes. Astonishingly, such actions were not done secretly. In 1783, one of the wealthier London parishes who was an officer of the Poor Laws, the so called Saint James, announced an advertisement for 100 boys and 100 girls who were presented for any manufacturer or tradesmen in need of cheap labour (Pradon 16). Child exploitation was not practised on parish apprentices only; children who belonged to poor families were also exploited.

### **I.1 .Free-Labour Children:**

Free-labour children were the second type of factory children. This type included children who worked at factories with their parents, for the sake of raising the family earnings. Usually, these children lived in their homes not at workhouses as the parish children (Lawrence). Being under the supervision of their parents, free labour children were less restrained than the rest of working children. However, they were unstable since they change their working place each time. According to the historian John Rule, children were driven to factories under the desire of their parents ,“Many children were taken in the factories by their parents. An eight-year-old entered as a scavenger for his father. He was trained to spill until, in his late teens, he became a spinner” (19). Unfortunately, many parents

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

were obliged to accept the involvement of their young children in deplorable working conditions only for overcoming starvation. Meanwhile other parents seized the opportunity of exploiting their own offspring for climbing the social ladder (Pradon 19-20).

### **II. Harsh Living Conditions:**

Pauper children had experienced suffering and misery when they were working in the workhouses even before being apprenticed. Workhouse was a type of state aid system followed after the ratification of the Poor Law Amendment Act. It was an institution that followed a rigid discipline and hold great numbers of paupers. The vast majority of the workhouse residents' were children whether orphans, with unemployed parents or with widowed mothers. The workhouses were established according to the policy of "less eligibility", therefore the services provided were with a very poor quality especially for food, clothes and dormitories. Yet, this was not the only source of suffering since children as the rest of workhouse's residents were forced to work full time under bad treatment and severe punishment. The latter includes nonhuman actions as locking young children in dark rooms for a long time, beating them with a cane or roping them. Hunger was also present in workhouses especially for children with outdoor relief; the majority of them were sent as apprentices to work out the institution with only one shilling to one shilling and sixpence per week. Occasionally, a loaf of bread was added to this relief (Frost 122-124). In fact, indoor children also experienced hunger according to Morgan able-bodied residents suffered from the reduction of their diets by the workhouse overseers. Consequently, they were nurtured by the marrow coming from crushed bones (47).

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

Living in workhouses exposed young children to different psychological problems. Children who lived in workhouses for long periods had experienced different types of misery and deprivation that resulted in a high degree of psychological and emotional distress. Indeed, being separated from parents at young ages had a direct impact on children's psychology. This was manifested on Charles Shaw's description for Sunday afternoon, since he described it as the only bright spot in the whole workhouse, because it was the only hour for visiting his parents after a long week (Frost 128). Additionally, children were insulted because of their cloths and haircuts, which confirmed their affiliation to workhouses. Exceeding the institution's borders exposed the poor children to harsh treatment and harassment. The feelings of difference and inferiority were destructive for their psychology. For instance, the children of Stratfordon-Avon workhouse were sent to study in local schools. Yet, they were insulted by other students for their cropped hair and rough cloths, the thing that angered Mr. George Hewins who admitted that, "The guardians was [sic] wrong, and all of us, letting it happen. Why was you punished for being poor [sic]?" (Frost 127).

### **III. Deplorable Working Conditions:**

The working conditions during the early period of industrialisation in Britain were considered awful for workers, especially for children. Both adults and child labourers were suffering from the very bad conditions of the working environment. Yet children were much more influenced by such conditions due to their vulnerable and weak bodies. The working places were strongly condemned due to the bad conditions found there. Therefore, such places were plagued by many connotations one of which was "the dark satanic mills" by Charles Dickens. Pessimists as Engels, Marx, Webb and Alfred criticised the working

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

conditions for the long and inflexible working hours, strict discipline, lack of cleanness in addition to harsh treatment including some kinds of the physical abuse (“Child labour during the British Industrial Revolution”). Through his book *the Making of English Working Class*, E.P Thompson asserted that working places were “these places were held to be ‘immoral’ places of sexual license, foul language, cruelty, violent accidents and alien manners” (307).

### **III.1. The working Day:**

During the early period of the Industrial Revolution, the young factory workers suffered a lot from long working hours. According to Pradon the working hours for factory children extended to reach 12 and sometimes 18 hours per day. Generally, this timetable included children who work at coalmines in which they started work earlier in the morning even before sunrise and finish work at night. Being under the ground children could not realise time due to darkness. Other children as textile factory workers spent between 14 to 18hours a day. Such factories were highly disciplined when it came to timing, in which it was compulsory for children to join the factory earlier before sunrise and too much later after sunset. In other words, the socio-economist historian Claude Folhen presented a testimony of a father of two factory girls in which he certified that his daughters started work earlier at six and sometimes three in the morning and finished at half past nine or at ten in the evening (Pradon 29). At that time, James Patterson was a working child who was interviewed by the Parliamentary Committee of Michael Sadler in 1832. Patterson stated that:

I worked at Mr. Braid's Mill at Duntruin. We worked as long as we could see.

I could not say at what hour we stopped. There was no clock in the mill.

There was nobody but the master and the master's son had a watch and so we

## Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800

---

did not know the time. The operatives were not permitted to have a watch. There was one man who had a watch but it was taken from him because he told the men the time (Goldsteen 47).

Imposing long working hours on children in the early Industrial Revolution had several consequences on the health of these young labourers. The early nineteenth century public opinion includes few views about the relationship between the excessive laboriousness of children with health issues. In this context, William Royale admitted that children were overworked in factories. It has been argued that, the spread of exhaustion among factory children was related to the excessive working hours. Moreover, the deformities noticed on these children were rendered to standing for long hours in front of machines, generally in inappropriate position. According to 1816 Select Committee, the surgeon of Preston William Tomlinson admitted that after his permanent visits to Penwortham Factory he discovered that children were suffering from long working hours. Consequently, they became very exhausted and in miserable conditions. He added that just few children were not having crooked legs (Honeyman 135). Moreover, the testimony of the two factory girls' father presented by Folhen revealed that the girls came home very exhausted in which they fell asleep on dinners' table even before dinning. Another case that presents the physical deformities resulted from the long working hours was Eldin Hargrave, who was interviewed by the Committee:

In attending to this machine, are you not always upon the stretch, and upon the move? \_Yes, always.

Do you not use your hand a good deal in stretching it out? \_ Yes.

What effect had this long labour upon you?\_ I had a pain across my knee, and I got crooked.

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

Was it the back of your knee ,or the side of your knee?\_all round.

Will you show your limbs?\_[Here the witness exposed his legs and knees]

Were your knees ever straight at any time?\_ They were straight before I went to Mr. Brown's mill(Bulwer 98).

### **III.2. Employment Age:**

Starting work at young ages was very common among the children who were employed in the early period of industrialization. Many children were employed at young ages, which contributed to the reinforcement of their suffering and deprivation. According to Poor Laws records, children were employed from the age of nine to ten in which they would be able to gain the outdoor relief. From 1722 to 1842, the 424 Assignment of Sowerby revealed that, 75 % of parish apprentices were aged from seven to ten while 51 % were having from eight, nine, or ten years only (Kirby 37). Moreover, Humphries agreed with Kirby on the fact that the majority of children employed in industrial manufacturing started work when reaching their tenth birthday (175). When they started mainly as piecers or working on the spinning machines and rarely as scavengers.

