Introduction to Global Child Labor

ADULT EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Child Labor Publication Education Project

Child Labor Research Initiative
University of Iowa Labor Center
University of Iowa Human Rights
Introduction to Global Child Labor

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Additional components to Introduction to Global Child Labor:
• Instructor’s Manual
• Overheads
• Worksheets

http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/laborctr/child_labor/
What is Child Labor?

Not all work children do is child labor. Some forms of work teach important skills and responsibilities and contribute to healthy development . . . but many situations in which children work are considered child labor because they are harmful, hazardous, or keep children from attending school.

While exact definitions of child labor have varied over time, most organizations agree that child labor involves at least one of the following characteristics:

- violates a nation’s minimum age laws
- threatens children’s physical, mental, or emotional well-being
- involves intolerable abuse, such as child slavery, child trafficking, debt bondage, forced labor, or illicit activities
- prevents children from going to school
- uses children to undermine labor standards

“THERE IS WORK THAT PROFITS CHILDREN, AND THERE IS WORK THAT BRINGS PROFIT ONLY TO EMPLOYERS. THE OBJECT OF EMPLOYING CHILDREN IS NOT TO TRAIN THEM, BUT TO GET HIGH PROFITS FROM THEIR WORK.”

LEWIS HINE, AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHER AND CHILD LABOR ACTIVIST, 1908

Indiana, USA, 1908

Girls at weaving machines. Evansville, Indiana.
(Photo by Lewis Hine)

Girls at work hand-tying knots at a carpet loom.
(Photo by Kawanaka, courtesy of UNICEF)

Kathmandu, Nepal, 1997
How Widespread is Child Labor Today?

In 2002, the International Labor Organization (ILO) examined children’s work throughout the globe. In particular, the ILO reported estimates on the numbers of children doing the following kinds of work:

- Work that violates a nation’s minimum age laws
- Hazardous work that jeopardizes physical, mental, or moral well-being
- “Unconditional worst forms of child labour,” which include slavery, trafficking (moving children far from their homes or out of their countries to be sold into bondage, prostitution, or other coerced/forced employment), debt bondage (children working to pay off a poor family’s debt) and other forms of forced labor, forced recruitment for armed conflict, prostitution and pornography, and illicit activities.

**THE ILO STUDY FOUND:**

- 246 million children involved in child labor in 2002
- 179.4 million children involved in the worst forms of child labor (including hazardous work, and the “unconditional worst forms”—slavery, debt bondage, soldiering, prostitution and pornography, and illicit activities)
- Two-thirds of children involved in the worst forms of child labor are between the ages of 5 and 14
Child Labor Can Be Found In Nearly Every Industry

### Agriculture

Nearly 70% of child labor occurs in agriculture, fishing, hunting, and forestry. In recent years, children have been found harvesting:
- bananas in Ecuador
- cocoa in the Ivory Coast
- cotton in Egypt and Benin
- tea in Argentina and Bangladesh
- oranges in Brazil
- cut flowers in Colombia

Children in commercial agriculture can face: long hours in extreme temperatures; health risks from pesticides; inadequate food, water, and sanitation; and little or no pay.

### Manufacturing

About 15 million children are estimated to be directly involved in manufacturing goods for export. Child labor has been documented in a variety of regions and industries, including a portion of the following products:
- Carpets from India, Pakistan, Egypt
- Clothing sewn in Bangladesh and footwear made in India and the Philippines
- Soccer balls sewn in Pakistan
- Glass and bricks made in India
- Fireworks made in China, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, and Peru
- Surgical instruments made in Pakistan

### Mining and Quarrying

Child laborers suffer extremely high illness and injury rates in underground mines, opencast mines, and quarries. Children as young as 6 or 7 years old work breaking up rocks, and washing, sieving, and carrying ore. Nine-year-olds work underground setting explosives and carrying loads. Children work in a range of mining operations, including:
- Gold in Colombia
- Diamonds in Cote d’Ivoire
- Charcoal in Brazil and El Salvador
- Emeralds in Colombia
- Chrome in Zimbabwe
- Coal in Mongolia

### The Unconditional Worst Forms of Child Labor

8.4 million children are involved in work which, under any circumstances, is considered unacceptable for children. This includes the sale and trafficking of children into debt bondage, serfdom, and forced or compulsory labor. It includes the forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. It includes the use of children in illicit activities, such as producing and trafficking drugs.

