

ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR 2021



INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

'Child labour is work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential, and their dignity.'

Many of these innocent children work within the fashion supply chain, to make garments to satisfy the demand of consumers in Europe, US and other parts of the western world. Sofie Ovaa says "There are many girls in countries like India and Bangladesh, who are willing to **work for very low prices** and are easily brought into these industries **under false promises** of earning decent wages."

170 MILLION CHILDREN ENGAGED IN CHILD LABOUR



2.4 MILLION

2.4 million children are forced to transfer pollen from one plant to another, facing exposure to pesticides, all to be **paid below minimum wage**. In South India they force children to work, and managers **threaten to put hormones in their food** to stop them menstruating, as women are seen to be less productive during their period.



COUNTRIES INVOLVED

It is estimated that **60% of workers in India, are under 18**, who work under harsh conditions in spinning mills, to make the clothes supported in the fashion industry.

Child labour often occurs largely in the fashion industry. Unfortunately, even if brands have strict guidelines in place for suppliers, **work often gets sub-contracted** to other factories that the buyer may not even know about.



FAST FASHION CULPRITS

The sad truth is that these multi-million dollar fashion companies that entice people to buy from them, **do not even know themselves where the textiles comes from**. First parties involved may have regulations in place, however down the chain, it is unknown.

96 HOURS

PER WEEK is the normal working week for a garment worker



14-16 HOURS

PER DAY is the average working day in most manufacturing countries



SCHOOL KIDS VS WORKING KIDS;

Children are forced to work between **14-16 hours, seven days a week**, to meet fashion consumers' deadlines, in the fast fashion industry. These workers can **stay up until 3 am** just to satisfy corporate roles, and unfortunately are not in a position to refuse overtime pay, due to their families' financial stability.

The average **child in the UK** attends school for **6.5 hours a day**, for only 5 days a week. They also have the luxury to attend sports or activity clubs all without stress of financially supporting their family.

TAKE ACTION!

Overall numbers are decreasing, in the **right direction**. Since 2000, there has been a **38% decrease** from **246 to 152** million children.

As individuals we can help, by taking a pledge. Use the **#endchildlabour2021** and take to social media on how you will be involved in making a difference.

How to make a difference!

- 1) Research and find brands to support where you know adequate measures are in place. **Fair Wear foundation** have a list of over 128 brands!
- 2) Support **Fair Trade**, since they benefit low income families, which will ultimately prevent children from working and they can stay in education.

