

Cultural Beliefs And Economic Pressures: Dual Drivers Of Child Labour

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Abstract : *Child trafficking is a widespread social problem shaped by cultural norms and economic forces, especially in at-risk areas like Africa. Current statistics indicate that one in three identified trafficking victims is a child, with exploitation often rooted in poverty and societal beliefs that normalize such practices. The objective of this study, therefore, was to analyze the influence of cultural ideas and practices on child trafficking, as well as to explore the economic conditions that intensified this problem. Mixed-Methods Approach was adopted to understand these dynamics. By employing qualitative methods, including interviews and focus groups and integrating qualitative interviews, the research ultimately sought to provide policy solutions to tackle the socio-economic variables and cultural attitudes contributing to child trafficking. The paper was anchored on Rational Choice Theory envisioned by Cesare Beccaria's (1764) as a framework for analysis. Findings showed that the task of rescuing, rehabilitating and reintegrating victims of this anomaly into the normal life of the society appears daunting as a result of the physical, emotional and mental torture that they have been subjected to. This paper concluded that there is need to safeguard at-risk societies from further exploitation by tackling these two factors. It recommended the enhancement of educational opportunities, promotion of gender equality and implementation of community awareness initiatives designed to alter detrimental cultural behaviours as the way forward.*

Keywords: Child Trafficking, Child Labour, Cultural Beliefs, Economic Pressure, Vulnerability, Exploitation, Poverty.

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria, like many other countries in the Sub-Saharan African region is plagued by a number of social problems such as poverty, unemployment, insecurity, and harsh economic conditions (Kwagyang, Saulawa & Daud, 2016). Child trafficking has emerged as a significant concern at both global and national levels. Onyeizugbo (2011) observes that despite the cessation of the slave trade, this abhorrent practice continues to flourish in our society. Trafficking has been recognized as a reprehensible crime that abuses society's most vulnerable individuals (United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF, 2013). Children are susceptible to exploitation and abuse due to their inherent fragility. The susceptibility of these children is significantly heightened when arriving in a foreign nation, where they lack familial contact and are subject to the whims of their employers. Such victims, who are mostly children, are usually coerced into domestic slavery and subjected to sexual abuse during this process. Minors are occasionally compelled into early marriage to provide financial relief for the family or to settle a debt (UNICEF, 2011).

In Nigeria, children are trafficked, commoditized, and exploited akin to contemporary slavery, frequently subjected to physical abuse, starvation, and coerced into prostitution or menial labour in domestic settings, restaurants, or factories with minimal or no remuneration. Consequently, Nigeria ranks among the foremost nations in child trafficking within the African region (UNESCO, 2009).

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are to:

- Identify the major factors responsible for the growing menace of Child Labour in Nigeria.
- Determine the nexus between Child Trafficking and Child Labour in Nigeria.
- Analyze the influence of cultural ideas and practices on child trafficking in Nigeria.
- Ascertain the role of Economic Pressures towards the escalation of this trend.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Culture

Culture is intrinsically central to human existence. It refers to the totality of the life pattern of a given people which includes their knowledge, beliefs, behaviours, art, morals, law customs and material objects shared by its members. Culture manifest in the way we act, think, and behave based on the shared values of our society. It is how we understand symbols, from language to hand gestures. Culture is characteristically dynamic, and we continually develop and define our culture on a daily basis.

Cultural Beliefs

Cultural belief refers to the learned and shared inclinations, ideas or attachments that exist within a group of people. These beliefs are shaped by cultural knowledge and can vary among individuals based on their cultural competence and access to information. In other words, cultural belief connotes the shared values, norms, and practices that are prevalent within a specific group or society, guiding their behaviour and influencing their worldview.

Economic Pressure

Economic pressure refers to the financial strain and challenges faced by individuals, communities, or governments. These challenges often arise from shifts in demographic composition, labor market dynamics, and resource availability. Individuals continually strive to earn higher incomes to sustain their lifestyles, provide for their families, and secure their futures.

Over the years, successive governments in Nigeria have introduced various policies aimed at achieving sustainable economic development (Orjiako, Nwafor & Orju, 2024). However, the pressure to meet financial obligations can often be overwhelming, affecting the stability and well-being of individuals and communities alike.

