



Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural Child Labor and the Level of Effects to their Well-being

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural child labor refers to the involvement of children, aged 10 years and above, in various agricultural activities such as farming, fishing, livestock herding, and other related tasks. These children are often from rural areas and come from families with low-income and limited educational opportunities. While some may see this as a way for children to contribute to their family's livelihood, it can have negative impacts on their well-being. This study aimed to determine Agricultural Child Labor And Well-Being of 10-Year-Old And Above Learners. The results revealed that agricultural labor among children is predominantly undertaken by males, with a higher prevalence among younger children in the lower grades. Moreover, the result showed that the perception of children engage in agricultural labor in terms of family income has a strong agreement that children are engaged in agricultural labor while perception of children engage in agricultural labor in terms of parent's working status and parent's educational status have a strong agreement that children are engaged in agricultural labor. Another results revealed that health, access to education, parental support, safety and security of the child has a strong agreement among respondents regarding the effects of parental support on their well-being. And it was found also that there is no significant relationship between the demographic profile and the level of effects of the well being of children engage in agricultural labor in terms of health, access to education and parental support. While age is the only demographic factor that exhibits a significant relationship with the level of effects on children's safety and security in the context of agricultural labor. There is a significant relationship between the Perception of Children engage in Agricultural labor and the Level of Effects of the Well Being of Children in terms of health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security. This suggests, implement policies and programs that prohibit child labor in agriculture and enforce existing laws, provide access to quality education and healthcare for children in agricultural communities, address the underlying economic and social factors that contribute to child labor and collaborate with agricultural organizations, schools, and community groups to create safe and child-friendly work environments for children.

Keywords: agricultural labor, well-being, family income, parent' working status, parents' educational status, health, access to education, parental support, safety and security

Introduction

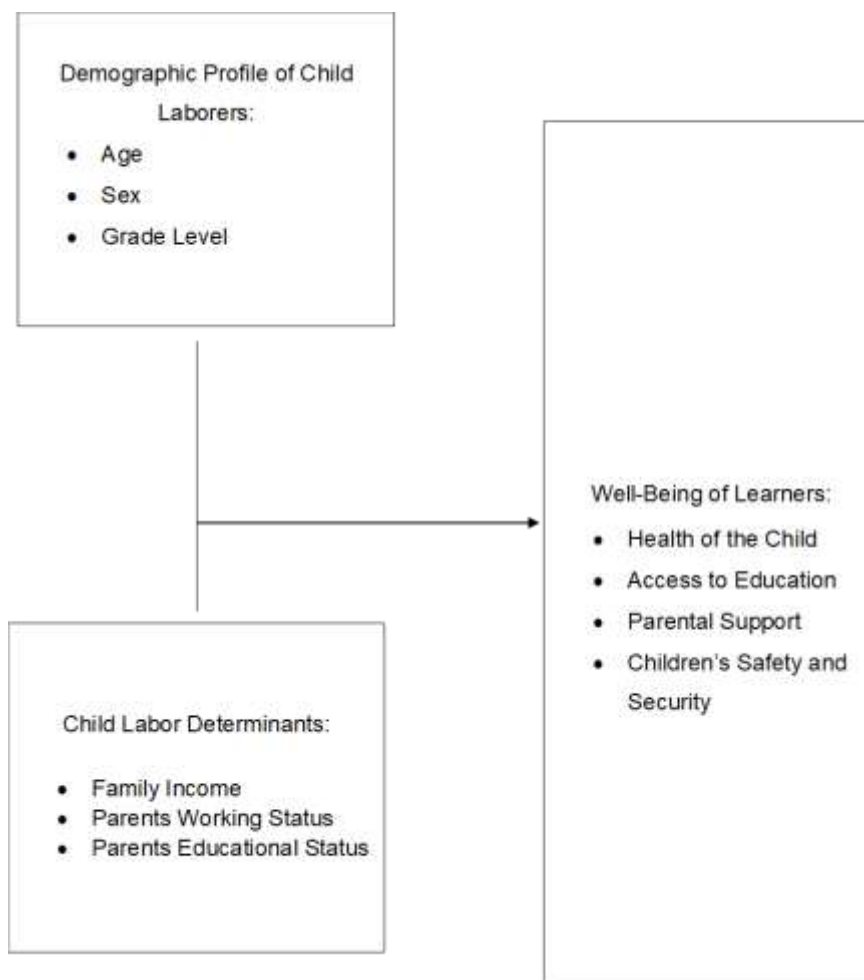
Agricultural child labor encompasses the participation of children ten or older in a wide range of agricultural endeavors, including but not limited to farming, fishing, and livestock husbandry. Frequently originating from low-income households and rural locales, these children have restricted access to educational opportunities. Although some may perceive this as a means for children to support their families financially, it can potentially detrimentally affect their overall welfare. Physical and mental dangers frequently befall children who are involved in agricultural labor, including exposure to severe weather, the use of hazardous tools and chemicals, and lengthy hours of work. This may result in fatalities, infections, or injuries. These children are additionally deprived of their right to an education because they are compelled to labor rather than attend class. This circumstance may restrict their prospects for the future.

