

Child Right and Abuse

What are Child Rights?



Universally child rights are defined by the [United Nations](#) and [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)](#). According to the UNCRC Child Rights are minimum entitlements and freedoms that should be afforded to all persons below the age of 18 regardless of race, colour, gender, language, religion, opinions, origins, wealth, birth status or ability and therefore apply to all people everywhere. The UN finds these rights interdependent and indivisible, meaning that a right can not be fulfilled at the expense of another right.

The purpose of the [UNCRC](#) is to outline the basic human rights that should be afforded to children. There are four broad classifications of these rights. These four categories cover all civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights of every child.

- **Right to Survival:**
 - Right to be born
 - Right to minimum standards of food, shelter and clothing
 - Right to live with dignity
 - Right to health care, to safe drinking water, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help them stay healthy
- **Right to Protection:**
 - Right to be protected from all sorts of violence
 - Right to be protected from neglect
 - Right to be protected from physical and sexual abuse
 - Right to be protected from dangerous drugs
- **Right to Participation:**
 - Right to freedom of opinion
 - Right to freedom of expression
 - Right to freedom of association
 - Right to information
 - Right to participate in any decision making that involves him/her directly or indirectly
- **Right to Development:**
 - Right to education 28-29
 - Right to learn
 - Right to relax and play
 - Right to all forms of development – emotional, mental and physical

❖ **Constitutional Guarantees that are meant specifically for children include:**

- Right to free and compulsory elementary education for all children in the 6-14 year age group (Article 21 A)
- Right to be protected from any hazardous employment till the age of 14 years (Article 24)
- Right to be protected from being abused and forced by economic necessity to enter occupations unsuited to their age or strength (Article 39(e))
- Right to early childhood care and education to all children until they complete the age of six years (Article 45)

Besides, Children also have rights as equal citizens of India, just as any other adult male or female:

- Right to equality (Article 14)
- Right against discrimination (Article 15)
- Right to personal liberty and due process of law (Article 21)
- Right to being protected from being trafficked and forced into bonded labour (Article 23)
- Right of minorities for protection of their interests (Article 29)
- Right of weaker sections of the people to be protected from social injustice and all forms of exploitation (Article 46)
- Right to nutrition and standard of living and improved public health (Article 47)

- **Introduction:**

- Children are the future of a country.
- But as we all know that the children are the most vulnerable.
- Every child has right to lead a decent life
- In India 440 million are children(40%)
- But status of the children in India is not well

- **Status of Children In India**

- Over one billion children have been denied their childhood worldwide(**UNICEF Report**)
- About 63 per cent of children in India go without food and 53 per cent suffer from chronic malnutrition
- 27 million are severely underweight and 33 million have never been to school
- National Dropout Rate at the Elementary Level is over 40% (DISE, 2011-12)
- Around 25 to 30 million children in India spend their lives on the streets in a poisonous environment.

- **Programmes/ Schemes related to children:**

- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), 1975
- Integrated programme for Street Children, 1993
- Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, 1995
- Midday Meal Scheme, 1995

- □ Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, 2001
- □ The National Rural Health Mission, 2005
- □ Creche Scheme for the children of working mothers,2006

CHILD ABUSE

1. PHYSICAL ABUSE- Family members,corporal punishment etc
2. SEXUAL ABUSE - forces sexual
3. SOCIAL ABUSE- Out-caste,Class system,Gender discrimination,Deprival of rights
4. EMOTIONAL ABUSE- attitudes of rejection by parents because boy or girl
5. VERBAL ABUSE- Communication by words, vocal tones and accompanying body language and attitudes
6. SPIRITUAL ABUSE- Forcible Conversion of children,Caste system
7. NEGLECT- It is the failure to provide for the child's basic needs.

- How to STOP the CHILD's Abuse :

- ❖ Talk to the Parents
- ❖ Network with the concerned NGO's
- ❖ Report to the Police(if required)
- ❖ Create an awareness
- ❖ Influence the Government to pass the policies to Help the Children

- ❖ Educate our children about sex and Appropriate behavior
- ❖ discussion and encourage the parents to do what is right

- ❖ Sensitize your friends, family, and acquaintances ,Talk and share your experiences with other parents

- **Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (Amended in 1979):** It restrains child marriage until the minimum age, i.e. 21 for male and 18 for female,
- **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**
- **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986:** This act regulates the working conditions for children in employment and prohibits working of children in certain kinds of employments.
- **Care and Protection of Children Act, 2000:** This act is one of the important acts in India for the children in need of care and protection and also children in conflict with the law. It requires that the state provides free legal support to the juveniles, and proper care and protection is provided to those in need. Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act (Amendment, 2006), 2006
 - **The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009**
 - **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2012**
- **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012:** The act aims at punishing the offenders who are guilty of sexual offences against children below the age of 18 years of age.

