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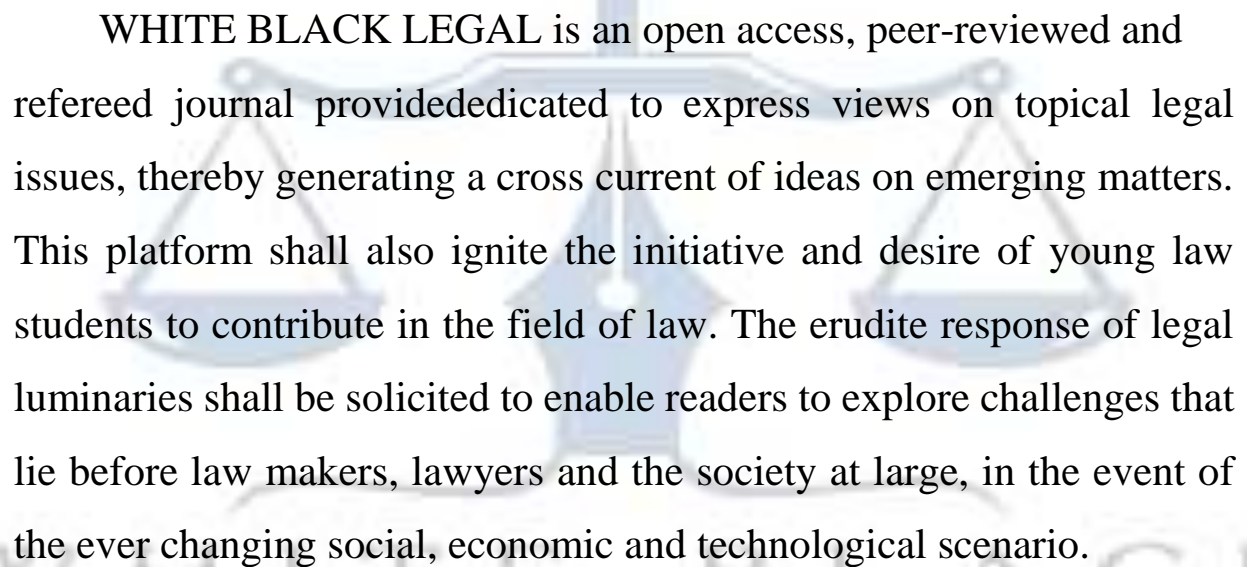
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WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal providededicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you

A CRITICAL STUDY ON IMPACT OF POVERTY ON CHILD LABOUR AND EFFECTIVENESS OF LAW

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ABSTRACT:

Child labour is nothing but exploitation of children in any forms of work, which harm them physically, mentally, socially and morally. It also deprives children of their childhood and education. At times, it may also cause death. Many factors are there to induce child labour. Some of them are poverty, lack of job opportunity for the adults, migration, emergency, etc. The objective of this research is to find out whether poverty creates impact on child labour, whether children are being forced to do work and whether government has taken enough initiatives to eradicate child labour. According to International Labour Organization, Africa has the largest count in child labour. According to article 24 of Indian Constitution, no child below the age of 14 shall be working in any factories, mines and hazardous places. The method of research that'll be used here is empirical research and convenient sampling is used here. The findings were that, children who are suffering from poverty and below poverty line are more prone to the child labour and this clarifies the fact that poverty is the main cause of child labour. The only way to stop this is an effective government initiative and provisions. People need more awareness on child labour and education is the most effective way to eradicate child labour. Though it is difficult or impossible to eradicate child labour, it can be slowly abolished from India and form a healthy and a happy society.