Furthermore, juvenile labor in agriculture has a detrimental impact on the general welfare of children. They may develop stunted growth and development due to inadequate healthcare and nutrition. Furthermore, these children lack peer interaction and socialization opportunities, which can harm their emotional and social growth. Moreover, young children may experience physical exhaustion due to the labor-intensive nature of agricultural work, which can result in chronic pain, fatigue, and various other health complications. This, in conjunction with inadequate safety protocols and instruction, increases the vulnerability of these children to accidents and injuries. Although agricultural child labor may afford families temporary financial advantages, it detrimentally impacts the long-term welfare of children. Providing these children with access to education, adequate healthcare, and other fundamental liberties is of the utmost importance to break the cycle of poverty and ensure their overall well-being. To ascertain the causes and consequences of agricultural child labor on the general welfare of students in South Wao District, Division of Lanao del Sur-1, Wao Lanao del Sur, during the School Year (SY) 2023-2024, the researcher felt compelled to undertake this investigation.

Framework of the Study

The "Dual Economy Model" or "Lewis Model," which Sir Arthur Lewis formulated within the economic development framework, served as the foundation for this investigation. Although its initial emphasis was on the shift from agricultural to industrial economies, this model could be modified to account for agricultural child labor. The subsistence agricultural sector is an aspect of the Dual Economy Model (Lewis Model) modified to account for child labor in agriculture. This sector is rife with child labor, frequently lacks modern technology, and has low productivity. b) Modern Industrial Sector—Child labor may be less prevalent in regions where modern agricultural practices or other non-agricultural sectors (e.g., manufacturing, services) have emerged, preventing families in this sector from accessing alternatives that enable them to flee poverty. These industries might provide more favorable remuneration and working conditions, diminishing the appeal of agricultural labor for children. Although the Dual Economy Model offers a valuable economic outlook on agricultural child labor, it is critical to acknowledge that this is a multifaceted problem impacted by sociocultural, legal, and ethical factors in addition to economic ones. To resolve agricultural child labor, adopting a multidimensional strategy that considers the particular circumstances and obstacles of each setting may be necessary.

Figure 1 shows a Schematic Diagram showing the relationship of independent and dependent variables. Family income, parents' working status, and parents' educational status are all important determinants of child labor. The well-being of learners is also closely tied to these factors.



The study sought to determine the reasons and effects of agricultural child labor on the overall well-being of learners in South Wao District, Division of Lanao del Sur-1, Wao Lanao del Sur, during the School Year (SY) 2023-2024.

Specifically, this study sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the demographic profile of child laborers regarding age, sex, and grade level?
2. What is the perception of children engaging in agricultural labor in terms of family income, parent's working status, and parent's educational status?
3. What are the effects on the well-being of children engaged in agricultural labor regarding health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security?

4. Is there a significant relationship between the demographic profile and the level of effects on the well-being of children engaged in agricultural labor regarding health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security?
5. Is there a significant relationship between the perception of children engaging in agricultural labor and the level of effects on the well-being of children in terms of Health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security?

The following null hypotheses were tested in this study:

H₀₁: There is no significant relationship between the demographic profile and the level of effects on the well-being of children engaged in agricultural labor regarding health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security.

H₀₂: There is no significant relationship between the perception of children engaging in agricultural labor and the level of effects on the well-being of children in terms of health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security.