In Britain, very young children were exploited in chimney sweeping. During the eighteenth century, the economy depended heavily on coal. Meanwhile, it was used for firing the chimneys in the city's homes. Therefore, the number of chimneysweepers grew immensely during this period to afford the service of cleaning these chimneys from soot ("Millborrow"). Children were employed in such works because of their small sizes that allow them to climb in the narrow dark chimneys. *Report from the Committee on the*

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

*Employment of Boys in Sweeping of Chimneys* that was created by the House of Commons included a testimony of the chimney sweep master William Took about the age of children when starting work as chimneysweepers. He asserted that children under the age of eight were taken to climb and sweep the narrow flues, he added that he knew other sweepers in the age of six only and sometimes under five of age with other masters(8). William Sampson was also chimneysweeper; he admitted that he started work at an early age earlier before reaching the age of eight due the pressure of his parents (Cullingford 97).

### **III.3. Abuse:**

Abusive actions were often practiced on young labourers of the early Industrial Revolution in Britain. Both apprentices and free-labour children were subject to the abusive actions. In fact, all types of abuse were practiced on these children including corporal, sexual, and other abuses. Actually, this phenomenon was dominant in all the places that employed children as factories, mines, mills, and houses (“Chimney Sweeping”).

#### **III.3.a. Physical Abuse :**

Abusing the young labourers was a common aspect within the early cotton mills. During the early period of industrialisation, cotton mills followed a rigid discipline especially toward the working children. At that time, abuse and corporal punishment were practised against children for any trifling offence. It has been argued according to Sadler Committee 1831to 1832 that, “scarcely an hour passed in the long day without the sound of beating and cries of pain” (Kirby 4). Furthermore, Children were obliged to stay awake for a long timework and

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

if they doze up during work, they would be strapped. According to Sarah Seaton, children were beaten or whipped on the back until bleeding and sometimes they had their bones broken. John Birely was a pauper apprentices in the mill of Cressbrook of Derbyshire. He argued according to his own experience that children were punished brutally and severely which sometimes lead them to death. John asserted that the master and his three sons were holding sticks to threaten the workers. One day, his master's son beaten up John severally until he thought that he had killed him. Yet John's defending action (covering his head with his bare hands for protection) cost him more torture that he suffered from until the end of his life (Seaton).

The working children suffered severely from the abusive actions at work in the early factories. The abusive actions were best exemplified in the harsh corporal punishment that urged children to work above their might. According to the seven years old, Jonathan Downe who worked at Mr Marshall's factory at Shewsbury: children worked excessively and if they became tired, they were dipped in cold water in order to wake up. Other types of punishment according to his testimony to Sadler Committee of 1832 included being hanged with heavy weights around their bodies or they were lift up higher in the makeshift cages above the working machinery (Seaton). Furthermore, children were beaten for being late or for talking to their mates at work. Being late at work was also a mistake that cannot be forgiven. Therefore, children were beaten harshly if they came late for a few minutes (399). Generally, committing a mistake when working cost them a lot. According to the testimony of Sarah Carpenter who worked in Cressbrook mill: she was beaten badly because another boy in the other side had mistakenly stopped the drawing frame. When Sarah denied doing so, the overlooker and the master flapped her on the head until bleeding. This abusive action cost her

## Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800

---

permanent pain that never allowed her to sleep peacefully since then (“Sarah Carpenter: Spartacus Educational”).

During the early Industrial Revolution, young chimneysweepers were also subject to physical abuse. Factory owners as well as parish apprentices’ masters practiced such actions. Therefore, both free-labour children and parish apprentices were suffering from cruelty and violence. Indeed, the nature of the work given to the apprentices involved in chimney sweeping was harsh .Yet; the type of treatment directed to these sweepers was much harsher. Children were forced to climb in the dark narrow and sometimes hot flues. Nevertheless, if they refused to climb, their masters relied on violence to send them up again. *The Reports from Committees on Poor Laws, Chimney Sweepers, Steam Boats* ordered by House of Commons in 1817 includes the testimony of John Cook, one of chimney sweep masters’ who admitted that when a child refused to climb because of fearing darkness. He would be either threatened by sending him home where he would starve to death or beaten by a rod by his master (19). Additionally, he confessed that he had forced some children by slapping and kicking. B.M Foster also reported to the Committee that if a child refused to move forward in a chimney ,the master would sent another child to prick him with pins on his feet so he would be obliged to continue. Equally important, he asserted that at Wandsworth, a child got stoke and could not move forward because he had encountered an obstacle. What happened is that his master set fire in some hay or straw and lighten it under the poor child in order to send him up. Yet, the poor child could not escape the fire because there was a bar across the flue. After climbing down, he was beaten badly because he had cost his master a lot of time (29). Masters of chimney sweeping were generally abusive toward the children they employed.

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

Corporal punishment was also practised on the young labourers when running from work. The early factories and mills in Britain were common for their deplorable working conditions along with the harsh treatment imposed on its workers. These were the main reasons that led many poor children to run from work. Yet, the punishment that followed running was also severe, the fact that obliged the tortured children to stay at work. Robert Blincoe indicated that some runners were taken to prison, while others were fettered by irons in their ankles with which they sleep, walk, and eat (Simmons 157). In this regard, Gribbin argued that children who tried to escape from mills were flogged brutally and sent to end their contract with the parishes. He had also mentioned the case of a young woman who was imprisoned because she escaped. In addition to that, she worked for two years without payment as an additional punishment (400).

### **III.3. a.1. The Reaction of Parishes toward the Physical Abuse:**

Parishes had no reaction toward the ill treatment imposed on the pauper children who were sent to work under its guardianship. When children complained to the parishes about the harsh treatment they received from their masters, they got no response except being advised to tolerate the situation, obey the masters and to work harder. For instance, the parish officers were invited to visit the enterprise of Haigh Marsden by the residents who complained about the excessive violence practised there. Nevertheless, they took no action, but exhorting the poor children to be patient and accept punishment. The latter, according to their teaching was a type of correction to the ideal persons. Many parishes failed to protect children from such inhuman actions as St Pancrase parish, which failed to protect Robert Blincoe (Honeyman 182).

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

### **III.3.b. Sexual Abuse:**

During the early era of industrialisation, working children experienced different types of abuse one of which was sexual abuse. At a very young ages pauper children were sent to work either by their families or by the parishes. The type of work delivered to these young labourers varied from factory workers and servants. In both occupations, children were subject to sexual abuse especially the young girls. According to the evidence of Old Baiely Trial Reports, the percentage of sexual abuse in London doubled between the seventeenth and the nineteenth century due to population growth. Additionally, the category that was highly affected by sexual harassment was the young girls aged between seven and 12. Generally, these children were sexually assaulted during work either by their masters, master's sons or other male servants ( Honeyman 28). For example, Litton mill was a common place for sexual abuse practised on the young apprentices argued Robert Blinco. Moreover, He reported that, "to boys he [John Needham] was a tyrant and an oppressor! To the girls, the same, with the additional odium of treating them with an indecency [sic] as disgusting as his cruelty was terrific. Those unhappy creatures were at once the victims of his ferocity and his lust" (Honeyman 186).