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KEYWORDS: Child, Labour, Poverty, Society, Education, Awareness

INTRODUCTION:

Since poverty emerged, many people had no way for food, shelter and other basic necessities. So they had to work or get employed in some other places. While the adults weren't getting any jobs at some places, they decided to send their children for employment. This is where the child labour starts. Not only poverty, but other factors like lack of job opportunities for adults, migration, emergencies, etc are the other factors that may lead to child labour. According to International Labour Organization, Africa has the largest count in child labour. According to article 24 of Indian Constitution, no child below the age of 14 shall be working in any factories, mines and hazardous places. In the case law, 'MC Mehta V. State of Tamilnadu', MC Mehta brought before the court, the plight of children working in sivakasi crackers factory. The Supreme Court decided to establish rehabilitation centers and ordered the employer to give compensation of ₹20, 000 to each child. The National Child Labour Project, established in 1988, introduced many rehabilitation centres in 12 districts where child labour was common for the welfare of children. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Prevention) Act of 1986 aims to abolish child labour. The National Child Labour Project was started in 1988 to rehabilitate working children in 12 child labour endemic districts of the country. The fact is that poverty still exist in our country and it is inversely proportional to our country's richness. Nothing could stop child labour. Only an effective government initiative and provisions would do it. Child labour cannot be abolished, but it can be reduced.

OBJECTIVE:

1. To find out how poverty creates an impact on child labor.
2. To find out whether children are being forced to to work.
3. To discuss whether government has taken enough initiatives to eradicate child labour.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

The author has discussed the plight of children working in the construction site, where they are not considered and cared for. In India, the rate of child labour is high and there is no proper way to reduce it. **(Sharma, 2006)**; This research says that India is among the list of countries, that have highest rate in child labour. The problem is so intense and awareness is not enough to resolve the problem. Many NGOs exist to resolve the child labour but no use. **(Sanghera, 2016)**; The author has discussed about the problems of child labour, its extend and about its nature. Also about the challenges faced while trying to resolve the problems raised due to the child labour and about the global response on child labour. **(Bhargava, 2003)**; This paper discusses and analyze about the social and economic crisis faced by the indian government trying to resolve the problems raised due to the child labour. There is no proper planning in abolition of child labour and hence facing issues regarding finance. **(Mustafa & Sharma, 1996)**; The author has discussed the historical studies made on child labour and about the disappearance of child labour in the western europe, by the successful legislation. **(Rahikainen, 2017)**; This paper discusses about the attention raised for child labour in international or global trade, during the 1990s. It has been driven by political considerations and the determinants of child labour is still under-researched. **(Hiraoka, 1997)**; This research paper discusses the child labour in weaving industries and other prominent industries established. It also says about how education helps in eradicating the child labour. **(Narasaiah, 2006)**; This research paper discusses and analyze about the link between the household poverty and child labour in pakistan. It suggests that providing education in good schools would definitely help in abolishing childhood. **(Ray, 1999)**; The research tells us about the plight of children working in construction sites all over india. The findings were that it is because of poverty, which made the people to make the children work on the construction sites. **(Vembu, 2007)**; The author tries to convey us about how poverty creates impact on child labour. Poverty at times forces the people to send their children to work, which continues for generations. Until poverty ends, it does not end. **(John, 2001)**; This research tells us about the positive side of child labour. Employing children in some sectors helps them in developing skills, which might help them excel in everything and they'll have a bright future. **(Calvin, 1998)**; The author tries to find out the ways to eradicate child labour. He concludes that there are no permanent ways to eradicate child labour permanently, but it can be slowly reduced if government gives everyone an equal opportunity in employment. **(Ricky, 2006)**; This research paper explains how parents are not worrying about sending their children to work. It concludes that the fact which creates impact on child labour, forces

