



Various Techniques should be Followed by Our Indian Society for the Protection of Minor Rights

Empower the Future – Protection of Rights of Children

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ABSTRACT

In general, Minor Rights means Child Rights. The Rights of a person who is below 18 years of age in Indian Nation have the child rights. These Child Rights are mentioned in The Constitution of India under the chapters of Fundamental Rights. The Minors have some Fundamental Duties also. The Minor or Child Rights are protected as well by the Government of India through the enactments of various provisions of law. For Empowering the Future of Child Rights, the techniques of Prevention, Intervention & Rehabilitation should be followed by the society of India and Government as well.

INTRODUCTION

In India, human beings *below 18 years of age* are considered as *Children*. For those children, the specialized *human rights* are applied, that is called as **Child Rights**. All these rights are defined based on the *political, socio-economic dimensions, civil and cultural rights* of every child. Hence, we say the Child Rights are a set of principles. These child rights include protection from hazards. But **Child Protection** is more than a right, because it is a *safeguarding process*. Also Child Protection and their rights are very essential and important part of consideration by the society for **Empower the Future**, because children are the *future of nation*. In this article, the Rights of Children as per The Constitution of India, their Protection Acts and some precise ideologies for the future empowerment are described.

DESCRIPTION

The term “EMPOWER THE FUTURE – PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF CHILDREN” means “**Future of Empowerment + Protection of Children + Rights of Children**”

Rights of Children - ‘Every right, for every child’. Under **The International law**, the Rights of Children are considered depends on various *Physical Factors* and the *Ratifications of UN Conventions* on Child Rights. Regardless of *race, colour, sex, language, wealth, religion, disability or any other identities*, the child rights are afforded to each and every minor child. According to **The Constitution of India**, the major Rights of Children of Indian nation are **Right to Equality** [Article 14], **Right against Discrimination** [Article 15], **Right to Survival** (includes **Right to Life** [Article 21], *birth, standard of living with food, shelter & clothing, healthy life with family, clean & safe environment*), **Right to Protection** (includes *Protection from violence, from physical & sexual abuse, from dangerous drugs, from trafficking, begging* [Article 23, 24] & *hazardous employment*), **Right to Participation** (includes **Right to Freedom of Expression** [Article 19], *Opinion, Association, and Access to Information*), **Right to Development** (includes **Right to Education** [Article 21A], *to learn, relaxation & playing*).

Protection of Children - Child Protection is a *safeguarding process* which focuses on protecting the children from harm or danger. This includes the hazards that affect their *physical, mental and emotional status*. There are various Acts which enacted so far for Child Safety and Child Protection includes **Child Protection Act** (To ensure each child in the country gets protection), **The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2015** (To ensure children’s care & protection against punishment), **The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006** (Restrictions on Marriage Age, for men 21 years & women 18 years), **The Prohibition of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012 [POCSO]** (Combating sexual abuse and exploitation of minors), **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 2016** (Regulates children’s working conditions), **The Immoral Traffic Prevention Act** (Abolish Prostitution in India), **Pre-Conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques Act** (Ban pre-natal sex determination). All these Acts Protect the Children from various harms and other vulnerable & evil crimes. The Child Protection involves the prevention and safety from incidences like *violence, Abuses, Physical and mental tortures, molestation, sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labour, child marriage*, etc.

Future of Empowerment - The new ways of *technologies or ideologies* can be used to *Empower* people to transform or control their lives and become independent & stronger economically, also to make important decisions confidentially and brought the world around them.

Importance of Protection of Rights of Children for Empower the Future

- a) When Rights of Children are protected, they stand a much better chance of growing up in a society that allows them to thrive because *children are neither the property of their parents nor the helpless objects of any kind of charity*. Also, the society helps children to build a brighter future for themselves and also for the next generation by providing various *rightful resources and benefits of social security* to remove poverty among children.
- b) For Children Welfare, Government must take steps to protect them from *Sexual Abuse, Violence, Exploitation, Abduction, Trafficking, unlawful and cruelty treatments* etc. Strict Legislative and Educational measures are required to protect children from *illicit use of drugs & alcohols* and other exploitative acts such as *slavery, drug trafficking, prostitution, child and forced labours, child marriage*.
- c) It is very important and society's responsibility to Educate children, their Families, Guardians, Government Institutions and other Organisations to provide protection and right support for children to overcome various challenges in life for their future growth and economical development with social responsibility.

Suggestions for 'Empower the Future - Protection of Rights of Children'

To prevent the child rights from violation, the following recommendations to be made:

1. Provide proper **Sexual Education** for Children
2. Set Limitations and **Strict Censor** for all type of Entertainments on online & offline media and TV channels.
3. The Society and Government should Guide and Educate Children to **stay away** from all kind of social & sexual violence's and evil activities.
4. Educate Children about **Discipline and Good Character Conduct**.
5. **Strict Laws** to be Enacted and amended from time to time on earlier Legislatives of Child Protection.
6. Start **Privacy support centres** for victims.
7. **Immediate Punishments** given to those who commit offence against child.
8. Ensure **Children safety at all places** includes school, society, workplace, home and all related environments.
9. Social Welfare Associations should conduct **Awareness classes** for Child Rights and Protection on schools.
10. **Strict actions** are taken against the person who involves in harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation and child marriage.

Apart from the above, a very important suggestion pointed below:

Age criteria for children should be changed. i.e, reduce the Children category age of below 18 to below 14 wherever necessary, because in this modern & technological world children are much matured both physically and mentally at the *age of 14* itself. So this modification makes revolutionary in Protection of Children Rights. For this compulsion of modification, we consider sports and events as examples. There, the children are categorized as *under 14, under 16 and under 18* levels depends on their stamina, endurance and critical thinking ability.

CONCLUSION

The Protection of Rights of Children is very important and needful for Empower the Future of Children. This involves Prevention, Intervention and Rehabilitation process. Children are dependent till they attain the age of 18, so they need to be protected by the society and its surrounding environment. Also all child rights are provided to children and those rights are protected as well by proper Legislatives, Provisions, Acts and Policies of the Government. Finally this article concluded that, for '**Empower the Future - Protection of Rights of Children**' the following process or techniques need to be considered by the society and government, in terms of *applying law and policies to protect the children rights*.

"Prevention + Intervention + Rehabilitation"

Prevention means 'The Act of Monitoring and stopping something from happening';

Intervention means 'The Act of Providing Assistance by Government for improvements';

Rehabilitation means 'The Act of Restoring Someone to Normal life'.