### Hotels, Restaurants, Retail

Some of the work of young people in this sector is considered legitimate, but there are indications of considerable abuse. Low pay is the norm, and in some tourist areas, children’s work in hotels and restaurants is linked to prostitution. In at least one example, child hotel workers received such low pay that they had to take out loans from their employers; the terms of the interest and repayment often led to debt bondage.

### Domestic Service

Large numbers of children, especially girls, work in domestic service, sometimes starting as young as 5 or 6. This category of child labor has clear links to child trafficking. Domestic child laborers can be victims of physical, emotional, and sometimes sexual abuse.
Child Labor Reform and the U.S. Labor Movement

1832 New England unions condemn child labor: the New England Association of Farmers, Mechanics and Other Workingmen resolve that “Children should not be allowed to labor in the factories from morning till night, without any time for healthy recreation and mental culture,” for it “endangers their . . . well-being and health”

1836 Early trade unions propose state minimum age laws: union members at the National Trades’ Union Convention make the first formal, public proposal recommending that states establish minimum ages for factory work

1836 First state child labor law: Massachusetts requires children under 15 working in factories to attend school at least 3 months/year

1842 States begin limiting children’s work days: Massachusetts limits children’s work days to 10 hours; other states soon pass similar laws’—but most of these laws are not consistently enforced

1876 Labor movement urges minimum age law: Working Men’s Party proposes banning the employment of children under the age of 14

1881 Newly formed AFL supports state minimum age laws: the first national convention of the American Federation of Labor passes a resolution calling on states to ban children under 14 from all gainful employment

1883 New York unions win state reform: led by Samuel Gompers, New York labor movement successfully sponsors legislation prohibiting cigar making in tenements, where thousands of young children work in the trade

1892 Democrats adopt union recommendations: Democratic Party adopts platform plank based on union recommendations to ban factory employment for children under 15

1904 National Child Labor Committee forms: aggressive national campaign for federal child labor law reform begins

1916 New federal law sanctions state violators: first federal child labor law prohibits movement of goods across state lines if minimum age laws are violated (law in effect only until 1918, when it’s declared unconstitutional, then revised, passed, and declared unconstitutional again)

1924 First attempt to gain federal regulation fails: Congress passes a constitutional amendment giving the federal government authority to regulate child labor, but too few states ratify it and it never takes effect

1936 Federal purchasing law passes: Walsh-Healey Act states that the U.S. government will not purchase goods made by underage children

1937 Second attempt to gain federal regulation fails: second attempt to ratify constitutional amendment giving federal government authority to regulate child labor falls just short of getting necessary votes

1937 New federal law sanctions growers: Sugar Act makes sugar beet growers ineligible for benefit payments if they violate state minimum age and hours of work standards

1938 Federal regulation of child labor achieved in Fair Labor Standards Act: for the first time, minimum ages of employment and hours of work for children are regulated by federal law
### U.S. Federal Child Labor Laws

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<th>Non-Agricultural Employment</th>
<th>Agricultural Employment</th>
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| **Minimum Age for "Non-Hazardous" Employment** | 14 years old  
*Exceptions include: newspaper delivery, performing in radio, television, movie, or theatrical productions, or work for parents in family business (except manufacturing or hazardous jobs)* | 10 and 11-years-old, with parental consent, on farms not covered by minimum wage requirements  
12 and 13-years-old, with parental consent  
14 and 15-years-old, no restrictions on non-hazardous work |
| **Minimum Age for Hazardous Employment**          | 18 years old                                                                                   | 16 years old                                                                                     |
| **Maximum Hours of Employment for youth under 16-years-old** | No work during school hours. Additionally:  
On school days: 3 hours/day, 18 hours/week maximum  
When school is out of session: 8 hours/day, 40 hours/week  
Labor Day to May 31: work must occur between 7am - 7pm  
June 1-Labor Day: all work must occur between 7am - 9pm | No work during school hours. |
| **Federal Minimum Wage and Overtime**             | Federal Minimum is $5.15 per hour  
Youth Minimum is $4.25 per hour for employees under 20 years of age during their first 90 consecutive calendar days of employment with an employer  
Overtime (1-1/2 regular pay) must be paid after 40 hf./wk. | Many agricultural employers are exempt from federal minimum wage requirements  
For agricultural employers who are not exempt from minimum wage laws, the same federal and youth minimum discussed in the non-agricultural section would apply.  
Agricultural employees are exempt from overtime requirements under federal law |
### Iowa Child Labor Law