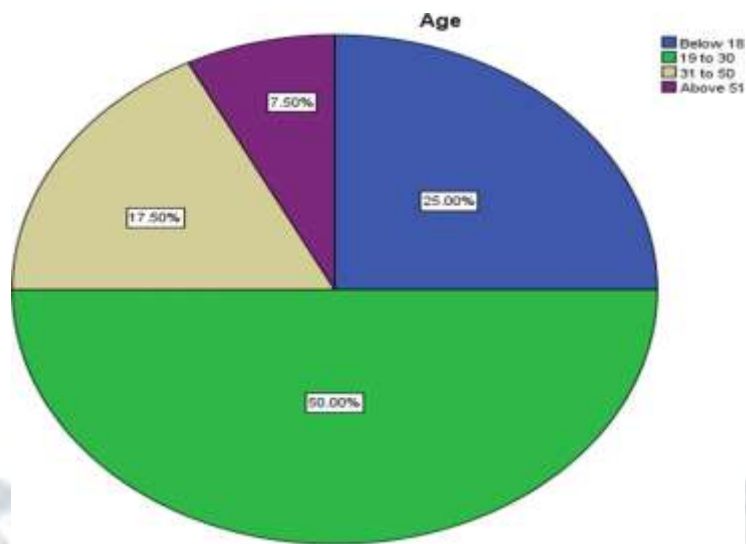
them to send their children to work and gave no other choices. **(Martin, 1998)**; The author gives a clear explanation on why at some places child labour is being encouraged. He says that it finishes the work quickly and earns profits for the stone-hearted owners, who promotes or encourages child labour. **(Hildi, 1989)**; The research tells us about how there is no proper way to eradicate the child labour. It says that unless poverty and lack of job opportunities for adults is abolished, there is no way for the child labour to be eradicated. **(Narain, 2010)**; The research explains us on how child labour can be eradicated slowly. The conclusion was that, we can follow the ways we follow now, trying to abolish child labour and it takes more time to do so. **(Leo, 2003)**; The research explains how child labour helps the children to excel in future. It says that children Develop new skills by working at places. **(Roy, 2005)**; The author tries to explain on how children are facing problem in child labour. He concludes that child labour affects the children physically, mentally, socially and morally. **(Andrew, 2001)**; The author explains about the problems faced by the parents because of poverty. They have no choices, other than working for wages. **(Stuart, 2005)**; The research explains how the child labour can be abolished. It suggests some simple ways like education, awareness, strict laws, etc. **(Smith, 1988)**

METHODOLOGY:

The method of research used here is empirical research, by observations and by public opinions. Convenient sampling is used here as a sampling method. Totally 200 respondents have responded to the questions asked. Questions were asked through google forms, links were shared through emails, whatsapp, telegram, etc. Independent variables were age, gender, education and occupation. Dependent variables were the questions asked based on whether poverty creates impact on child labour, whether children are being forced to do work and whether government has taken enough initiatives to eradicate child labour. Clustered bar graphs and pie charts are used as statistical tools.

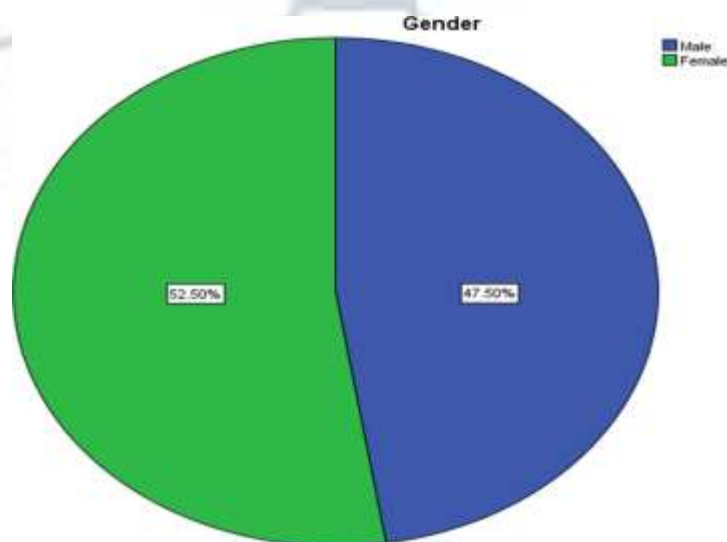
DATA ANALYSIS:

Fig 1:



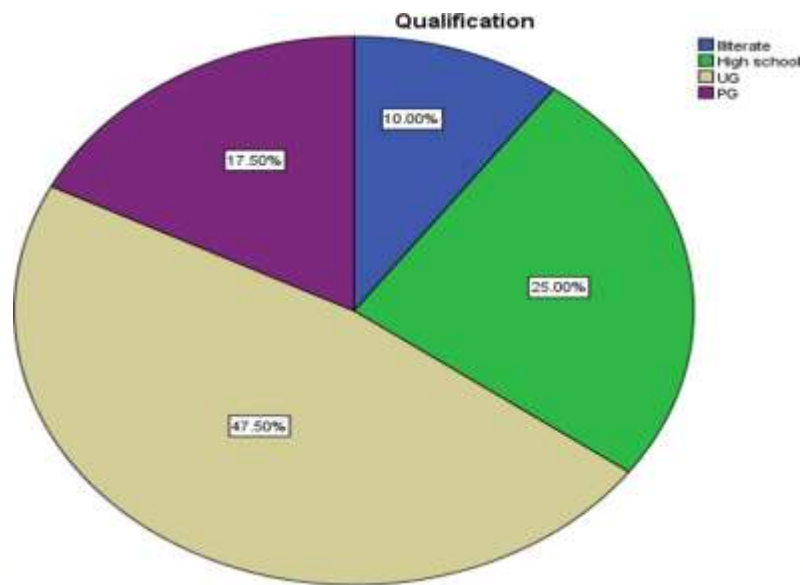
Legend: Fig 1 shows the age distribution of respondents.

Fig 2:



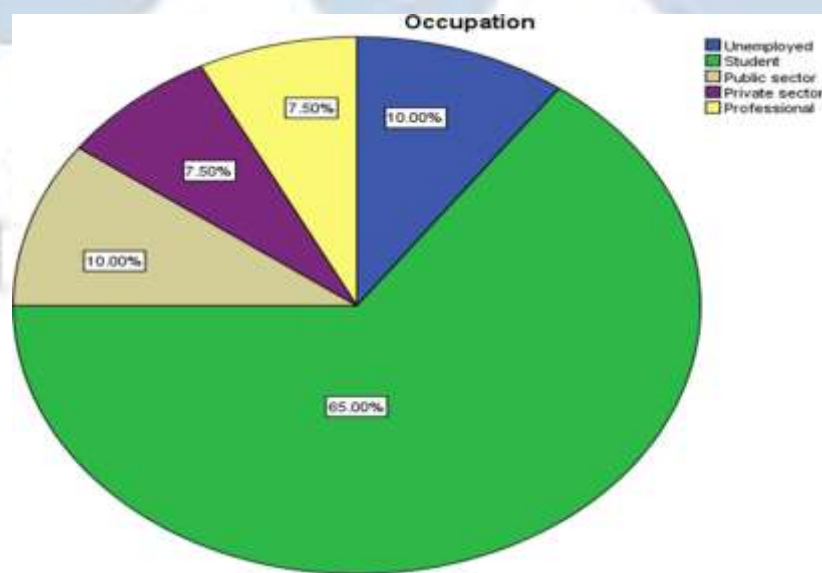
Legend: Fig 2 shows the gender distribution of the respondents.

Fig 3:



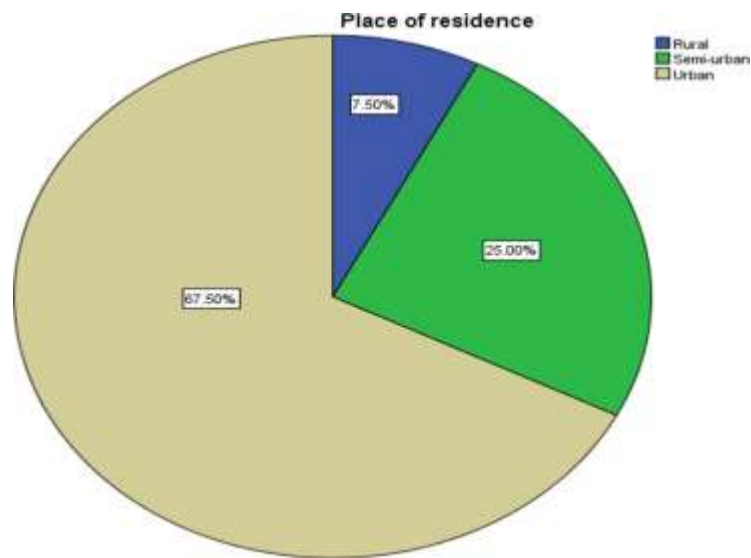
Legend: Fig 3 shows the distribution of educational qualification of the respondents.