### **III.3.c. Other Types of Abuse:**

Imposing fines on young labours of factories was considered as a type of abuse. The types of abuse practiced on young labourers during the eighteenth century varied from corporal punishment to imposing fines as a punishment. The historian Francois Bédarida explained the harshness of the fine's system imposed by overseers since they took a shilling

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

for every offence. However, the children's earnings did not exceed few pennies. The offences that required such system included sleeping at work, drinking water, opening a window or even washing hands. Those actions were not allowed during work at factories (Pardon 30). According to Michael Sadler's Committee, Elizabeth Bentley was an apprentice working at a flax mill; she argued, "I worked from five in the morning till nine at night. I lived two miles from the mill. We had no clock. If I had been too late at the mill, I would have been quartered. I mean that if I had been a quarter of an hour too late, a half an hour would have been taken off. I only got a penny an hour, and they would have taken a halfpenny" ("Working Hours: Spartacus Educational").

### **IV. Psychological Distress:**

The bad working conditions along with the rigid discipline at work had a direct impact on the psychology of the young labourers. In fact, the feelings of deprivation and psychological distress were very common among children of the early Industrial Revolution. These feelings were partially rendered to the deprivation from parents at a young age. According to the Employment Commission of Children, an eight year girl talked about her dead father, she reported that "he was a collier, but he was killed in a coal-pit. I go past the place where he was killed many time when I am at work, and sometimes I think I see something". Indeed, the majority of factory children were driven to work after losing their parents because of either a work accident or a disease. It has been argued that children who had experienced depression and grief at a young age would face many problems during their growing process. Furthermore, the endless routine of work in addition to the insufficient sleep periods would affect the psychology of young labourers, their learning capacities, and

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

their sensibility toward stimuli (Kirby 15-41). Actually, the feelings of deprivation and grievance were stimulated further by factory treatment, since these types of complaints were totally ignored by overseers, who reinforced the psychological distress of their workers via suppressing their voices (Honeyman 110).

### **V. Young Workers and their Health Conditions:**

The working conditions of the early factories and mines exposed children to some health problems. During the eighteenth and the early nineteenth centuries in Britain, excessive working was very common in factories for the sake of raising production. Indeed, this brought great advantages to economy. Yet, the disadvantages were seen in the health of workers more particularly young workers. Who suffered from some health problems that escorted them until death. Children who worked during their major periods of growth witnessed great physical deformities one of which was the crooked legs that was very common among factory children. According to Factory Bill, David Bywater argued:

You said that you was selected as a steamer by the overlooker, on account of your being a stout and healthy boy? - Yes, he thought I was the strongest, and so I should go.

Were you perfect in your limbs when you undertook that long and excessive Labour? - Yes, I was.

What effect did it produce upon you? - It brought a weakness on me; I felt my knees quite ash.

Had you pain in your limbs and all over your body? - Yes.

## Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800

---

Show what effect it had upon your limbs.-It made me very crooked.- [here witness showed his knees and his legs].

Are your thighs also bent? Yes the bone is quite bent (Bulwer 98).

In fact, health problems that resulted from working in factories was not restricted to boys only, also girls were suffering from health issues.

The marks of hard labour were also found in the health of little girls. The latter, was also threatened by the discipline followed in the early factories. It has been argued by many doctors that the health of factory girls was more threatened than this of boys. In this context, the surgeon Mr Simmons agreed that factory work was damaging for the girls' health in which a great distortion was found in the bottom of their spine. This distortion was destructive especially in the period of womanhood. Particularly for pregnancy and birth, in this case both the child and his mother were in a great danger. William Dean a Slaithwaite surgeon in evidence to 1918 Lords Committee, argued that the girls' health was highly threatened by factory work, "It has a great tendency to stint their growth, and make them puny, and it subjected them to great difficulty in gestation, and in labour ... distortion of the pelvis takes place and makes the labour protracted and difficult and in some instances fatal"(Honeyman 169). In general, working children were suffering in all the industrial places including mines.

Children who worked in mines suffered from different issues related to health. In coalmines, children were generally employed as putters<sup>1</sup>, harriers<sup>2</sup>, or trappers<sup>3</sup>. The three of

---

<sup>4</sup> Children how carry coal to the trucks by baskets, and then push the trucks in the tunnels.<  
<http://www.dmm.org.uk/educate/mineocc.htm>>.

<sup>5</sup> Or thrusters, older children who pulled tubs full of coal through tunnels.<  
<https://www.mylearning.org/stories/coal-mining-and-the-victorians/236?>>.

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

them were very hard tasks that were hard even for adults. The former, were supposed to pull the tracks of coal in a very narrow dark tunnels sixteen inches high. The latter, were those how drag the truck from the front depending on their bare hands and knees, and usually tied by belt from their waist which was connected to a chain than to the cart. Trappers in the other side were responsible for opening the wooden door between the tunnels in order to let fresh air in. It was very hard type of work for these children since they have to stay lonely in darkness for long hours escorted with a candle. All of the mentioned underground works were harmful to the health. Because of the inhaled coal dust, that caused them serious problems on the level of lungs. Unfortunately, these children would suffer from lung cancer even before reaching their 25 birthday. The children's hands were also exposed to intoxication. Caused by, the direct friction with the toxic sulphur, which made their fingers bleeding, and swell (Seaton).

### **VI. Work Accidents:**

The working accidents were very common among the young labourers of the early factories and mills. Accidents' causes varied and the majority of them occurred in consequence of exhaustion resulted from the long working hours. These accidents might end with bad injuries as cutting one or more limbs and sometimes it ended with the child death. Generally, the work delivered to the children in mills was connected to machinery. In fact, machineries worked permanently, while children were expected to gather wool and cotton under the loom. Such tasks put these children in the risk of being mangled (Pradon 32). Dr .Ward who treated many children in Manchester mill reported that working in the mills was very dangerous especially for the young children. He indicated that:

---

<sup>6</sup>They were the youngest workers among the working group. They had to open the wooden doors from time to time for letting air in. .< <https://www.mylearning.org/stories/coal-mining-and-the-victorians/236?>>.

## Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800

---

When I was a surgeon in the infirmary, accidents were very often admitted to the infirmary, through the children's hands and arms having being caught in the machinery; in many instances the muscles, and the skin is stripped down to the bone, and in some instances a finger or two might be lost. Last summer I visited Lever Street School. The number of children at that time in the school, who were employed in factories, was 106. The number of children who had received injuries from the machinery amounted to very nearly one half. There were forty-seven injured in this way"(Seaton).

Children in underground work were also subject to several accidents. Coalmines workers were always in danger of gas explosion, roofs fall, exhaustion, and suffocation. According to Jane Humphries children who had worked in mines suffered from tiredness resulted from long working hours, she reported, "Many young trappers were killed when they dozed off and fell into the path of the carts. Ten-year-old Joseph Arkley forgot to shut a trap door, allowing poisonous gas to seep into the tunnel. He died along with ten others in the resulting explosion" ( Pradon 30).such, accidents were highly spread in the mines of early industrialisation.

Chimney sweeping was also introduced as a hard type of work, which involved many accidents for young apprentices. Children when climbing chimneys encountered several obstacles and problems that could turn at any moment to a dreadful accident. These accidents included being stuck in the narrow dark chimneys when taking a wrong possession. Suffocation from the cleaned soot that fell on the faces of these poor children was also possible. In addition to, burning to death when the fuel had being recently lighted or was recently put out. *The Report from the Select Committee on the Poor Laws* ordered by House

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

of Commons included many accidents that resulted in the death of numbers of climbing boys when working. One of these accidents occurred in Liverpool exactly at Atherton-street where an inmate hired a boy for sweeping his chimney without acknowledging the women who dwelt down stairs. Unfortunately, she fired the chimney accidentally, which burned the little child to death (40). Chimney sweeper were exposed to terrifying accidents that could end their lives.