Child Trafficking

The term “trafficking” is broad and elastic in scope. However, within the context of this discussion, it denotes the illegal transactions or exchange of individuals (in whole or parts) for financial gains. It is, however, pertinent to state that the most prevalent form of trafficking is ‘child trafficking’. The United States government defines child trafficking as encompassing all illegal activities related to forced labour and sex trafficking, namely actions that include coercing or maintaining an individual in involuntary servitude (United States Department Report, 2013). The report further maintained that traffickers operate “baby factories” often disguised as orphanages and maternity homes where young girls are held against their will, raped and forced to carry and deliver children. Huntley (2013) added that the youngsters are subsequently sold, often with the purpose of exploiting them in forced labour and sex trafficking. The menace of child trafficking is not exclusively associated with any given environment alone. Rather, it cuts across virtually all facets of the human society in varying degrees with greater cases emanating from poorer countries characterized by high level of poverty, deprivation, social exclusion, financial burdens and marginalization. Njoku (2016) argued that child trafficking in Nigeria has become multi-dimensional and many people are involved at both family and community levels, as well as at border or international transactions. Within Nigeria, girls are trafficked primarily for domestic servitude and commercial sexual exploitation while boys are trafficked for forced labour in street vending and agricultural purposes, as well as to render domestic services. Further investigations show that in the northern parts of the country, teachers in the Islamic religion also traffic boys called Almajiri for “forced begging”, particularly in and across major commercial cities (United States Department Report, 2009). Ndifon, Apori & Ndifon (2012) maintained that aside prostitution, forced marriage and forced labour, some of the victims are used for rituals, begging and even for organ transplanting.

Although several studies in the past have identified poverty as the major causative factor responsible for the increasing level of child trafficking in the country, a number of findings in recent times show that ignorance, desperation and the promotion and commercialization of sex largely contribute to this growing trend. Other salient causes include unplanned migration, increased rate of unemployment and harsh economic condition, among others. Some significant efforts have been made by successive governments in Nigeria to combat the menace of child trafficking, for instance, Nigeria ratified most of the important international instruments for fighting human trafficking and protecting women and children. These, according to Huntley (2013) include:

- a) The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and the Palermo Protocol in 2001.
- b) The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to it on the Sale of Children, and
- c) The Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2003 and Child Rights Act 2003.

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) and other related matters was established to combat human trafficking. Children that are trafficked are exploited across diverse economic sectors for multiple purposes. In Nigeria, children are trafficked for many purposes, including sexual exploitation, begging, underpaid and exploited forced labour in agriculture, manufacturing, construction, domestic work, and organ trafficking (UNODC, 2016). Nigeria possesses vast natural and human resources; nevertheless, its economic stability is severely undermined by debt burdens and entrenched corruption. It is a resource-abundant sovereign political entity characterized by pervasive poverty. According to Kwagyang, Saulawa & Daud (2016), impoverished families are susceptible to coercion to employ or sell their children due to insufficient resources to sustain their household. Majority of trafficked victims, primarily women and girls, are coerced through intimidation and frequently compelled to engage in the sex trade or subjected to manual labour and servitude, UNODC (2011).

Factors responsible for Child Trafficking

The underlying reasons for trafficking are many and can vary between countries. Trafficking is a multifaceted phenomenon frequently propelled or shaped by social, economic, cultural, and additional elements. Numerous aspects are particular to distinct trafficking patterns and the states in which they transpire. Nonetheless, a number of identifiable elements are typically associated with trafficking universally or observed across various places, patterns, or situations. A contributing factor is that the aspirations of potential victims to migrate are manipulated by perpetrators to recruit and establish initial compliance, subsequently supplanted by more coercive tactics once the victims are relocated to a different state or region, which may not align with their intended destination.

Common factors include local realities that compel populations to migrate in pursuit of improved circumstances such as poverty, oppression, deprivation of human rights, absence of social or economic opportunities, threats from violence or instability, and analogous situations. Political instability, militarism, civil unrest, internal armed conflict, and natural calamities may lead to an escalation in trafficking. The destabilization and displacement of populations heighten their susceptibility to exploitation and abuse through trafficking and forced labour. War and civil unrest often leads to significant displacement populations, rendering orphans and street children very susceptible to trafficking.