Fig 4:



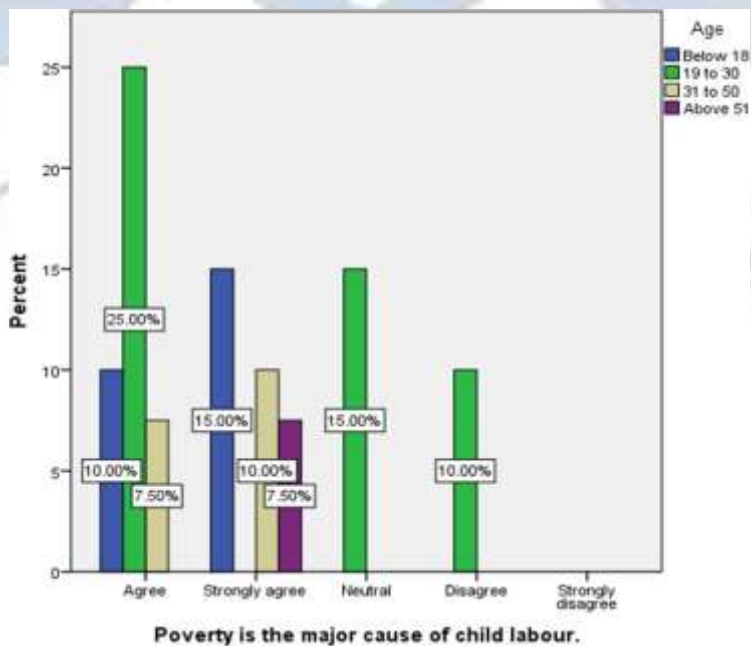
Legend: Fig 4 shows the occupation distribution of the respondents.

Fig 5:



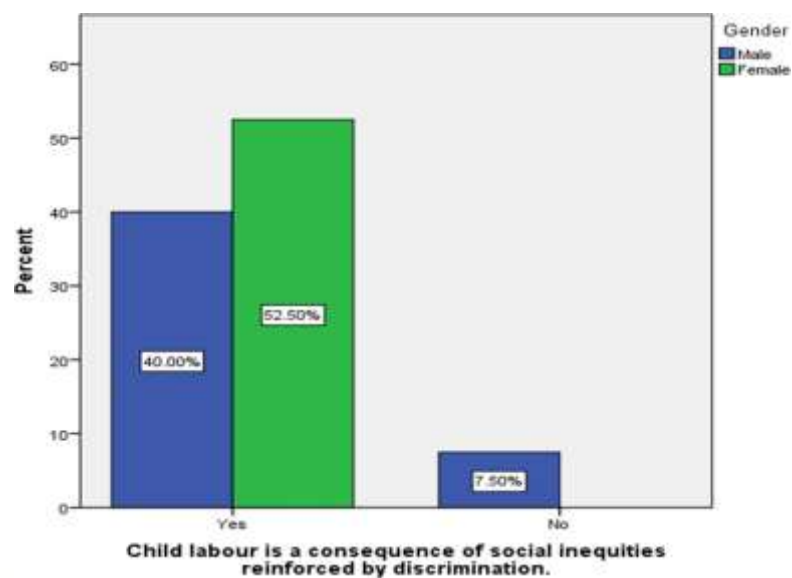
Legend: Fig 5 shows the distribution of the place of residence of the respondents.