The scope of this investigation was restricted to the level of involvement and consequences of agricultural child labor among the students residing in South Wao District, Wao Lanao del Sur. Initially, the demographic profile of the child laborers was sought in the research. The perception of juvenile laborers was identified as the second factor. In conclusion, the research examined the impact of child labor on various aspects of the child's life, including health, education, social development, and economic standing. The research encompassed the period from the onset of the child's involvement in child labor to the current moment. The participants in this research were minors who met the age requirement of 10 years or older as per the definition of child labor established by the ILO-IPEC and FAO in 2021. The research dilemma formulated the research inquiries, and the data collection process employed purposive sampling.

Furthermore, an open-ended query was included in a survey questionnaire developed by the researcher specifically for the child laborers. Most of the survey questionnaire's items were derived from the ILO's 2007 Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor (SIMPOC). Conversely, specific components were derived from scholarly articles and pertinent literature about the research.

The present research investigated the perceptions and consequences of agricultural child labor among students and children residing in the South Wao District of Wao, Lanao del Sur. It offers empirical evidence regarding the reasons children participate in agricultural labor and its detrimental effects on their overall well-being, particularly considering the prevalence of hazardous tasks that can impede their development in the agricultural sector. The collected data would benefit the following:

- Child laborers may be able to use the knowledge and understanding they acquire from this research to relive the innocence they lost during their time as agricultural child laborers, and
- Child laborers may be able to mitigate the adverse effects of their labor. Families of children engaged in agricultural labor can learn about children's rights and the long-term repercussions and consequences of such labor. The results of this research would furnish the community with sufficient knowledge regarding strategies to combat poverty and transform it into a valuable instrument for attaining high-quality education for all rather than merely an excuse to exploit and violate the rights of each child in the community. They could assist DepEd in augmenting the enrollment rate and reducing the attrition rate. Furthermore, the study would provide future researchers with a valuable contribution to the limited literature on child labor and agricultural child laborers. They would use it as a reference guide to investigating the same topic.

This section contains the papers and literature that the researcher reviewed and discovered to have essential reviews that either support or contradict the findings of this study. The literature is organized similarly to how the variables are presented in Chapter 1.

Family Income

Child labor is an urgent global concern that requires immediate attention. Agricultural child labor is characterized by damaging physical and mental development and depriving children of their infancy, potential, and dignity, as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). DOLE defines child labor in the Philippines as any task carried out by a minor that (1) exposes the minor to economic exploitation, (2) poses a risk of harm to the minor, (3) disrupts the minor's education, or (4) is detrimental to the minor's physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development. The precise meaning of juvenile labor differs across different nations. Furthermore, not all juvenile labor is classified as such. Child labor is defined by the International Labor Organization (ILO) as "work that is detrimental to children on mental, physical, social, and moral levels; prevents them from attending school; forces them to leave school early; or forces them to attempt to balance school attendance with excessively long and heavy labor." Conversely, the term "child labor" pertains to the constructive engagement of minors in a financial undertaking that does not negatively impact their physical well-being or cognitive growth (Nnaji, 2019).

In addition, child labor is advantageous as it promotes and reinforces the growth and progress of the child (Rosati, 2022). Agricultural juvenile labor continues to be primarily a rural poverty concern on a global scale. Agriculture is widely recognized as the principal industry that employs minors globally. One hundred sixty million children are estimated to be engaged in child labor worldwide in 2020, with 112 million remaining in agriculture and 79 million performing hazardous labor (International et al. (ILO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2021).

Working Status of Parents

As of 2022, an estimated 1.48 million children were laborers in the Philippines; 58.8% were in agricultural labor, and 56% were in hazardous occupations. (PSA, 2023). In light of the escalating prevalence of child labor within the nation, substantial endeavors have been undertaken to align with the global initiative aimed at eliminating this labor force. The country implemented the regulations established by the International Convention against Child Labor via Republic Act No. 9231. Adopted in June 1999, the first convention is the International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention No. 182, the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labor. This convention established the benchmark for safeguarding minors against the most severe forms of exploitation under international law. The second convention is ILO Convention No. 138, also known as the ILO Minimum Age Convention, which established that young people must be at least 18 years old to be admitted to any form of employment or work that poses a risk to their health, safety, or morals by its nature or the conditions under which it is conducted (Article 3, paragraph 1).

