

ABSTRACT

CHILD RAG PICKERS AND THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA: A REVIEW

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Rag picker is a term for someone who makes a living by rummaging through refuse in the streets to collect material for salvage. Scraps of cloth and paper could be turned into cardboard, broken glass could be melted down and reused, and even dead cats and dogs could be skinned to make clothes. In 19th and early 20th Century did not recycle the materials themselves; they would simply collect whatever they could find and turn it over to a "master rag picker" who would, in turn, sell it generally by weight to wealthy investors with the means to convert the materials into something more profitable.

Rag pickers play an important role in our society. We spread our garbage in the society and these rag pickers use to collect it and send it for recycling. We all know about Child trafficking, child labor and Sexual exploitation of child. Nevertheless, ever we tried to rescue any child who uses to collect these rags from dumping area. Such kind of work done by the children's, amount to violation of their basic human rights.

In India, any kind of child labors is deal under **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986**. Here, in this Act certain Occupation and Process are mentioned in the Schedule Part – A and Part - B which is hazardous for the children below 14 years and these includes "rag picking and scavenging" also. The conditions of the children who work in the non-hazardous occupations should be improved and regulated by proper law. For "Swach Bharat Abhiyan" not only we have to clean our society but for development of our country, we have to spread literacy also so that our future generation should literate one.

Keywords: Rag pickers, Poverty, Illiteracy, Human rights and Child Labor