These reasons often impose constraints on victims that compel them to migrate, thereby placing them under the influence of traffickers; however, other variables that attract potential victims can also be substantial. Poverty and wealth are relative concepts that influence migration and trafficking patterns, wherein victims transit from extreme poverty to less severe poverty conditions. In this perspective, the swift proliferation of broadcast and telecommunication media, including the Internet, throughout the developing world may have heightened the aspiration to migrate to wealthy nations and, consequently, the susceptibility of potential migrants to traffickers.

More so, the habit of entrusting impoverished children to wealthier acquaintances or relatives tends to increase the chances of vulnerability. Certain parents sell their children, not solely for financial gain, but also with the aspiration that their offspring may evade a state of persistent poverty and relocate to an environment with enhanced prospects and chances.

Most children trafficked for forced labour and domestic work often end up being sexually exploited by their employers. Children are often trafficked, employed and exploited because compared to adults, they are more vulnerable, cheaper to hire and are less likely to demand higher wages or better working conditions. In recent years, traffickers in Nigeria have started exploiting their victims for baby harvesting which is a more dangerous and complex form of child trafficking (Huntley, 2013). Teenage girls are brought by traffickers to the baby factory with false promises of jobs or safe abortions; and as a result, they are confined and forced to give birth. Some of the victims are trafficked while pregnant; others are later impregnated by men specially hired for such purpose. Consequently, their babies are sold for international or domestic adoption, rituals, slave labour or sexual exploitation (Huntley, 2013).

Child Labour

For better understanding of the concept of child labour, it is essential to first delineate the term 'child.' This is evident from the most relevant instrument concerning children, namely the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The initial article of the convention defines "a child" as "any human being below 18 years of age", unless the applicable law permits an earlier attainment of majority. It is important to note that, despite this provision, national laws may establish a lower age at which childhood and, consequently, child labour concludes.

Alongside the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, nearly all studies on child labour reference the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Conventions Nos. 138 and 182, as well as their associated Recommendation Nos. 146 and 190, to elucidate the concept of child labour. Regarding the minimum age for job admittance, ILO Convention 138 specifically mandates that member nations must:

- 1) Implement a national policy aimed at the complete eradication of child labour and gradually increase the minimum age for employment to align with the optimal physical and mental development of youth (Article 1);
- 2) Establish a minimum age for employment or work within its jurisdiction and on transport registered in its jurisdiction (Article 2(1)), which shall not be below the age of completion of compulsory education and, in any event, shall not be less than 15 years (Article 2(3)), although it may be exceptionally reduced to 14 years in countries with underdeveloped economies and educational systems (Article 2(4));
- 3) Establish 18 years as the minimum age for entry into any form of employment or labour, particularly in circumstances that may endanger the health, safety, or morality of minors (Article 3(1)). In certain instances, this may be reduced to 16 years (Article 3(3)).

This Convention establishes a differentiation between 'child labour' and 'light work'. Consequently, as outlined in Article 7 of the Convention, national laws or regulations may authorize the employment or engagement of individuals aged 13 to 15 in light work that is:

- i. Unlikely to pose a risk to their health or development, and
- ii. Not to the extent that it adversely affects their school attendance, participation in occupational orientation or training programs sanctioned by the relevant authorities, or their ability to benefit from the education provided.

Partially issued to supplement the convention and suggestion about the minimum age for job admittance, and referencing the Convention on the Rights of the Child established by the UN General Assembly and ILO Convention 182, the following delineate the worst types of child labour:

- 1) All manifestations of slavery or analogous practices, including the sale and trafficking of minors, debt bondage, serfdom, and forced or compulsory labor, encompassing the involuntary recruitment of children for military purposes (Article 3(a))
- 2) The utilization, acquisition, or provision of a minor for prostitution, the creation of pornography, or for pornographic exhibitions (Article 3(b));
- 3) The utilization, acquisition, or provision of a kid for unlawful operations, specifically for the manufacture and distribution of narcotics as delineated in pertinent international treaties (Article 3(c)); and
- 4) Work that, due to its inherent characteristics or the conditions under which it is performed, poses a risk to the health, safety, or morals of children (Article 3(d)).