In conclusion, the UNCRC is a treaty on international human rights that provides all minors and adolescents with a comprehensive set of rights (under seventeen). The official national initiative for the eradication of child labor in the Philippines was also designated as the Philippine Initiative Against Child Labor (PPACL). This document represents a compilation of the initiatives undertaken by the National Child Labor Committee (NCLC), led by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). It is supported by various stakeholders, including the private sector, government bodies, workers and employers organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international development institutions. The primary goals of the NCLC are to avert, safeguard, and extract child labor victims from dangerous and exploitative occupations. Furthermore, the NCLC seeks to facilitate their recovery and reintegration into society where possible.

The Philippines receives assistance from the ILO in implementing the PPACL via the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC). The Achieving Reduction of Child Labor in Support of Education: Programme to Reduce the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Agriculture is another initiative being carried out by the ILO in collaboration with the Government of Japan in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ILO, 2021).

Educational Status of Parents

Multiple research studies link juvenile labor to poverty. According to Yadav (2020), Del Rosario and Bonga establish that poverty is caused by unemployment and that underemployment was the most influential push factor in the prevalence of child labor. Children were compelled to work by unemployed parents so that they could satisfy their basic needs.

According to Kale (2019), as cited by Galache, parents must send their children to work to supplement their income and ensure the family's survival. This is especially true for low-income parents who have a larger number of children. She further elucidated significant rationales for the prevalence of juvenile labor. The following are some of the reasons: (1) poverty and overpopulation resulting from a lack of education; (2) government apathy; (4) denial of formal education to women; (5) rural-to-urban family migration; and (6) individuals burdened with substantial debt who tend to "sell off" their children for a nominal sum of money. As a consequence, low-income households generally have a more significant number of children. In situations where the income of a single parent is insufficient, young children are compelled to work wherever they can. She also cites unemployment as a justification for the persistence of child labor in developing nations, citing a lack of education as an example. This is because, with education, children can interact with adults, and it is easier for them to find employment because they lack the required skills and training. The research conducted on the tobacco-growing communities situated in the northern region of the Philippines exposed the distressing truth regarding the prevalence of child labor within impoverished households residing in rural villages. The children perceived the duties of the industry as routine and mandatory. They were required to provide their education, food, clothing, and personal items with their funds (Santos & Palaganas, 2022). Child labor has become significantly more pervasive and deeply ingrained in numerous contexts and societies due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Hoque, 2021).

Health of the Child

Prioritizing the welfare of students aged ten and older is critical for their holistic growth and achievement in future endeavors. An essential component of a child's overall welfare is their physical health, including nutrition, physical development, and overall fitness. This essay will examine the significance of health for students aged ten and older and propose strategies to promote it. Adequate nutrition is critical for the physical well-being of an adolescent aged ten.

As stated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2020, optimal nutrition during this stage of childhood is vital for growth and development. A balanced diet containing all the necessary nutrients is crucial to sustain a healthy weight, enhance the immune system, and obtain sufficient energy to carry out daily tasks. Children who consume a nutritious diet have improved academic performance, cognitive function, and overall well-being, according to a study by Dehghan et al. (2019). Regular physical activity is also vital for students aged ten and older. As per the American Heart Association (AHA, 2018), it is recommended that children in this developmental stage partake in a minimum of 60 minutes of vigorous to moderate physical activity daily. Engaging in consistent physical activity yields multiple benefits, including enhanced physical well-being, tension reduction, mood improvement, and the development of social skills (Janssen & LeBlanc, 2020).

In addition to proper nutrition and regular physical activity, safeguarding the child's well-being is paramount. This includes ensuring that the learning environment is secure and protected. The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) finds that academic achievement and mental well-being

positively correlate with children's perceived safety and security in the classroom. Additionally, mental health is vital to a child's overall well-being. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (2019) report that one in every six children aged 2 to 8 years is afflicted with a mental health disorder, which negatively affects their well-being and health. Parents and educators must recognize the indicators of mental health problems in children and offer assistance and resources to those who may be experiencing difficulty.

Routine health examinations and immunizations further contribute to the overall welfare of learners aged ten years and older. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises routine health examinations to monitor a child's development and growth and detect any health issues early. Additionally, vaccinations are essential for disease prevention and promoting the child's overall health.