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Minimum Age for “Non-Hazardous” Employment</th>
<th>Non-Agricultural Employment</th>
<th>Agricultural Employment</th>
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</table>
| 14 years-old, with work permit (permit also required for 15-year-olds)  
10 to 15-year-olds must have a work permit and school certification to deliver newspapers or perform other street occupation, such as selling items door to door | Migratory workers must be 12-years-old and a work permit is required until 16-years-old  
Part-time agricultural work is exempt  
(No minimum age, no permits required up to 14 hours/week during school year, 20 hours/week outside of school year)  
14 years-old for certain types of seed production, including removal of corn tassels during June, July, August (no work permit is required) | |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Minimum Age for Hazardous Employment</th>
<th>Non-Agricultural Employment</th>
<th>Agricultural Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 years old</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<th>Maximum Hours of Employment for youth under 16-years-old</th>
<th>Non-Agricultural Employment</th>
<th>Agricultural Employment</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| No work during school hours. Additionally:  
On school days: 4 hours/day, 28 hours/week maximum  
When school is out of session: 8 hours/day, 40 hours/week  
Labor Day to May 31: work must occur between 7am - 7pm  
June 1-Labor Day: all work must occur between 7am - 9pm  
Workdays of 5 hours or more must allow a 30-minute break  
Street vendors may work between 4am - 7:30pm from Labor Day to June 1, and from 4am-8:30pm the rest of the year.  
Child models may work no more than 3 hours/day and 12 hours/month. They may work between 7am - 10pm. |  
No work during school hours.  
12 to 16-year-old migratory workers may work between 5am - 7:30pm from Labor Day to June 1, and between 5am - 9pm the rest of the year  
No limits on work hours for some types of seed production, including removal of corn tassels, during June, July, August | |

Legal Standards to Protect Children from Harmful Work

Around the world, most nations’ child labor laws:
- set 14 or 15 as the minimum age for work
- prohibit children under 18 from doing hazardous work

Many international standards have also been ratified by a majority of countries through the United Nations and International Labor Organization:

ILO Convention 138
Sets minimum age of 15 for employment

ILO Convention 182
Prohibits the “worst forms” of child labor and requires countries to act toward eliminating “worst forms”

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Guarantees children rights to protection from economic exploitation and hazardous work, and access to health care and education

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 23
Guarantees workers the right to join unions and receive just compensation for work

ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
Declares the rights to: join a union and bargain collectively, reject forced labor, work free from discrimination, and reject child labor

Unfortunately, existing laws and international standards are often violated.

Many countries and states:
- lack effective laws to protect children.
- include exemptions that make laws unenforceable or only cover children in certain industries.
- rarely enforce existing laws on child labor, or are under pressure from employers or local governments not to enforce laws.
- lack funds or trained personnel to enforce laws.

Did you know?
- Since it was adopted by the United Nations in 1989, only two countries have not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Somalia and the United States.
- As of 2000, Iowa had only two full-time officers responsible for enforcing labor laws. In survey responses, officials commented that due to understaffing, the state labor board could only investigate when they received complaints, and rarely had time to perform on-site inspections.
Why is Child Labor Still So Prevalent Today?

Some National Laws Include Exemptions or Lack Enforcement
For example, child labor is more common in agriculture than in any other industry, in part because national laws frequently exempt agricultural labor or set lower standards for agriculture compared to other industries. Similarly, many young girls work under oppressive conditions as domestic servants, but domestic labor is often unregulated by law.