The agreement aims to implement steps to prohibit the aforementioned worst kinds of child labour, aligning its definition of a child with the UN CRC's inclusion of all individuals under the age of 18. Recommendation 190 elucidates the definition of hazardous labour as outlined in Article 3(d) of the Convention. To ascertain the dangerous character of any activity in which children participate, the following criteria are established:

- a) Labour that subjects children to physical, psychological, or sexual exploitation;
- b) Perform tasks underground, underwater, at perilous elevations, or in restricted areas;
- c) Engage with hazardous machinery, equipment, and tools, or require the manual handling or transportation of substantial loads;
- d) Function in an adverse environment that may, for instance, expose children to toxic substances, agents, or processes, or to detrimental temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations affecting their health;
- e) Perform labour under exceptionally challenging circumstances, including extended hours, nocturnal shifts, or situations where the youngster is unjustly restricted to the employer's premises.

According to these agreements and recommendations, child labour include the employment of individuals under the age of fourteen in any form of work, as well as the engagement of youngsters aged fifteen to seventeen. Child labour constitutes a breach of essential human rights and obstructs the development of children. In some states, social or cultural practices also contribute to trafficking. For example, the devaluation of women and girls in a society makes them disproportionately vulnerable to trafficking.

Additionally, porous borders, corrupt government officials, the involvement of transnational organized crime networks, and the insufficient capacity or commitment of immigration and law enforcement authorities to secure borders are significant challenges. More so, the absence of sufficient legislation and the lack of political will and commitment to implement current laws or mandates are other factors that enable human trafficking.

In addressing the aforementioned root causes, the majority of prevention techniques can be classified into one of the following categories:

- a) Mitigating the susceptibility of prospective victims by social and economic advancement
- b) Discouraging the demand for services provided by trafficking individuals
- c) Public education
- d) Border regulation
- e) Preventing the corruption of public officials.

Child Labour and Child Trafficking

The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and children, defines trafficking as:

“...The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of

vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”

The initial article of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as any human being under the age of 18 years. The ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No. 182), along with its respective Recommendations Nos. 146 and 190, constitute the principal framework for a formal definition of child labour. Convention 138 mandates that States Parties establish a minimum employment age of no less than 15 years, while poor nations may set this minimum at 14 years. Convention No. 138 clearly delineates the difference between child labour and light work. Convention 138 permits nations to set a lower minimum age for minors engaged in "light work," but mandates that no individual under 18 may be employed in "hazardous work." Convention 182 is unequivocal and forbids the following:

- i. All manifestations of slavery or analogous practices, including the sale and trafficking of minors, debt bondage, serfdom, and forced or compulsory labour, as well as the coerced recruitment of children for military purposes.
- ii. The utilization, acquisition, or provision of a kid for prostitution, the creation of pornography, or pornographic exhibitions;
- iii. The utilization, acquisition, or provision of a child for unlawful operations, specifically for the manufacture and distribution of narcotics as delineated in pertinent international agreements;
- iv. Employment that, because to its inherent characteristics or the conditions under which it is performed, poses a risk to the health, safety, or morality of minors.

ILO/IPEC delineates child labour as encompassing “all children under 15 years of age who are economically active, excluding:

- a) Those under 5 years old, and
- b) Those aged 12-14 who engage in work for fewer than 14 hours per week, unless their activities or occupations are inherently or circumstantially hazardous.”

Additionally, there are youngsters aged 15 to 17 engaged in the most egregious kinds of child labour. The ILO's Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor (SIMPOC) employs the following criteria for identifying child labour in its global estimates:

- ❖ A child under 12 who is economically active for one or more hours per week;
- ❖ A child aged 14 and under who is economically active for at least 14 hours per week;
- ❖ A child aged 17 and under who is economically active for at least 43 hours per week;
- ❖ A child aged 17 and under engaged in activities deemed "hazardous by nature or circumstance" for one or more hours per week; and
- ❖ A child aged 17 and under involved in an "unconditional worst form of child labour," including trafficking, bondage or forced labour, armed conflict, prostitution, pornography, or illicit activities.