### **VII. Poor Education:**

The majority of children employed during the early industrial period were deprived from the right of education. The majority of children involved in child labour system lacked education this was stemmed to poverty in the first place, because none of these young labourers could afford to pay school fees. Another reason could be the working hours, which extended to 16 and 18 hour per day, letting no time to further tasks. Nevertheless, the only alternative for both rural and urban children was the parish schools or Sunday schools. The latter, was accused for teaching Bible and some basics about factory work rather than basic knowledge of reading and writing. Moreover, few children were sent by parishes to charity schools or blue coats schools were they received some basic knowledge. However, the level of education in these schools was low in addition to the lack of teacher ( Pradon 18). In workhouses' schools children had to work for six hours for only three hours of education. Yet, education in these schools was also poor. Consequently, many children were not able to read or write. Some workhouses tended to sent children to local schools. Yet, their haircut and clothes that confirm that they belong to workhouses led them to be insulted and introverted. Actually, in the workhouses, there exist another type of schools for apprentices

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

aged between fourteen and sixteen, in this school education lasted for the whole day with professional teachers in industrial training only, as a preparation for factory work (Frost 127).

Education for working children in Britain was either highly limited, or very poor.

## **Chapter two: The Repercussions of Forcing Children to Work Earlier: 1780-1800**

---

### **Conclusion**

Children of the early Industrial Revolution were deprived from their least rights while their duties exceeded their might. Free labour children as well as the young apprentices were subject to rigid discipline that stepped on their basic rights. In such factories and in the early industrial occupations abusive actions and corporal punishment were obligatory for reinforcing productivity. In the other side, children's duties also extended beyond their abilities. Young labourers of different occupations were mainly deprived from essential rights for instance: education, safety during work, health care, and others. Moreover, their duties were unsuitable for their ages and abilities, like working for long hours, working on dangerous machines, being occupied in mines and as chimneysweepers in addition to other various examples. In fact, considering little children as "young adults" was an unforgivable sin done by the whole society on behalf of children.

# *Chapter Three*

*Attempts to Abolish Child Labour After 1800*

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

### **Introduction**

During the nineteenth century, the abolition of child labour was finally achieved in Britain after a long struggle. Eliminating a social phenomenon that persisted for decades in a certain society was not easily accomplished goal. Therefore, the campaign needed additional efforts and time for achieving its ultimate goal, which was the total abolition of child labour. Different members of parliament from both parties fought the campaign against child labour mainly through amending laws in favour of children. Yet, this abolition was not to be realised without the integration of other factors as the social and the technological evolution. Nevertheless, the harshness of this phenomenon is still prevalent on millions of children in the present day. Consequently, several international organizations are still fighting for abolishing child labour in the world. This chapter aims at exploring the chief steps the abolition of child labour in Britain progressed, and more importantly, to list the mechanisms used in fighting this issue.

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

### **I. The Abolition of Child Labour in Britain:**

The early legislative campaign against child labour had no serious impact on the issue, since it lacked serious and constant commitments from the part of government. The early campaign contained variety of acts ;firstly, the 1802 Health and Morals of Apprentices Act, which reduced the working hours for apprentices who lived at workhouses to 12 hours a day. Secondly, 1819 Factory Act, which forbid children less than nine years to work in factories, only children aged from nine to 16 years were allowed to work. Yet, the Act was not effective since the birth certificate was not issued until 1836. Factory owners took none of these Acts into account since inspectors were not appointed to ensure the application of these laws (Miller 71). Therefore, the abolition of child labour persisted within the society until the application of governmental censorship.

Child labour needed both time and efforts to come to an ending. The governments of the day were trying hard to come up with new regulations or policies to fight the exploitation of children. The first one was the Factory Act of 1833, which banned children under nine of age to be employed in factories. In addition to, setting 9 hours a day for children aged between nine and 13, while 12 hours were set for children aged between 13 and 18. This act was enforced in factories thanks to the inspectors who worked to ensure the implementation of this law. The second Act that was significant for children, who worked in mines, was the Mines Act of 1842. The latter banned children of all ages to be employed underground. Another Act that paved the road for abolishing child labour was the Factory Act of 1844. According to it, children aged from nine to 13 worked for only 6.5 hour a day. While 12 hours work per day were set for children aged between 13 to 18. In 1901, Factory and Workshops Act was passed and according to it, the age at which children were allowed to work in factories started

### **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

from twelve years onward( Miller 71). The implementation of these laws on the early factories was not to be accomplished without the inspections guided by government.

Child labour was a real battlefield for the politicians' schemes and plans to bring in better working conditions and education for little children. The majority of these members were holding the position of prime ministers. Therefore, their supporting position for children's rights especially the right of education pushed the voting process onward. Astonishingly, those prime ministers who defended the rights of little children were belonging to opposing parties. The Whig party in one hand included Charles Grey who was Prime Minister from 1830 to 1834. He supported Lord Ashley and Michael Sadler in their vote for passing the Factory Act of 1833. The Tories party in the other hand, included figures as Robert Peel who worked in the investigation held by the Parliamentary Committee about the children's conditions at work. He had also helped in the creation of Sadler's Report. In addition, to his vote for the Mines Act of 1842. For the fight of constructing a rigid educational system in Britain, the Liberal Prime Minister William Ewart Goldstone with William Foster took a large share in convincing the parliament to pass an Act in favour of the educational system at that time. Conservatives also worked hard to abolish child labour by passing the Factory and Workshop Act under Disraeli's leadership. Banning child labour and ameliorating the status of education in Britain were realised thanks to the contribution of the parliament's members from both sides (Pradon 58).

In addition to political transformations, other factors did equally contribute to the abolition of child labour in Britain. At the turn of nineteenth century, Child labour started to vanish within the industrial and agricultural sectors. In the industrial sector, a technological revolution brought advanced machineries to manufacturing. The latter, accomplished all the

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

tasks even those delivered to children. Therefore, children's role in factories was totally abandoned. One of these machineries was the Northrop loom or the fully automatic loom invented by James Henry Northrop in 1891. This machine was created to stop whenever a thread was broken which allowed the workers to fix them, unlike the semi-automatic Lancashire loom that needed the intervention of small-seized workers to repair the broken thread during its work. In addition to that, children no longer replaced the empty pirns since the new machine was able to replace them automatically without the intervention of workers. The technological revolution had also reached the agricultural districts and ended child labour there too. For example, children's work in the fields was restricted to raiding the horses throughout the fields. The invention of the steam tractor replaced both children and animals since it worked faster and so the need for shoeing animals or paying children was discarded. Moreover, the invention of press drill contributed to the decline of child labour in the agricultural sector. Because, many farmers found it profitable to use the machine for sowing grains instead of paying children for that ( Pradon 53). The abolition of child labour was stimulated by different factors one of which was the technological revolution.

