

YOUTH PROJECT: Dialogue on child labor through the Youth Network for Children's Rights

"We have to start a **network** of children so that we can *keep in contact with each other* in order to be educated on the issue all over the world. . . This network will be made up of children from all over the world, and it will *spread the stories of child labor and opinions*. The network will help us *plan more effective actions* in our struggle against child labor. . ."

- **Children's Declaration**, May 2004 *Children's World Congress on Child Labor*

To enable students to express and exchange views on child labor issues, the *Youth Network for Children's Rights* (YNCR) was launched in July 2004. Support for this youth-led platform of communication - in the form of an e-newsletter - was provided by the International Center on Child Labor and Education in Washington, D.C.

The **purpose** of the e-newsletter is to *build knowledge* of global child labor issues, including the urgent need for free and quality primary education for *all* children and for the rehabilitation of child laborers.

E-newsletter **objectives**:

- To *encourage child participation and promote youth leadership* on child labor issues.
- To *bridge the gap* between children of different cultural, economic, and geographic backgrounds through the exchange of views.
- To *connect children and youth* from the global north and south so that they can understand each others' perspectives and aspirations
- To *foster working together* to create better opportunities for children all around the world.
- To become the largest online forum of child and young adult voices, regardless of language or location.

YNCR **activities**:

- Providing a forum for the creative expression and sharing of all young people's feelings, opinions and ideas on matters affecting them.
- Spreading awareness of the realities faced by children.
- Giving children and youth an opportunity to discuss their solutions, share Youth Action Plans, learn from each other, replicate successful actions, and work together.

The **content** of YNCR e-newsletter should be determined by children and youth. Some suggestions include:

- Reports on the status of child labor in your villages, cities and/or nation.
- Youth Action Plans outlining what children and youth are doing about child labor issues.
- Original poems, short stories, drawings or artistic pieces related to child labor.
- Editorial or opinion pieces about important local or global issues related to child labor.
- Reports on local, state and national government action affecting children.

Access current (and past) issues of YNCR: www.iccle.org

Subscribe to YNCR: http://iccle.net/mailman/listinfo/Childrensnewsletter_iccle.net

Contribute to YNCR: E-mail newsletter@iccle.org

YNCR contact information:

Emily Oliver, age 16, Connecticut, USA, emilyoliver@iccle.org

Beth Lindley, ICCLE, blindley@iccle.org