Fig 6:



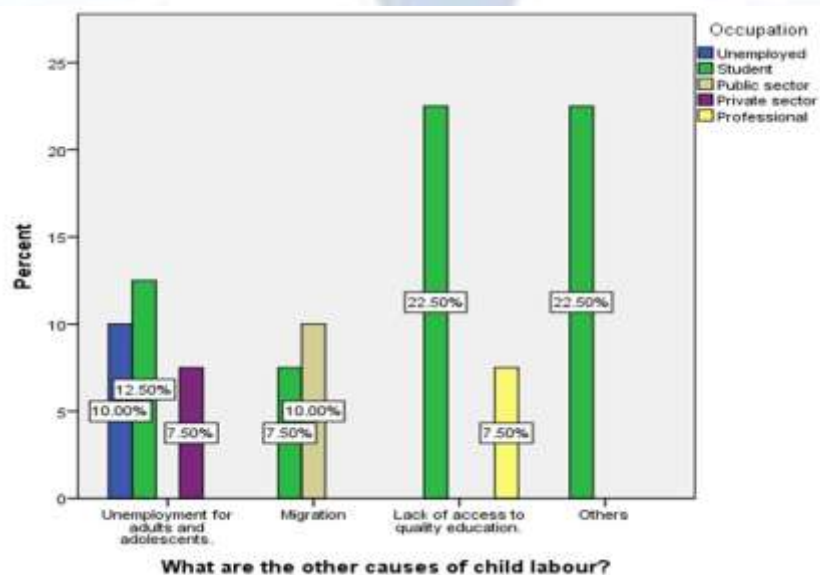
Legend: Fig 6 shows the opinions of the respondents on whether poverty is the major cause of child labour.

Fig 7:



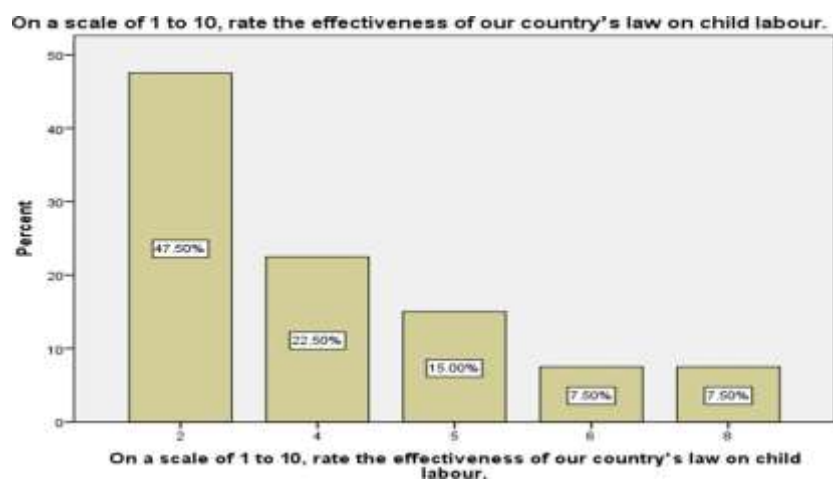
Legend: Fig 7 shows the opinion of the respondents of different gender, on whether child labour is a consequence of social inequities reinforced by discrimination.

Fig 8:



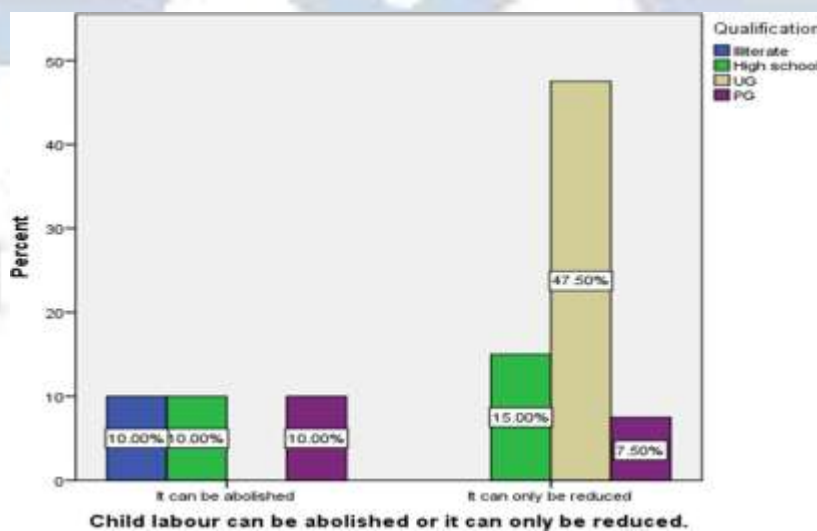
Legend: Fig 8 shows the opinions of the respondents carrying different occupation, on other causes of child labour.