### **II.The Total Decline of Child Labour within the British Society:**

#### **II.1.The last Years of Child Labour:**

Due to unprecedented factors, child labour witnessed a gradual decline starting by the year 1878 to 1881. During this period, it was reduced in textile factories by 32 % and by 34 % in mines. This change was mainly rendered to Factory Act of 1878, which forbade children less than 15 years to be employed in factories. Pradon however, agreed that the decline of child labour occurred thanks to the prosperity of the country, since he linked the growth of fathers' wages to the reduction of children's numbers in factories. Consequently,

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

he believed that when the fathers' wage was sufficient for his family, there would be no need for the child's income. In his book *A Thing of the Past* the English professor Michael Lavallette indicated, "Increased adult male wages meant there was less need for children's wages and working-class families could thereby invest in their children and their education, protecting them from exploitative labour"(52). Moreover, there were other social reasons that helped in the decline of child labour within the British society. One of these reasons was the social evolution that occurred by the 1870's. During this period, people's perception toward children started to change and children were finally treated as real children not as "little adults". Consequently, the concept of childhood took totally another meaning. It was thereby linked to play and happiness rather than work and responsibility. Accordingly, the British historian Kerry Carrington asserted that children were finally given a new sensibility that they were deprived from centuries ago (Pardon 52-57). Indeed, the social evolution along with the wage's growth had a direct impact on the withdrawal of child labour from Britain.

### **III.The Progress of Education in Britain from 1870:**

The right of education in Britain passed through many phases to be compulsory and free for all children. According to the Government Commission to investigate schooling of 1858:out of every eight children in Britain ,only one was attending a kind of schooling, while 80% of these children leave the school before reaching the age of 12. After 12 years, the government passed the first Education Act, which issued that school seats should be provided for all children. School boards were responsible to organise this. In addition to that, parents were obliged to pay fees for schooling. However, the majority could not afford to send their children to schools, because they were in desperate need of money. In 1876, another Education Act was passed, it became compulsory for parents to send their children to schools.

### **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

In the meantime, employment was forbidden for children who did not exceed ten years, while it was permitted for those who exceed ten years only if they had attended schools. Gradually, the attendance in schools became compulsory for all children aged from five to 13, with a kind of exemptions for those who exceeded ten years of age; this was stated in the Education Act of 1880. The year 1891 was a turning point in education history because of the abolishment of school fees. In 1902, another Education Act was passed which abolished school Boards and gave the responsibility of education to Local Education Authorities or the county councils and boroughs. The latter, was able to provide grammar schools for those who exceed 16 years of age. Yet, this privilege was given only to those who have a scholarship or were able to pay the fees. The school leaving age witnessed a gradual increase, which allowed more children to be educated. It reached 14 of age according to the Education Act of 1918, than to 15 years in 1947 and finally to 16 years old in 1973. In the year 1944, an Education Act was passed to guarantee that education was free for all children at all ages and to provide nursery schools (Miller 71). The educational progress in the eighteenth century-Britain opened new horizons for children far from labour.

The compulsory schooling witnessed at the turn of the eighteenth century was also fundamental for the abolition of child labour in Britain. Many historians agreed that the spread of free and compulsory schools in 1991 helped in the reduction of child labour phenomenon. Since, children at that time were obliged to go to schools rather than to work. The historians Kerry Carrington and Margret Pereira both believed that the educational progress had a great impact on the decline of child labour within societies. They stated, “Compulsory schooling had a significant effect on reducing child labour, increasing the age at which children entered the workforce and structuring the time of unemployed children”

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

(Pradon 55). The schools' compulsory attendance obliged many children to join schools and leave the work, which gave them new opportunities to build better future.

### **IV. Child Labour in the Present:**

Although child labour threatened childhood for long decades in Britain, it is still prevalent in the present day. According to the International Labour Organisation<sup>1</sup>, child labour is widespread in the world. In 17 September 2017, the organization revealed that 152 million children are still suffering from child labour; 64 million of them are girls and about 88 million boys. Generally, the ages of these exploited children are restricted between five and 17 years. In fact, the majority of these children are found in Africa about 72.1 million, while 62 million are found in the Pacific and Asia. The Americas holds about 10.7 million working child. Furthermore, 5.5million children belong to regions as Central Asia and Europe. Approximately, the Arab States are holding about 1.2 million children. Unfortunately, one third of children aged between five and 14 do not receive any systematic education (“International Labour Organisation”).

The persistence of child labour in the present day refers to different reasons. The fundamental reasons that lead to the spread of child labour in a society are poverty and unemployment. Under such circumstances, poor families have no choice except sending their young children to work for covering the basic living necessities. Moreover, the expensive school fees and the lack of employment after studying urged the poor families to send their children to work at young ages. Although the majority of these countries have a number of codes and laws that forbid child labour, it is common for employers to violate these laws

<sup>17</sup> The International Labour Organization is one of the United Nation's agencies that work on setting labour standard, promoting decent work through developing policies and programs.  
<<https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/lang--en/index.htm>>.

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

since there is no governmental censorship. Furthermore, the most important reason that lies behind the existence of child labour today is the repression practiced on workers for the sake of forbidding the establishment of unions. The latter, is considered as a direct threat for those who are responsible of the exploitation of the vulnerable part of the society (“The University of Iowa Labour Center”). In general, the integration of several social, political, and economical reasons ended in the emergence of child labour in the present.

### **IV.1.Forms of Child Labour around the World:**

In recent times, child labour is taking different forms that are widespread among several countries in the world. Many children around the globe are suffering from one problem that is forced labour. Yet, this problem itself has different forms that varied from one region to another according to the state of the region and its industries. In fact, child labour exists in almost every continent in the world with different forms in each region. Yet, this problem is less prevalent in some regions than the others are. In fact, the causes of child labour can be similar in some parts mainly including poverty, conflicts, or natural disasters. Nevertheless, those forms have the same negative impacts on children but with varied intensity.

#### **IV.1. a. In Africa and the Middle East:**

Africa and the Middle East as the other regions contain different forms of child labour. The highest numbers of children involved in child labour are found in Sub-Saharan Africa. The majority of these children work in hazardous works that precede their capacities. The types of work delivered to these children are generally related to agriculture, mining, and services. Although the percentage given to child labour in the Middle East and North Africa

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

is quite lower since it reaches about eight percent out of all children living in these regions. In fact, children in such regions are subject to one of the worst forms of child labour, this is the admission of young children in armed forces as a result for the spread of wars and conflicts there( Avis 10). In fact, child labour is less dominant in the region of Middle East than in Sub-Saharan Africa due to destitution in the first place.

### **IV.1. b. In Europe and Asia:**

Child labour is also very common in Europe and Asia where it takes different forms. About 77.8 million children aged less than 17 years are subject to exploitation in Asia and the Pacific. The largest numbers of these children are working in agriculture. Unexpectedly, children are involved in fishing and seafood industries especially those who live in the coastal and island countries. Forced labour is predominant in textile and manufacturing especially in South Asia. The region of Central and South Asia is also known for employing children in cotton cultivation. Furthermore, many children who live in these regions are involved in domestic work. In addition to all these forms of child labour, there exists another form that is considered as one of the worst forms ever: the commercial sexual exploitation threatened the lives of hundreds of children in countries as Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Nepal, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Maldives, and Mongolia (Avis 10). In fact, child labour is scarcely found in Europe and Eurasia, but these regions contain one of the worst forms of child labour in the entire world. Child labour statistics about this region is not available since it has taken the lowest percentage of child labour in the world. Although Europe had endured long decades in fighting child labour in the past, there exist some kinds of child labour in the present. These forms are generally restricted to agricultural labour and street work. Most importantly, these

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

forms are less harmful to children than the commercial sexual exploitation that is prevalent and dangerous for children's health and psychology (Avis 11).

