

Global Justice Week

hosted
by GT
CCF

Statistics:

- Worldwide, 126 million children work in hazardous conditions.
- There are an estimated 250,000 child soldiers worldwide.
- An estimated 2 million children are sexually exploited each year with half of them being in Asia and 300,000 in the United States.



What You Can Do:

We will be dressing up as kids (girls bows in hair, guys cartoony shirts, etc.) and handing out lollipops with facts about childhood exploitation attached around campus throughout the day. Stop by and get some to hand out!

Facebook status: Post a story about a favorite childhood memory.

Learn More: Unicef

www.unicef.org/protection/57929_57977.html

Daily Focuses:

Monday | HIV/AIDS

Tuesday | Child Exploitation

Wednesday | Natural Disasters

Thursday | Slums

Friday | Refugees

Tuesday Devotional – Child Exploitation

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14

How often do we take for granted the joyful memories from our childhood? It is sad to think that many children around the globe today are not going to have many to talk about. In many war-torn countries, children are being taken from their families to fight in a war they know nothing about. Child soldiers are valued because they often do not have a sense of endangerment and can be used as spies, decoys or guards. Other children are being forced to work long hours in factories or on farms in order to earn much needed money to pay off family debts or just normal living expenses. Often these children work with hazardous chemicals or dangerous machinery and receive beatings from adult managers when they do not meet the quota. Children are also sold as prostitutes or forced into early marriages. In all of these forms of child exploitation, vulnerable children are taken advantage of by more powerful adults.

In the verse above, Jesus reveals his true heart for children in this world. Just as we are loved children of God, so are these abused children. The only difference is the situation and culture into which they were born. In this story, a group of Pharisees are questioning Jesus when several children start approaching him. When the disciples try to stop them, Jesus tells them to let the children come to him so that he can touch them and pray for them. This world is filled with many things that God never desired for his children, but as Jesus says, the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. We should follow Jesus' example and reach out to these children however we can, whether that is by praying, giving of our own resources and blessings, or simply raising awareness. As children of God, isn't it cool to know that one day we will be united in heaven as God intended for us to be, free from the hardships of life on earth?

For more information please visit www.gtccf.org/compassion
or stop by GT CCF at 767 Techwood Drive