Subcontracting Hides Exploitive Labor Conditions
Extensive subcontracting can intentionally or unintentionally hide the use of child labor and other exploitive labor in the manufacturing process, as demonstrated by the production chain of one line of J.C. Penney infant clothing sold in 1996:

Some Employers Violate Existing Laws
Even some of the largest multinational corporations have been found violating child labor laws. For example, in the year 2000, Wal-Mart was charged by the state of Maine for over 2,000 child labor violations. The retailer had violated child labor laws in every one of its stores in the state.

Poverty and Unemployment Levels are High
In the year 2000, 6 billion people were estimated to be living in the world – 1.2 billion were living in absolute poverty. Since then, global unemployment has grown by 20 million. Poor children and families are much more likely to resort to child labor in order to survive.

Educational Opportunities are Limited
Approximately 125 million children do not attend school throughout the world. The Global Campaign for Education estimates that free, quality education for all children would cost ten billion dollars, the same as 4 days of global military spending.

Workers’ Rights are Under Attack
The ability of adults to organize unions has an important impact on the international protection of core labor standards, including child labor. According to a survey by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, workers across the globe suffered widespread attacks during the year 2001. In that year:
- 223 unionists were murdered or “disappeared”
- over 4,000 were arrested
- 1,000 were injured
- 10,000 were fired as a result of their union activity.
Free Trade and Globalization: Raising New Challenges

Today, the many factors that lead to exploitive child labor play out not just in individual countries, but on a global scale. Though countries agree on the importance of core labor standards, in practice many obstacles to their enforcement remain.

Global Competition
As multinational corporations expand across borders, countries often find themselves in competition with each other for jobs, investment, and industry. International competition sometimes works to slow child labor reforms by encouraging corporations and government to seek low labor costs by resisting enforceable international standards.

Free Trade Rules
Some U.S. legislation has begun to include labor standards and child labor as criteria for preferential trade and for goods procured under federal contracts. However, international free trade rules often do not take worker rights or child labor into account.

In fact, when U.S. Senators proposed legislation banning imports of goods made with child labor in the early 1990’s, Congressional researchers acknowledged that such a ban would likely violate current rules of the World Trade Organization. Under WTO rules, countries affected by a child labor import ban could challenge the ban as an unfair trade barrier or impose fines on U.S. exports as penalty for the violation.

Debt and Structural Adjustment
Economically poor countries often face staggering interest payments on development loans from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. The loans are often accompanied by requirements that the country cut government spending on public programs, such as health and education, and privatize government jobs.

In addition to crises such as war and disease, debt is one factor that may be influencing low school attendance in Sub-Saharan Africa (where 48 million children under 14 work). While Sub-Saharan Africa pays $40 million on debt each day, 40% of its children receive no education. In the 1990’s, the number of children entering primary schools declined in 17 African countries.

New Delhi, 2002

“RATHER THAN TRADE PROVIDING INCREASED RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS, IT HAS ALL TOO OFTEN RESULTED IN GOVERNMENTS ACTUALLY REDUCING WORKERS’ RIGHTS IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE LABOR COSTS. ALL THE [CORE LABOR] STANDARDS...HAVE BEEN UNDER ATTACK.”

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS “SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF GLOBALIZATION” REPORT, 2002
Unions and the Global Struggle Against Child Labor

Unions are increasingly recognizing direct connections between worker rights and the fight against child labor. Both historically and in today’s global economy:

- strong unions are an important protection against child labor.
- when parents are able to improve conditions through effective unions, children are much less likely to have to work.
- active struggles against child labor tend to make unions and worker rights stronger in general.