### **IV.1. c. In Latin America and the Caribbean:**

As any other region in the world, child labour exists in the American and Caribbean regions. The numbers of exploited children in these regions reaches 12.5 million, mostly aging from five to 17 years. The majority of these exploited children are either Africans, migrants or from indigenous descent. The forms of work delivered to them are related to agriculture or street work. Yet, these vulnerable children are subject to worst forms of labour as smuggling, working with gangs that push them toward committing felonies and even crimes(Avis 11).

### **IV.2.Other Bad Forms of Child Labour in the Present:**

In plenty of countries, child labour exists in other forms, which are even worst. Covering all the worst child labour forms' in the world is quite difficult, because of the limited information about such topics. Besides, many societies prefer evasion from this sensitive issue. According to the data provided by the International Labour Organization, the worst forms of child in the world are classified as follows:

#### **IV.2.a. Child Trafficking:**

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

Child trafficking is one of the most harmful and abusive forms of child labour in the world. It is about transporting young children from region to another either by force or by false promises. It generally occurred during conflicts, wars, or during natural disasters. Trafficked children are mostly involved in forced labour or illegitimate activities. According to the International Labour Organisation, the number of trafficked children in the entire world reaches 5.5 million. The kinds of work provided for trafficked boys are somehow different from those provided for girls. The trafficked girls are forced either in prostitution, begging or in domestic services. Boys on the other side are trafficked for slavery, selling drugs, or for recruitment. The 2014 Global Report on trafficking done by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime confirmed that out of all trafficked persons in Africa and Middle East, about 62 % were children. However, it reached about 36 % in East Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific. In the region of the Americas, the number of trafficked children reached 31 % and 18 % in Europe and central Asia (“Explainer child trafficking”). Children who experienced trafficking are suffering from short and long term effects. Those effects are mainly related to emotional deprivation, mental development, and physical abuse. Trafficked children suffered from emotional deprivation because of being separated from their families, countries, or even cultures at young ages. This form of child labour deprives these young victims from the right of education and mental development. Furthermore, it subjugates them to several forms of physical abuse as corporal punishment or even sexual exploitation (“Child trafficking”). As being so harmful for children, child trafficking requires further efforts to be eliminated.

### **IV.2. b. Children in Forced and Bonded Labour:**

According to a study done by Coursen-Neff Zama, forced and bonded labour is one of the worst and exploitive forms of child labour that persists in the present day. It has many-

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

shared points with slavery. Children in bonded and forced labour are obliged to work for paying a certain debt that is generally belonging to their parents. Actually, there is no payment for such labour. The period of work is generally unset; it depends on the employer's choice. This means that, children are obliged to work as long as the employer pleased. In India, for instance, children are treated as commodities, for being exchanged by their parents or guardians in return for an advanced sum of money. Although the value of the children's work exceeds the borrowed amount of money several times, children keep working for employers for years. In such forms of labour, children are not able to quite or to work elsewhere. This form of labour is very useful for employers who benefit from cheap labour for long years. According to the testimony of an Indian weaver to Human Rights Watch, "The loan is business security. That is why the worker cannot go to another job" (16). Furthermore, children are forced to work for 12 hours a day for the whole week. In addition to many abusive actions and in a few cases children are given little amounts of money that could barely guarantee transportation or fill an empty stomach (16). However, forced and bonded labour is only one form of other abusive forms of child labour as fighting in armed conflicts.

### **IV.2. c. Children in Armed Conflicts:**

Forcing children into armed conflicts is very common in the world especially in regions of wars. Many children around the world are forced to join military camps before the age of 18. About 300.00 children are involved in fighting mainly in Africa and the Asian-Pacific regions. The vast majority of these children are forced to join the armed forces by violence, kidnapping, or intimidation. Joining the military forces by choice is also present among some children for being in a desperate need of protection, shelter, and food. This form of child

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

labour is considered as a highly destructive form among the worst forms because young and innocent children are pushed to be killers. Additionally, children who are involved in armed conflicts are exposed to horrible lasting sufferings: physical, in cases of injuries and psychological as a result for the violent images associated with war (“Child soldiers: one of the worst abuses of child labour”).

### **IV.2. d. Children in Sexual Exploitation:**

Today, children are exposed to one of the worst forms of child labour that is sexual exploitation. It is prevalent in both the developed and developing nations especially in regions as the Pacific, Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America. It is about abusing and forcing children to be involved in sexual activities for personal gains. Prostitution, is one form of sexual exploitation, it is about performing sexual activities in return of money. Using children for having sexual pictures is also a form of sexual exploitation, which is called pornography. Both girls and boys are subject to this brutal exploitation, it has been estimated that approximately 1.8 million children are abused this way around the world (Avis 12). According to the International Labour Organization site, the majority of these children are either abducted or trafficked from their countries. Indeed, this kind of exploitation has deep and lasting damages for their physical and mental development. The majority of the exploited children have only 15 to 17 years (“International labour organization”).

### **IV.2. e. Children in Illicit Activities:**

In the present day, forcing children into illegitimate and criminal activities is widespread which exposes them to violence and addiction. Forcing young children to commit such

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

felonies is considered one of the worst forms of child labour. The number of young victims who are involved in such activities reaches 600.00 million (Avis 12). Producing and trafficking drugs are commonly imposed on children, who have no other choice except obeying the instructions or receiving a severe punishment. The risk of being abused and mistreated in such activities is very common from both sides. The first, it generally refers to gangs who are responsible for bringing drugs and giving instructions. The second refers to the buyers who are mostly violent and addicted persons. Many involved children are subject to another risk that is alcohol and drug addiction at young ages. Children can be involved in other crimes as robbery, buying stolen stuffs, hijacking cars and burglary. The vast majority of these children are victims of violence and abuse (“The worst forms of child labour”). Involving children into illicit activities exposes them to danger and thus it requires fast intervention.

### **V.Recent Campaigns against Child Labour:**

Fighting for children’s rights and for ending child labour is still running thanks to the efforts of different organizations around the globe. The most common organization that defends children’s rights was the United Nations Children’s Emergency Funds (UNICEF) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Child labour is subject to dissolution thanks to the efforts made by international organizations as UNICEF. Children’s rights are still threatened by violations in many regions in the world. Consequently, the international organization of UNICEF is saving no effort for the sake of rescuing children from exploitation and abuse. This organization has been working on ameliorating the conditions for children in the developing countries since the year

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

1946. In addition to that, it supports children's basic rights by providing free education, food, clean water, and health care for children all over the world. Furthermore, UNICEF has been working with more than 190 countries across the globe for helping children in need. Each one of these countries is requested to follow a certain program presented by UNICEF for the purpose of barring or at least reducing child labour. By 2013, the number of children involved in child labour was reduced to a third since it reached 168 million children rather than 246 million in 2002. However, other efforts are made to end child labour totally from the world, these efforts includes attacking child labour from its roots. Moreover, a new approach was introduced for eliminating child labour from its roots. The latter is based on preventing child labour via providing access to basic services, reinforcing the systems of child protection, and strengthening the social evolution. The UNICEF organization has protected many children since its establishment; Nepal is one sample from many countries who had received help in two forms: the first one, which is about applying a specific system for eliminating child labour in urban areas. The second, which is based on financial aid provided for education, food, and shelter. Consequently, more than 9.000 children who were suffering from child labour are now enjoying their childhood and their basic right in Nepal only. Therefore, the efforts made by the international organizations as UNICEF had a great impact on mitigating the spread the social issue of child labour ( To eliminate child labour: UNICEF).