The ILO 2006 report indicated that over 218 million children were engaged in child labour, with 126 million participating in the most egregious kinds of child labour, such as hazardous work, debt bondage, soldiering, prostitution, pornography, and criminal activities. The ILO survey revealed that around 122 million children aged 5 to 14 are involved in labor worldwide.

Effects of Child Labour and Child Trafficking

The ILO documents indicate that child labour can jeopardize the health, safety, and morality of children, exposing them to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse. The ILO's assessment of child labourers from 2004 to 2008 is partially founded on the risks that the nature of the employment presents to a child's health, safety, or morals (ILO: 2010). The consequences of child trafficking can be understood by analyzing its definition. The objective of trafficking is exploitation, which include prostitution, various forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or analogous acts, and servitude or organ removal. Exposure to these egregious behaviors will result in detrimental effects on a child's health, safety, and morals.

The Penal Code prohibits actions and inactions aimed at safeguarding minors from child labour and trafficking. The penalized acts and omissions encompass:

- a) Maltreatment of Minors (Article 576),
- b) Enslavement (Article 596),
- c) Trafficking in Women and Children (Article 597),
- d) Habitual Exploitation for Pecuniary Gain (Article 634),
- e) Trafficking in Women and Minors (Articles 635 & 636), and
- f) Neglect (Article 659).

The Role of Cultural Beliefs and Economic Pressures as Drivers of Child Labour in Nigeria

Poverty is the most frequently claimed cause for the continuation of child work. When family income is insufficient, children enter the workforce either to augment the income or to serve as the primary earners (Save the Children Denmark, 2003). Extreme poverty, teenage unemployment, and a limited market for unskilled labor are among the circumstances that compel individuals into child labour. The demand for inexpensive labor and assurances of consistent development and improved living situations serve as incentives for both child labour and trafficking. The elevated engagement of youngsters in labour activities is ascribed to the pervasive poverty levels, particularly in rural regions where access to fundamental social services is constrained..

In addition to poverty, unemployment and a limited market for unskilled labour are identified as factors that exacerbate child labour. Unemployment and limited market access compel individuals to undertake risks to capitalize on opportunities elsewhere. The demand for inexpensive unskilled labour underscores the significance of domestic servants in several metropolitan houses, where legally obtaining such services at minimal compensation can prove challenging. This prompted traffickers to enlist and transport women and children from impoverished rural regions to urban cities.

The global context of child trafficking is characterized by ongoing warfare, civil unrest, and natural calamities, which compel many individuals to contend with the fundamental requirements for survival. The prevalence of biased gender structures in rural areas is evident in the widespread practices of harmful behaviours. Traditions influencing women and children significantly contribute as push factors for trafficking. Entrenched gender inequities exacerbate the susceptibility of girls to child labour in some countries of the world. The existence of detrimental traditional practices such as abduction, early marriage, and female genital mutilation, particularly in rural regions, exacerbates the issue by driving migration and trafficking of girls to urban centers. Consequently, girls are compelled into domestic labour and child prostitution, where the most egregious kinds of child labour transpire.

The dissolution of families owing to divorce and factors such as the HIV/AIDS epidemic is another significant issue to consider. This has specifically contributed to an increase in the population of orphaned and vulnerable children. The illness and demise of parents and elder siblings necessitate that children partake in labor to care for ailing family members, finance their treatment, augment household revenue, and attend to younger siblings. This therefore heightens their susceptibility to exploitative labour.

The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC)

The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) is a regional accord that supplements the UNCRC. It was endorsed by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and pertains to matters concerning child rights. Article 15 of the ACRWC mandates the protection of every child from all forms of economic exploitation and from engaging in any work that may be hazardous or detrimental to the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development. It obliges the parties to the Charter to implement all necessary legislative and administrative measures accordingly.