Access to Education

The ECLT Foundation identifies the quality and accessibility of education as two of the most critical determinants. An educational institution should foster a friendly atmosphere, feature class sizes suitable for the local context, and be economically accessible to rural communities. Keeping children in school entails more than simply removing them from hazardous labor; it also entails ensuring that quality education is universally accessible. Considering the interrelationships between child labor and education, the Education For All partnership's endeavors will be significantly hampered if child labor is not addressed.

According to Radfar (2018), socioeconomic inequalities and limited educational opportunities are two additional factors that contribute to the prevalence of juvenile labor. Children were highly lucrative assets due to their meager compensation, low strike propensity, and susceptibility to manipulation. The physical, mental, and emotional development of children is impeded by child labor. Additionally, the impact of free compulsory education reform in rural China on the prevalence of child labor is assessed by Tang, Zhao, and Zhao (2020). It was determined that the provision of free compulsory education substantially diminishes the occurrence of child labor among males. At the same time, it does not yield any statistically significant impact on the probability of child labor among girls.

Furthermore, the transition to free compulsory education could motivate parents to reallocate household resources in favor of their sons, thereby widening the gender disparity in human capital investment. An expanding body of research demonstrates that in-kind and monetary transfers can help reduce child labor. The Philippine government's Pantawid Pamilya Filipino Program is integral in combating agricultural child labor throughout the nation. The Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program, which aids impoverished households by providing two grants—one contingent on child health-related behavior and the other on education—is examined by J. De Hoop et al. (2019). An increase in children's engagement in paid employment beyond the home was found to be correlated with higher school attendance, according to data derived from the Pantawid impact evaluation. However, it should be noted that education transfers did not fully cover the expenses associated with education. As the cash transfer provided only a partial schooling subsidy, the child toiled to cover the remainder of the cost of education. Education and child labor are intricately intertwined.

According to Boutin and Jouvin (2022), a working child has less leisure time to participate in extracurricular activities than a non-working child. Working may, therefore, induce bodily exhaustion in children who continue to attend school, which may hurt their academic performance and increase the likelihood that they will drop out, mainly if the intensity of their work is incongruent with a school day. Irrespective of subject matter, gender, or age, child labor undermines academic achievement, according to Lee, Kim, and Rhee (2021). It reduces reading and mathematics achievement for students under 12 and over 13 for both sexes. They concluded that juvenile labor impedes human capital accumulation in African nations and occurs at the expense of future prosperity.

Thévenon and Edmonds (2019) posit that lower educational attainment ultimately results in the retention of former child laborers in low-paying, low-skilled employment.

Parental Support

Parental support is paramount for the holistic development of students aged ten years and older. During this developmental phase, children transition into adolescence and confront novel challenges and experiences. The influence of parental support and guidance on a child's academic, social, and emotional development can be substantial.

According to a study by Fabry, Van den Broeck, and Maertens (2022), parental involvement and support positively predict adolescents' academic achievement and psychological well-being. This support may manifest in diverse ways, including offering emotional solace, assisting with academic assignments, and participating in extracurricular activities.

Dammert, De Hoop, Mvukiyehe, and Rosati (2018) found that familial support is an additional factor that significantly influences the social well-being of adolescents. This includes being involved in their child's social life, establishing appropriate boundaries, and providing a secure and supportive home environment. There is a positive correlation between parental support, the development of positive peer relationships, and the adoption of healthy social behaviors among adolescents. Regarding the emotional well-being of adolescents, familial support is a protective factor against depression and anxiety, according to a study by Huebner and Gilman (2019). By being responsive to their child's requirements and providing emotional support, parents can assist their child in developing healthy coping mechanisms and resilience.

Additionally, parental support substantially affects the physical health of students aged ten and older. Parental involvement and support in their child's health and wellness positively predicted healthy behaviors, such as physical activity and healthy nutrition, according to a study by Mirakzadeh (2019). Furthermore, parental support indirectly influences the well-being of learners aged ten years and older by cultivating a positive parent-child relationship. A positive parent-child relationship is associated with greater self-esteem, self-efficacy, and life satisfaction in adolescents, according to a study by Barber, Stolz, and Olsen (2019).

Safety and Security of the Child

Boutin and Jouvin (2022) emphasized the significance of safety and security in fostering the holistic welfare of children aged ten or older. The article examines the various forms of harm that children may be subjected to, including exploitation, violence, and abuse, as well as the physical, emotional, and social consequences that may result. In addition, the report furnishes governments and communities with recommendations about safeguarding and protecting minors.