Fig 9:



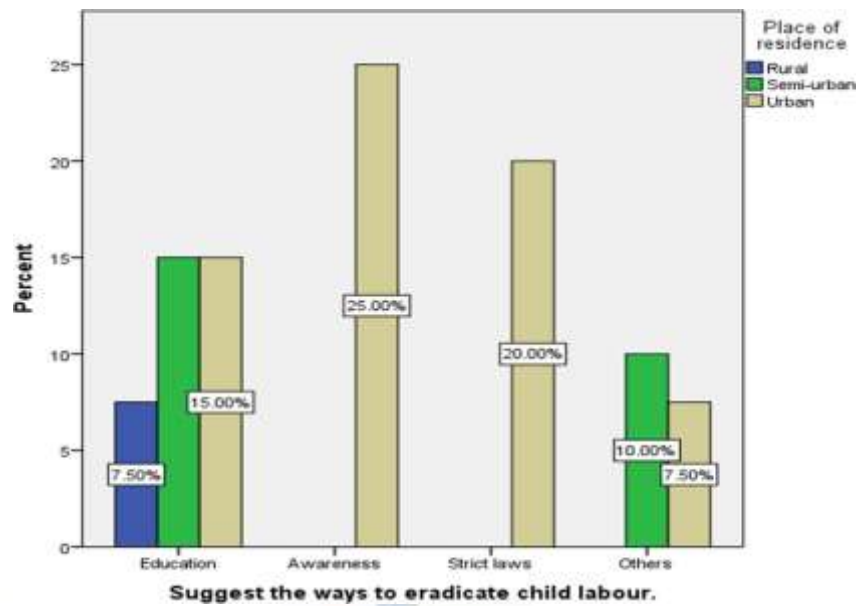
Legend: Fig 9 shows the ratings of the respondents on the effectiveness of our country's law on child labour.

Fig 10:



Legend: Fig 10 shows the opinions of respondents of different educational qualification on whether child labour can be abolished or it can only be reduced.

Fig 11:



Legend: Fig 11 shows the opinions of the respondents of different place of residence on the ways to eradicate child labour.

Table 1:

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	349.702 ^a	9	.000
Likelihood Ratio	311.709	9	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	28.162	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	200		

a. 3 cells (18.8%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 2.00.

Inference: Table 1 shows the chi-square test on whether child labour can be abolished or it can only be reduced.

RESULT:

(**Fig 1**): 25% of the respondents were below the age of 18, 50% of the respondents were between the age of 19-30, 17.5% of the respondents were between the age of 31-50 and 7.5% of the respondents were above the age of 51; (**Fig 2**): 47.5% of the respondents were males and 52.5% of the respondents were females.; (**Fig 3**): 47.5% of the respondents were UG, 25% of the respondents were from high school, 17.5% of the respondents were PG and 10% of the respondents were illiterate.; (**Fig 4**): 65% of the respondents were students, 10% of the respondents were from the public sector, 7.5% of the respondents were from the private sector, 7.5% of the respondents were professionals and 10% of the respondents were unemployed.; (**Fig 5**): 67.5% were from urban areas, 25% were from sub-urban areas and 7.5% were from rural areas. ; (**Fig 6**): For the question whether poverty is the major cause of child labour, 10% of the respondents below the age of 18 have agreed and 15% of them have strongly agreed. 12% of the respondents between the ages of 19 to 30 have agreed, 15% of them stayed neutral and 10% of them disagreed. 7.5% of the respondents between the age of 31 to 50 have agreed and 10% of them have strongly agreed. 7.5% of the respondents have strongly agreed.; (**Fig 7**): For the question whether child labour is a consequence of social inequities reinforced by discrimination, 40% of the males have answered yes and 7.5% of them have answered no. 52.5% of the females have answered yes.; (**Fig 8**): For the question on other causes of child labour, 10% of the unemployed, 12.5% of the students and 7.5% of the respondents working in private sector have answered unemployed for adults and adolescents. 7.5% of the students and 10% of the respondents working in public sector have answered migration. 22.5% of the students and 7.5% of the professionals have answered lack of access to quality education. 22.5% of the students have answered others.; (**Fig 9**): For the question on effectiveness of the country's law on child labour, 47.5% of them have rated 2 out of 10, 22.5% of them have rated 4, 15% of them have rated 5, 7.5% of them have rated 6 and 7.5% of them have rated 8.; (**Fig 10**): For the question on whether child labour can be abolished or it can only be reduced, 10% of the illiterates, 10% of the high school students and 10% of the PGs have said that child labour can be demolished. 15% of the high school students, 47.5% of the UGs and 7.5% of the PGs have said that it can only be reduced.; (**Fig 11**): For the question on ways to eradicate child labour, 7.5% of the respondents from rural area have answered education. 15% of the respondents from sub-urban areas have answered education, 25% of them have answered awareness, 20% of them answered strict laws and 7.5% of them answered others. 15% of the respondents from urban areas have answered education, and 10% of them have answered others.; **H1**- there is a significant relation between