“WHEN ADULTS’ TRADE UNION RIGHTS ARE REPRESSED, CHILD LABOUR IS PREVALENT”
TIM NOONAN, INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>BRAZIL</td>
<td>In Brazil, where children are regularly employed in the footwear and garment industries, on plantations, in mines, and at “informal” jobs like selling goods on the street, Brazil’s largest labor federation (the CUT) is carrying out a nationwide program to educate local trade unionists on child labor issues and to organize community support for the local enforcement of child labor law. Brazil’s National Confederation of Workers in Agriculture (CONTAG) trains its union leaders to bargain for contract clauses limiting child labor and/or requiring employers to provide child workers with education, and one Union of Rural Workers has started a successful “goat-to-school” program that loans goats to families who can use them for income if they remove children from work and sent them to school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERU</td>
<td>In urban areas, where a 1996 survey found 4.3 million child workers, Peru’s national labor federation (the CUT) has begun funding, training, and staffing to make education programs available to children working in street markets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BANGLADESH</td>
<td>Many children working in especially hazardous workplaces such as automotive and welding workshops have been removed through a program run by the Building and Woodworkers’ Federation and the Metal Workers’ Union. After leaving work, children are enrolled in education and assistance programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIA</td>
<td>In a region where many children under 12 were performing hazardous work in slate mines, India’s All India Trades Union Council organized a visit to the mines and mobilized their members to organize a campaign against child labor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UGANDA</td>
<td>Child labor is commonplace on tea plantations throughout the world. To control part of the problem, Uganda’s National Union of Plantation and Agricultural Workers has signed an agreement with the Uganda Tea Association prohibiting child labor under the age of 18. The resulting Memorandum of Understanding states, “UTA and NUPAW agree that employment of children under the age of 18 years is not condoned and therefore management shall not directly employ or allow employees to bring children in the Estates to work their task.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IVORY COAST</td>
<td>In the Ivory Coast, where 15,000 children aged 9 to 12 are sold into a form of slavery to work on cocoa, coffee, and cotton plantations, the International Union of Food and Allied Workers (IUF) is signing agreements with employers requiring them to commit to ending child slavery.</td>
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International Solidarity: Local Action toward Global Solutions

Along with harming children directly, exploitive child labor undermines labor standards and affects workers everywhere. Internationally, widespread child labor:

- provides a source of cheap/exploitable labor, contributing to global poverty
- contributes to the erosion of workers’ rights and undermines workers’ bargaining power
- endangers the future of labor movements and civil society by interfering with education, creating generations of future adults who lack knowledge of rights and how to exercise them as workers and citizens.

In other words: child labor affects all workers and citizens!

Many workers and unions in the U.S. and other industrialized countries are supporting efforts to end child labor by forging alliances with unions in other countries, working to achieve enforceable global labor standards, and holding transnational companies accountable for labor practices.

Examples of effective recent child labor solidarity strategies include:

Supporting workers’ struggles to organize unions and reject child labor

In 2001 factory monitors confirmed illegal union-busting and other violations – including employment of 13–15 year-old children—at a Mexican factory sewing clothing with university logos for Nike and other U.S. companies. Thousands of American students, workers, and consumers wrote letters to corporate CEOs protesting worker treatment. The international solidarity campaign helped factory workers to overcome violence, intimidation, and mass firings when they tried to organize, and after months of struggle, workers won an independent union.

In 2002, as news of child labor abuses and attacks on workers in Ecuador’s banana plantations spread around the world, workers, consumers, and students contacted Los Alamos plantation owner Alvaro Noboa to demand that he recognize the workers’ union and cease using illegal child labor. Presidents of the AFL-CIO, the International Union of Food and Allied Workers (IUF), the Teamsters, and many other labor leaders also issued letters in support of the Los Alamos workers’ struggle.

Campaigning for institutions to adopt and enforce codes of conduct

When the 2000 Olympics were held in Sydney, Australia, Australian labor federations created and signed an agreement with the Olympic organizing committee requiring all sponsors and licensees to adhere to minimum labor standards, including international conventions on child labor.

Pressure from human rights groups, consumers, and international trade unions led the group overseeing the World Cup (FIFA – Federation Internationale de Football Association) to adopt a Code in 1998 stating it would cease using soccer balls made with child labor. This year, when reports indicated that children were still working in the soccer ball industry and that adult workers were not being paid a living wage, activists launched a new publicity and letter-writing campaign, mobilizing soccer fans, consumers, and politicians to demand FIFA improve factory monitoring and live up to the promises in its Code.
Implementing and supporting fair trade or labeling initiatives

Through programs developed by non-profit organizations, export goods like coffee or cocoa can now be certified as “Fair Trade” products if producers adhere to basic labor standards – including ILO conventions on child labor – and pay farmers fair prices, so families can meet basic living needs without having children work for wages. Groups like TransFair USA and others help to publicize Fair Trade initiatives and educate consumers about Fair Trade products.