Zaghloul, Hetta, and Ramadan (2020) established a correlation between the well-being of children and community protection. The effects of community-based violence and crime on children's mental health, educational achievements, and social connections are examined. Additionally, the report emphasizes the significance of community-based interventions in fostering a secure and protected environment for children. Furthermore, ensuring children's safety and security is a component of a holistic approach to promoting their well-being, as Verma (2018) explains. This statement underscores the notion that physical, emotional, and social well-being are inextricably linked and that a holistic approach is required to address children's safety and security requirements. This manual offers pragmatic approaches and interventions to enhance the security and welfare of children within educational institutions (Zaghloul et al., 2020).

Methodology

This chapter comprehensively covers the following aspects: research design, research setting, study participants, sampling technique, research tool, data collection, scoring technique, instrument validation and trial, and statistical data analysis. These sections are structured similarly to Valencia College's.

The research design employed in this study was quantitative descriptive-correlational in nature. This design endeavored to elucidate the correlation between two or more variables without establishing any causal claims. It entails gathering and analyzing data on at least two variables to establish a correlation between them. Utilizing a questionnaire developed by the researchers and adapted from the SIMPOC National Labor Survey (2007) questionnaires by ILO-IPEC and other pertinent articles, the data required to address the research problem adequately was gathered.

The study's respondents were children aged ten and above. The proposed respondents were only 100 child laborers/ learners in South Wao District, Division of Lanao del Sur-1.

Table 1.

Distribution of Respondents by School

School	Sample Size of Learner/ Child Laborer
Amoyong ES	24
Buot ES	19
Milaya ES	25
Pagalongan Community CES	22
Western Wao Pilot ES	10
Total	100

The data was processed and interpreted using the rating scales below for the effects of agricultural child labor on the overall well-being of learners in South Wao District, Division of Lanao del Sur-1, Wao Lanao del Sur. The data in the survey were scored based on a 5-point Likert Scale.

Scale	Range of Mean Values	Qualitative Description (Child's Perception)	Qualifying Statement
5	4.51 – 5.0	5- Strongly agree	Practice at all time
4	3.41 – 4.50	4- Agree	Practice most of the time
3	2.61 – 3.40	3- Moderately agree	Practice sometimes
2	1.81 – 2.60	2- Disagree	Rarely practiced
1	1.00 – 1.80	1- Strongly disagree	It is not practiced at all.
Scale	Range of Mean Values	Qualitative Description (Level of effects)	Qualifying Statement
5	4.51 – 5.0	5- Severely effects	Experienced at all times
4	3.41 – 4.50	4- Significant effects	Experienced most of the time
3	2.61 – 3.40	3- Moderate effects	Experienced sometimes
2	1.81 – 2.60	2- Minor effects	Rarely experienced
1	1.00 – 1.80	1- No noticeable effects	Never experienced

Table 2.

Demographic Profile of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor

Profile	Frequency	Percent (%)
Age:		
10 – 13	80	80
14 – 17	20	20
Total	100	100

Sex:		
Male	55	55
Female	45	45
Total	100	100
Grade Level:		
Grade 4-6	79	79
Grade 7 – 9	21	21
Total	100	100

Table 3.

Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural labor in terms of Family Income

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
I do not have enough access to education, healthcare, and other basic needs because my family has a low income.	4.73	.48	Strongly Agree
The amount spent on food, rent, utilities, and education needs to be increased.	4.71	.49	Strongly Agree
My family has a high monthly income.	4.65	.53	Strongly Agree
My family has a low monthly income.	4.58	.55	Strongly Agree
My family has a total monthly income of 30,000 and above.	1.46	.86	Strongly Disagree
Overall	4.02	0.11	Agree

Legend:

4.20 – 5.00 Strongly Agree

3.40 – 4.19 Agree

2.60 – 3.39 Moderately Agree

1.80 – 2.59 Disagree

1.00 – 1.79 Strongly Disagree

Table 4.

Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural labor in terms of Parent's Working Status

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
My parents work 8-10 hours a day to provide our needs.	4.80	.42	Strongly Agree
Both of my parents have stable incomes and work.	4.78	.41	Strongly Agree
My father works for the family.	4.68	.49	Strongly Agree
My parents choose to work due to financial necessity and personal fulfillment.	4.63	.52	Strongly Disagree
My parents are jobless.	4.58	.58	Strongly Agree
Overall	4.69	0.05	Strongly Agree

*Legend:*4.20 – 5.00 *Strongly Agree*3.40 – 4.19 *Agree*2.60 – 3.39 *Moderately Agree*1.80 – 2.59 *Disagree*1.00 – 1.79 *Strongly Disagree*

Table 5.

Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural labor in terms of Parent's Educational Status

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
My parents pursue vocational training.	4.85	.35	Strongly Agree
My parents completed their education.	4.73	.44	Strongly Agree
My father is a skilled worker.	4.72	.47	Strongly Agree
My parents believe that educational background has influenced their child's education.	4.70	.46	Strongly Agree
My parents are self-employed.	4.63	.54	Strongly Agree
Overall	4.72	0.04	Strongly Agree

*Legend:*4.20 – 5.00 *Strongly Agree*3.40 – 4.19 *Agree*2.60 – 3.39 *Moderately Agree*1.80 – 2.59 *Disagree*1.00 – 1.79 *Strongly Disagree*

Table 6.

Level of Effects on the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Health

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
I have a good health condition.	4.78	.41	Severe Effect
I got easily ill due to labor.	4.76	.47	Severe Effect
I have always done a good lifestyle to improve my immune system.	4.74	.46	Severe Effect
I experience getting burned by fire, slipping, tripping, or falling and carrying heavy loads.	4.61	.54	Severe Effect
I was exposed to pesticides, fertilizers, dust, and smoke as I worked.	4.51	.59	Severe Effect
Overall	4.68	0.05	Severe Effect

*Legend:*4.20 – 5.00 *Severe Effect*

3.40 – 4.19 *Significant Effect*

2.60 – 3.39 *Moderate Effect*

1.80 – 2.59 *Minor Effect*

1.00 – 1.79 *No Noticeable Effect*

Table 7.

Level of Effects on the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Access to Education

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
I need more time to do my homework and study at home.	4.800	.402	Severe Effect
I can read and write simple statements with understanding in any language.	4.770	.468	Severe Effect
I miss my classes because I got injured while working.	4.710	.456	Severe Effect
I am not aware of my rights and the potential risk of child labor due to limited access to education.	4.640	.503	Severe Effect
4. I am exhausted and need help focusing on our discussion.	4.520	.643	Severe Effect
Overall	4.688	0.063	Severe Effect

Legend:

4.20 – 5.00 *Severe Effect*

3.40 – 4.19 *Significant Effect*

2.60 – 3.39 *Moderate Effect*

1.80 – 2.59 *Minor Effect*

1.00 – 1.79 *No Noticeable Effect*

Table 8.

Level of Effects on the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Parental Support

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
I got bored while studying because my parents did not support my education.	4.83	.40	Severe Effect
I experience stress, anxiety, and depression due to the lack of support from my parents.	4.70	.48	Severe Effect
I feel weak because my parents did not support me financially.	4.70	.48	Severe Effect
I feel motivated because my parents support my academic needs.	4.64	.56	Severe Effect
I was encouraged always to go to school because of my parents.	4.66	.51	Severe Effect
Overall	4.70	0.04	Severe Effect

Legend:

4.20 – 5.00 *Severe Effect*

3.40 – 4.19 *Significant Effect*

2.60 – 3.39 *Moderate Effect*

1.80 – 2.59 *Minor Effect*

1.00 – 1.79 *No Noticeable Effect*

Table 9.

Level of Effects on the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Children's Security and Safety

Indicators	Mean	Standard. Deviation	Qualitative Description
I work and get paid for my financial safety and security.	4.75	.50	Severe Effect
A good and peaceful environment surrounds me.	4.71	.45	Severe Effect
My physical safety, emotional security, and protection from abuse are provided.	4.64	.52	Severe Effect
I do not always openly express my fears or concerns to my parents.	4.61	.58	Severe Effect
My parents assure my safety and security both in school and at home.	4.59	.58	Severe Effect
My physical safety, emotional security, and protection from abuse are provided.	4.64	.52	Severe Effect
Overall	4.66	0.04	Severe Effect