### **V.1. Campaigns on the Part of the International Labour Organization**

#### **(ILO):**

The International Labour Organization leads a furious campaign for abolishing child labour in the whole world. Every year, a number of children are rescued from the hostility of

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

child labour, thanks to the contributions of different organizations especially the International Labour Organization. Stepping on child labour is considered one of its ultimate goals. Through conventions, the (ILO) is seeking to end child labour and protect children from hazardous work. It is working on the admission of further countries in the plan of abolishing child labour. In addition to that, the ILO's paper is emphasizing on amelioration the status of children via convincing countries to pass further laws in favour of children. Moreover, the International Labour Organization is saving no effort for building a specific partnership between countries aiming at preventing child trafficking across borders. The plan designed by ILO for fighting child labour provides each time new conventions and programs.

### **V.1. a. The International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour**

#### **(IPEC):**

The International Labour Organization sets different programs for eliminating child labour; the most permanent one was the (IPEC). The latter is considered the biggest program of its kind since it cooperates with several partners for protecting and ameliorating the situation of children around the world. Those partners are organisations, international and governmental agencies, private businesses, the judiciary, universities, community-based organization, and religious groups. The overall goal of the campaign led by (IPEC) is to reinforce the countries' capacity to end this problem in addition to creating a global revolution against child labour. In fact, the abolition of child labour is its general goal, yet the international program on the elimination of child labour spent further efforts on the abolishment of the worst form of child labour ("International Labour Organization").

### **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

In the present day, child labour decreased noticeably in the world owing to the efforts of the International Labour Organization. According to the latest estimates done by the ILO child labour had declined in the world typically in the period from 2008 to 2012 by about 30 %. Therefore, the number of children trapped into child labour decreased from 246 million to 168 million. More important still, about 30 million children were out of hazardous work. In different countries around the world, many children become free from child labour including Nepal.

The ILO's achievement in relation to eliminating child labour is noticeable in Nepal. Like the majority of the developing countries, Nepal was suffering from the raising issue of child labour. The latter was widespread in Nepal, where it reached about 40% of all children. Yet, the contribution of the international organizations has reduced child labour immensely. Through the ratification the International Labour Organization's convention, Nepal took the first step toward ending child labour. The convention ratified by Nepalese government included: the Convention on the Right of Child, the ILO Minimum Age of Employment Convention, and the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention. Indeed, many children in Nepal are enjoying their childhood now, yet further efforts are needed for the total abolition of child labour there.

## **Chapter Three: Attempts to Abolish Child Labour after 1800**

---

### **Conclusion**

The abolition of child labour was not to be achieved without the cooperation between the government and society. Child exploitation ended in Britain thanks to the awareness that grew among the society itself. For instance, the families started to send their children to schools rather than work. The government's role was based on ratifying and passing several laws and legislations that serves the rights of little children. Actually, there exists another reason that pushed child labour to its end in Britain, which was the evolution of technology. The latter, confirmed that the factory's need for children was discarded after the creation of new developed machineries. In fact, child labour ended in Britain, yet it is very common in the developing countries in recent times. Because of that, the fight against child labour is still permanent. This fight is led by strong organizations that have already rescued many children from this nightmare. Still, many children are suffering from exploitation until the moment. Therefore, efforts are made by internal organisations such as (ILO) and (IPEC). Such organisations are planning and setting new programs for rescuing further children from child labour.

# *General Conclusion*

## **General Conclusion**

---

Child labour is a social issue that threatened children around the world. It is not a recent phenomenon since it appeared firstly in Britain during the eighteenth century. Therefore, the lives of children at that time were truly miserable. In fact, child labour ended in Britain in the eighteenth century. However, it spread highly in recent times. This type of labour that is mostly known in the developing countries where millions of children are forced into different types of labour that brings certain effects on their mental or physical development. More important still, worst forms of child labour are spreading widely in the recent years exposing further children to harsh types of labour that are generally escorted with abuse.

It has been helpful using the historical approach to gather a wide range of information about child labour for better understanding the causes and consequences of such issue on children. A collaboration of social, economic, and political factors had resulted in the emergence and spread of child labour in Britain. Considering young children as “little adults” who can carry different responsibilities was predominant during the eighteenth century. Therefore, sending children to work in factories and mines was not strange for families. In fact, poverty is the main cause for employing children for raising the families’ income. For the economic side, the industrial change along with mechanization helped in the admission of children in factories. More important still, the absence of legislations in favour of children along with the political support for child labour encouraged the factory owners to employ further children. Therefore, child labour prevailed in Britain during the early period of industrialization.

During the British industrial period, children experienced harsh living and working conditions. For both free labour children and parish apprentices the living conditions were

## **General Conclusion**

---

touching the bottom of deprivation. Poverty prevailed the scene in workhouses as well as free children's houses. Therefore, young workers were always in desperate need for food and warmth. Children during work were also deprived from the main rights as rest and safety. Overworking was very common in factories which affect children's health. Moreover, injuries were very common in the working places due to the absence of censorship on machineries used in factories. More important still, employers were practicing abuse against the working children in different occupations, which exposes poor children to further problems.

The abolition of child labour in Britain took long time and huge effort to be realised. Passing several legislations in favour of children was not effective without imposing governmental censorship on employers. In fact, the abolition of child labour in Britain was not to be achieved without support from major politicians from both parties. In addition to that, the contribution of these politicians had helped in providing children with compulsory and free education. Indeed, child labour had ended in Britain, yet it is still prevalent in the developing countries with other worst forms that did not exist in the eighteenth century. Although, efforts are spent by the international organizations for the sake of ending child labour in the world, yet the problem needs further efforts and global cooperation for the sake of protecting children from such issue.

Eventually, many efforts have been done for the accomplishment of this work and for reaching its established aim. Despite the facts that, this study could not cover every aspect in relation to child labour due to the barrier of time and the limited pages, it may pave the way for further studies as investigating the living conditions of parish apprentices in the

## **General Conclusion**

---

workhouses in the eighteenth century. Finally, we wish that this study could make a useful contribution in the academic studies in relation to literature and civilization.

# *Works Cited*

“ About the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)”

*International Labour Organization*. International Labour Organization,n.d.Web.6 June 2020.<< <https://www.ilo.org/ipec/programme/lang--en/index.htm>>>.

Amnesty International. *Child Soldiers One of the Worst Abuses of Child Labour*.N.p,1999. Print.

Avis, William Robert. *Data on the Prevalence of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*. Brighton: Institution of Development Studies,2017. Print.

Baines, Edward. *the History of the Cotton Manufacture in Great Britain*. London: H. Fisher, R. Fisher, and P. Jackson, 1835.Print.

Bulwer, Edward Lytton. *England and the English*. Paris: Oxford U,1834. Print.

Bray, Reginald Arthur. *Boy Labour and Apprenticeship*.n.p.: Library of Alexandria,2012. Print.

Callingford, Benita. *British Chimney Sweeps: Five Centuries of Chimney Sweeping*. Chicago: Rowman & Littlefield,2001.Print.