Article 29 of the Charter forbids sale, trafficking, and abduction. It requests state parties to implement suitable measures to avert the abduction, sale, or trafficking of children for any purpose or in any form, by any individual, including parents or legal guardians, as well as the exploitation of children in all types of begging. Article 31 of the Charter uniquely imposes responsibility on the African Child. Consequently, every kid shall bear duties towards their family, society, the State, other legally recognized communities, and the international community, including:

- I. To promote family unity, to consistently respect parents, superiors, and elders, and to provide assistance in times of need;
- II. To contribute to his national community by utilizing his physical and intellectual capabilities for its benefit;
- III. To maintain and enhance social and national cohesion;
- IV. To uphold and reinforce African cultural values in interactions with other societal members, fostering tolerance, conversation, and consultation, while contributing to the moral integrity of the community;
- V. To maintain and enhance the sovereignty and integrity of his nation; and
- VI. To consistently devote his utmost capabilities at all levels for the advancement and realization of African Unity.

Theoretical Framework

This study was anchored on Rational Choice Theory as a framework for analysis. Rational Choice theory emerged in the late 18th century, primarily through Cesare Beccaria's (1764) publication, "Crime and Punishment." Since then, the theory has been elaborated and broadened to encompass additional views, including deterrence, situational crime prevention, and routine activity theory. Rational choice theory, commonly referred to as choice or rational action theory is a framework for comprehending and formally describing social and economic behavior.

Rational choice theory is grounded in the core principles of classical criminology, asserting that individuals exercise free will in their actions, driven by the desire to evade suffering and seek pleasure. Individuals assess their behaviors based on each option's capacity

to yield benefit, enjoyment, and contentment. Rational choice theory embraces a utilitarian perspective, positing that individuals are thinking agents who evaluate means and goals, costs and rewards, ultimately making rational decisions (Cornish & Clarke, 1987). Keel (1997), in support of rational choice theory, asserts that individuals possess the autonomy to select their behaviors and that their decisions are grounded in rational assessments.

The fundamental premise of rational choice theory posits that individuals are rational entities whose actions can be influenced or altered by the apprehension of punishment. The idea additionally emphasizes the factors influencing human decisions. Rational choice theory posits that an individual possesses preferences among the various alternatives, enabling him to indicate his preferred option. Crime is presumed to be a deliberate conduct aimed at fulfilling the offender's wants for money, status, sex, and pleasure, necessitating decision-making and choices. Crime is intentional and premeditated; all offenders are rational agents who engage in purposeful decision-making (Cornish & Clarke, 1987). Child traffickers must have internally reconciled their decision to commit the crime by weighing the risks of legal repercussions against their financial needs and personal beliefs.

Summary of Findings

Child trafficking and child labour which have been identified as modern forms of slavery, are generally caused by poverty and other related severe economic challenges. However, there are other immediate and remote causes of child trafficking and child labour which include, but not limited to ignorance linked to cultural beliefs, desperation, the promotion and commercialization of sex unplanned migration, increased rate of unemployment and harsh economic condition, among others. The resultant effects of the aforementioned social issues are unquantifiable with severe and monumental damages on the wider society. The task of rescuing, rehabilitating and reintegrating victims of this anomaly into the normal life of the society appears daunting as a result of the physical, emotional and mental torture that they have been subjected to.

Conclusion

Child labour and concomitants are inevitable consequences of child trafficking which have continued to strip various human societies of their essential (human and material) resources necessary to enhance pace of sustainable development across the globe. This study, therefore, concludes that by tackling aforementioned factors, it is feasible to reduce the occurrence of child trafficking and safeguard at-risk societies from further exploitation.

Recommendations

Consistent with the findings and conclusion, this paper makes the following recommendations:

- a) Government at all levels should champion the cause of sustainable socioeconomic policies and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of citizens through youth empowerment in economically viable and productive ventures.
- b) Governments, through the relevant agencies, should ensure constant and consistent “Value Re-Oriented” on the effects of “Child Trafficking and Child Labour” as a measure to combat the trend.
- c) Governments of respective countries must ensure adequate sanctions and disciplinary actions of perpetrators of these acts to serve as deterrents to other intending criminals in this regard.
- d) There is need for enhancement of educational opportunities, promotion of gender equality and implementation of community awareness initiatives designed to alter detrimental cultural behaviours.
- e) Educational Institutions, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Religious Institutions, Human Rights Activists and concerned citizens should be encouraged to support the efforts of governments to curb Child Trafficking and Child Labour in their respective societies.

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