*Legend:**4.20 – 5.00 Severe Effect**3.40 – 4.19 Significant Effect**2.60 – 3.39 Moderate Effect**1.80 – 2.59 Minor Effect**1.00 – 1.79 No Noticeable Effect*

Table 10.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Demographic Profile and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Health

Demographic Profile	rho	p-value	Remarks
Age	-.055	.584	Not Significant
Sex	-.050	.625	Not Significant
Grade Level	.054	.597	Not Significant

Level of Significance: $\alpha = .05$

Table 11.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Demographic Profile and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Access to Education

Demographic Profile	Rho	p-value	Remarks
Age	-.166	.098	Not Significant
Sex	.102	.312	Not Significant
Grade Level	.122	.227	Not Significant

Level of Significance: $\alpha = .05$

Table 12.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Demographic Profile and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Parental Support

Demographic Profile	rho	p-value	Remarks
Age	.083	.412	Not Significant
Sex	-.074	.462	Not Significant
Grade Level	.038	.705	Not Significant

Level of Significance: $\alpha = .05$

Table 13.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Demographic Profile and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor in Terms of Children's Safety and Security

Demographic Profile	Rho	p-value	Remarks
Age	.199*	.047	Significant
Sex	-.089	.378	Not Significant
Grade Level	.008	.935	Not Significant

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

Table 14.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children in Terms of Health

Perception Indicators	rho	p-value	Remarks
Family Income	.611**	.000	Significant
Working Status of Parents	.440**	.000	Significant
Educational Status of Parents	.442**	.000	Significant

***.* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 15.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children in Terms of Access to Education

Perception Indicators	rho	p-value	Remarks
Family Income	.382**	.000	Significant
Working Status of Parents	.803**	.000	Significant
Educational Status of Parents	.285**	.002	Significant

***.* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1-tailed).

Table 16.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children in Terms of Parental Support

Perception Indicators	rho	p-value	Remarks
Family Income	.224*	.013	Significant
Working Status of Parents	.288**	.002	Significant
Educational Status of Parents	.879**	.000	Significant

***. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1-tailed).*

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (1-tailed).*

Table 17.

Test for Significant Relationship between the Perception of Children Engaged in Agricultural Labor and the Level of Effects of the Wellbeing of Children in Terms of Children's Security and Safety

Perception Indicators	rho	p-value	Remarks
Family Income	.195*	.026	Significant
Working Status of Parents	.189*	.030	Significant
Educational Status of Parents	.689**	.000	Significant

***. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1-tailed).*

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (1-tailed).*

Findings

The following findings were gathered in this study:

The results revealed that agricultural labor among children is predominantly undertaken by males, with a higher prevalence among younger children in the lower grades.

As children engaged in agricultural labor, the respondents strongly agreed that they do so due to family income, their parents' working status, and their parents' educational status.

The respondents expressed the severe effects of agricultural labor on health, access to education, parental support, and the safety and security of children and their well-being.

There was no significant relationship between the demographic profile and the level of effects on the wellbeing of children engaged in agricultural labor regarding health, access to education, and parental support. Age is the only demographic factor that exhibits a significant relationship with the effects on children's safety and security in the context of agricultural labor.

There was a significant relationship between the perception of children engaged in agricultural labor and how it affected their health, access to education, parental support, and children's safety and security.

Conclusion

The following conclusions were derived from the results of the study:

Particularly affected by the pervasive problem of agricultural child labor are young male children enrolled in lower grade levels. This practice hinders the education and general welfare of children and perpetuates the cycle of poverty. The participants agree that children perform agricultural labor in

households with low family income, agriculturally employed parents, and parents with limited educational achievements. These variables are substantial predictors of the involvement of children in agricultural labor.

Parental support profoundly influences children's wellbeing, specifically their health, education, safety, and security. Regarding health, educational opportunities, and familial support, the demographic characteristics of children engaged in agricultural labor do not significantly affect their overall welfare. Nevertheless, age is a substantial factor in determining how much children's safety and security are compromised when performing agricultural labor.

A significant positive correlation was observed between how children perceived the adverse effects of their agricultural labor and their overall welfare. Children who perceive that they are involved in agricultural pursuits encounter substantial negative consequences regarding their safety, wellbeing, academic progress, and parental assistance.

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