“Causes of Child Labour”. *the University of Iowa Labour Center*. N.p, n.d. Web.31 May 2020<< <https://laborcenter.uiowa.edu/special-projects/child-labor-public-education-project/about-child-labor/causes-child-labor>>>.

“Child Trafficking”. *National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children*. NSPCC,n.d. Web.3 June 2020.<< <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/child-trafficking/#effects>>>.

Coursen-Neff Zama. *Small Change : Bounded Child Labour in India’s Silk Industry*. India: Shalu Rozario ,( 2002).Vol.15,No.2.Print.

“Effects of the Industrial Revolution”. *Modern World History*.N.p.n.d.Web.23 Feb 2020.<< <https://webs.bcp.org/sites/vcleary/ModernWorldHistoryTextbook/index.html>>>.

- “Eliminating Child Labour in Nepal: Facts, Figures, commitments and Action”. *International Labour Organization*. N.P, May 2015. Web. 26 Jul 2020. <<  
[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-kathmandu/documents/projectdocumentation/wcms\\_182777.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-kathmandu/documents/projectdocumentation/wcms_182777.pdf)>>.
- “Explainer: Child Trafficking”. *Their World*, n.d. Web. 3 June 2020. << <https://theirworld.org/explainers/child-trafficking#section-1>>>.
- “Frequently Asked Questions”. *UNICEF: For Every Child*. N.p, n.d. Web. 7 June 2020. <<  
[https://www.unicef.org/about-unicef/frequently-asked-questions#1%20and%20inhttps://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_70610.html](https://www.unicef.org/about-unicef/frequently-asked-questions#1%20and%20inhttps://www.unicef.org/media/media_70610.html)>>.
- Frost, Ginger S. *Victorian Childhoods*. Westport: Greenwood Publishing Group, 2009. Print.  
 Great Britain. Parliament. House of Commons. *Reports from Committees: Poor Laws; Chimney Sweepers; Steam Boats; &c.* Vol. 6. n.p.: N.p., 1817. Print.
- Gribbins, Henry de Beltegens. *Industry in England*. London: Methuen and Co, 1869. Print.
- Griffin, Emma. *Diets, Hunger and Living Standards during the British Industrial Revolution*.  
 Diss. University of East Anglia, 2018. Web. 23 Feb 2020.
- Goldsteen, Raymond L, and Karen Goldsteen, and Terry Dwelle. *Introduction to Public Health: Promises and Practices*. New York: Springer Publishing Company, 2014.  
 Print.
- “History of the ILO”. International Labour Organization. *International Labour Organization*, n.d.. Web. 4 June 2020. <<  
<https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/history/lang--en/index.htm>>>.
- Honeyman, Katrina. *Child Workers in England, 1780-1820: Parish Apprentices and the Making of the Early Industrial Labour Force*. London: Ashgate Publishing, Ltd, 2016. Print.
- Hobson, John A. *Problems of Poverty: An Inquiry into the Industrial Condition of the Poor*. London: Methuen, 1891. Print.

Humphries, Jane. "Childhood and Child Labour in the British Industrial Revolution".

*Blackwell*, 8 May 2012.Print.

Humphries, Jane. " Child Labour: Lessons from the Industrial Revolution".VOX CEPR

Policy Portal.N.p,24 Apr 2008. Web.6 June 2020.<< <https://voxeu.org/article/child-labour-lessons-industrial-revolution>>>.

Kirby, John. *Child labour in Britain,1750-1870*. Houndmills: Macmillan Distribution

Ltd,2003.Print.

Lavalette, Micheal,ed. *a Thing of the Past?:Child Labour in Britain in the Nineteenth and*

*Twentieth Centuries*. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 1999. Print.

"Major Results of ILO Work on Child Labour". *International Labour Organization*.N.P,May

2015.web.26 Jul 2020.<<

[file:///C:/Users/HIGH%20TECH/Downloads/ILO Major results on CL Web Revised 20150519.pdf](file:///C:/Users/HIGH%20TECH/Downloads/ILO%20Major%20results%20on%20CL%20Web%20Revised%2020150519.pdf)>>.

Miller, Judy. *Never Too Young : How Young People Can Take Responsibilities and Make*

*Decisions*. London: Save the Children, 2003.Print.

"Mining Occupations". Durham Mining Museum. Durham Mining Museum and its

contributors,31 Aug 2015.Web.15 May 2020.<<

<http://www.dmm.org.uk/educate/mineocc.htm>>>.

"Modern Slavery and Child Labour: 40 Million in Modern Slavery and 152 Million Around

the World". *International Labour Organization*, N.p.19 Sep 2019.Web.2 June 2020.<<

[https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_574717/lang--en/index.htm#banner](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_574717/lang--en/index.htm#banner)>>.

“Napoleon I :Emperor of France”. Encyclopaedia Britannica. Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc, n.d. Web. 20 May 2020<< <https://www.britannica.com/event/Poor-Law>>>.

“Poor Law: British Legislation”. Encyclopaedia Britannica. Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc, n.d. Web. 20 May 2020<< <https://www.britannica.com/event/Poor-Law>>>.

Pradon, Fanette. *Child Labour and Industrialization: the Children of a Revolution*. Diss. Angers University,2014-2015. Web.10 Feb 2020.

Reed, Lawrence W. “Child Labour and the British Industrial Revolution”. *FEE Foundation for Economic Education*. Creative Attribution 4.0 International License,23 Oct 2009. Web.24 Feb2020.<< <https://fee.org/articles/child-labor-and-the-british-industrial-revolution/>>>.

Seaton,Sarah. *Childhood and Death in Victorian England*. South Yorkshire: Pen &Sword,2017. Print.

Simkin,John.” Spartacus Educational”. *Andrew Ure*. Spartacus Educational Publishers Ltd, n.d. Web.23 Mar 2020.<< <https://spartacus-educational.com/IRure.htm>>>

Simmons,James R. *Factory Lives: from Nineteenth-Century Working-Class Autobiographies*. Canada: Nineteenth Century British Autobiographies,2007. Print.

“Stepping up the Fight Against Child Labour”. *International Labour Organization*. International Labour Organization, 11 June 2012. Web.3 June 2020.<< [https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_182508/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_182508/lang--en/index.htm)>>.

Tuttle,Carolyn. “ Child Labour During the British Industrial Revolution” by Robert Walphes.*EH.Net Encyclopaedia*. 17 Aug 2001. Web.1 Mar 2020. <<<https://eh.net/?s=child+labor+in+the+industrial+revolution>>>.

“The Worst Forms of Child Labour”. *International Labour Organization*. International Labour Organization ,n.d. Web. 5 June 2020.<<

<https://www.ilo.org/ipec/Campaignandadvocacy/Youthinaction/C182-Youth-orientated/worstforms/lang--en/index.htm#banner>>>.

Thompson, Edward Palmer. *the Making of the English Working Class*. United States: Pantheon Books, 1964. Print.

Wendy McElroy. “the Enclosure Act and the Industrial Revolution”. *the Future of Freedom Foundation*. the Future of Freedom Foundation,8 Mar 2012. Web.20 Feb 2020.<<  
<https://www.fff.org/explore-freedom/article/enclosure-acts-industrial-revolution/>>>.

“What Jobs did Children do Under Crowned”. *My Learning*. My Learning,2020. Web.20 May 2020.<< <https://www.mylearning.org/stories/coal-mining-and-the-victorians/236?>>>.