place of residence of the respondents and their opinions on whether child labour can be abolished or it can only be reduced. **H0-** there is no significant relation between place of residence of the respondents and their opinions on whether child labour can be abolished or it can only be reduced.

DISCUSSION:

The first pie chart in data analysis says that the majority of the respondents are below the age of 20 and the minority of the respondents are above the age of 50. **(Fig 1)**; The second pie chart in data analysis says that the majority of the respondents are females and the minority of the respondents males and some of them have preferred not to say. **(Fig 2)**; The third pie chart in data analysis says that the majority of the respondents are undergraduates and the minority of the respondents are illiterate. **(Fig 3)**; The fourth pie chart in data analysis says that the majority of the respondents are students and the minority of the respondents are unemployed. **(Fig 4)**; From these 4 pie charts, it is clear that the majority of the respondents are females below the age of 20 and studying undergraduate in college.; Majority of the respondents were from urban area and it was found that they've witnessed child labour in many construction sites, those children selling toys in traffic and other factories. **(Fig 5)**; Majority of the respondents have agreed that poverty plays a vital role in the increase in child labour, minority of the respondents have disagreed and some of them have stayed neutral. **(Fig 6)**; Majority of the respondents have responded that child labour can only be reduced. This is because in many problems, there are no permanent solutions. Also, there is a politics and business involved behind this child labour, because of which it still exists. **(Fig 10)**; Majority of the respondents have suggested that creating awareness will help in resolving the child labour and minority of the respondents have said that taking action on those who promote child labour will help in eradication of child labour. **(Fig 11)**

LIMITATIONS:

This paper examines the impact of poverty on child labour. Target test is the overall population in Chennai. The disadvantages of this paper is the unacceptable get-together of reactions through internet based modes (Whatsapp and other web-based entertainment) in light of the fact that the essential successful of the examination paper is individuals who amassed the reactions straightforwardly to individuals and approach to gathering reactions through web-based larger part of individuals on question breaking down the absence of comprehension of overall population.

CONCLUSION:

Exploitation of children in any forms of work, which causes harm to them physically, mentally, socially and morally is known as child labour. The major objective of this research was to find out whether poverty creates impact on child labour, whether children are being forced to do work and whether government has taken enough initiatives to eradicate child labour. The findings was that, majority of the respondents were not aware about the government initiatives to resolve the problems raised by child labour and many of them suggested some ways to eradicate child labour. Some of them are education and awareness. But the bitter truth is that, child labour cannot be eradicated completely. For any problem, the root cause should be found and then we must find a way to resolve that. Likewise, the poverty is one of the major cause that lead to child labour. So we must find a better ways to abolish poverty, thet automatically the child labour will reduce. Though there are some flaws in child labour, there are also some positive sides in child labour. Making the children work will enhance their skills, which would help them in future. The only thing is that they should not be forced to do work. If a person's childhood is better, then their whole life will be better.

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