When the use of child labor in the rug-making industries of Pakistan and India gained international publicity in the 1990s, consumer groups – building on the history of effective “union label” initiatives – worked with manufacturers to begin phasing out the use of child labor and licensing companies to use “no child labor” labels if production facilities were regularly inspected by independent monitors. The resulting “RUGMARK” label program uses licensing fees to fund monitoring programs and education and rehabilitation for children removed from carpet jobs. Consumer groups and unions play a role in educating the public about the label program and ensuring it maintains strict standards for licensed companies.

Using collective bargaining strategies

The International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers’ Unions (ICEM) signed in 2000 and recently renewed a “global agreement” with the multinational Freudenberg corporation, which owns chemical and rubber manufacturing plants all over the world. Freudenberg is headquartered in Germany/Japan, but the agreement covers all Freudenberg workers in the U.S. and 40 other countries. Among other recognitions of workers’ rights, the agreement commits Freudenberg to a ban on “child labour according to the definitions included in ILO Convention 138.”

Promoting global labor standards in trade agreements

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions continues to propose adding a “social clause” covering seven core labor standards, including prohibitions on child labor, to WTO rules governing international trade. This proposal has so far been rejected by WTO leaders. Trade agreements between the U.S. and Cambodia have successfully included incentives for garment manufacturers to improve factory working conditions. Agreements require factory owners to respect core labor standards, including eliminating child labor and respecting workers’ rights to organize unions and collectively bargain.

Filing suit against corporations for labor rights abuses abroad

The International Labor Rights Fund and other groups have begun pursuing legal action against companies for alleged labor abuses in other countries. In 1996, ILRF filed a suit against Unocal for using slave labor to build pipelines in Burma. With the support of U.S. labor unions, ILRF recently filed a suit against Coca-Cola for using paramilitary forces to suppress organizing and assassinate union leaders in Colombia (these suits are still pending). If effective, this strategy could be used in the future to hold transnational corporations accountable for child labor abuses.
Toward Eliminating Child Labor:
Resources and Current Campaigns

Campaign to end labor rights' abuses on banana plantations
Human Rights Watch: www.hrw.org/campaigns/ecuador
Page contains information and links to an informative recent report, Tainted Harvest: Child Labor and Obstacles to Organizing on Ecuador's Banana Plantations.

Campaign to end child slavery in the cocoa/chocolate industry
Child Labor Coalition: www.stopchildlabor.org/internationalchildlabor/chocolate.htm
Page contains facts about child slavery and current campaigns to change conditions on West African plantations.

Campaign to end child labor in soccer ball manufacturing
Child Labor Coalition: www.stopchildlabor.org/Consumercampaigns/foractivists.htm
Page contains links to informational fliers and current campaign materials urging improved monitoring of child labor and soccer ball labelling programs.

Corporate responsibility campaigns
National Labor Committee: www.nlcnnet.org
Page gives details about current campaigns focused on U.S. corporations cited for sweatshop and child labor abuses.

Children in the Fields Campaign - U.S. Agricultural Child Labor
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs: www.afop.org/frames.html
Page contains pictures, facts, and information about the campaign to end exploitive child labor in U.S. agriculture.

Global unions campaign
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: www.icftu.org
Select “Child Labour” on the left column. Page gives news, reports, and activities regarding the global union movement's campaign to combat child labor.

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
Website contains reports, statistics, and information about international conventions and programs to combat child labor. It also contains suggestions for action, as well as news and events information.

Fair Trade purchasing
TransFair USA: www.transfairusa.org
Read about Fair Trade products available in the U.S., how to purchase Fair Trade coffee, and campaigns under way to expand the availability of other fair trade products.

Global March Against Child Labor
Global March: www.globalmarch.org/index.html
Read recent news about child labor around the world, link to detailed reports, photos, case studies, and information about current campaigns.

International Child Labor Program
U.S. Department of Labor: www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/iclp/
Find detailed reports covering many aspects of the child labor problem and proposed solutions, as well as news and updates.

Youth and Labor in the U.S.
The Department of Labor is responsible for monitoring child labor in the U.S. and enforcing child labor laws.
Page contains information about child labor laws, statistics, and initiatives in the United States.