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Policy Briefing on Child Protection Policy of Ethiopia in Emergencies

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Despite the fact that the Ethiopia government has launched lot policies, such as child protection policy for tackling such problems, these have still been occurring and expanding in different districts in a country without the discrimination of ethnicity, language, and nations and nationalities. More specifically, in fact getting available data on human trafficking in general and child trafficking in particular is difficult owing to its illegal, hidden, the extent and magnitude of trafficking activities and problems, more than 869, 567 children who the age between 10 to 14 were illegally migrating from Ethiopia. On other issue, 70% in Ethiopian girls are sexually abused and harassed and 30% girls were raped at least one time in their life before reaching the age of eighteen.

Keywords: *child; protection, policy; briefing; ethiopia.*

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Despite the fact that the Ethiopia government has launched lot policies, such as child protection policy for tackling such problems, these have still been occurring and expanding in different districts in a country without the discrimination of ethnicity, language, and nations and nationalities. More specifically, in fact getting available data on human trafficking in general and child trafficking in particular is difficult owing to its illegal, hidden, the extent and magnitude of trafficking activities and problems, more than 869, 567 children who the age between 10 to 14 were illegally migrating from Ethiopia. On other issue, 70% in Ethiopian girls are sexually abused and harassed and 30% girls were raped at least one time in their life before reaching the age of eighteen. However, nearly five out of ten girls assured that they were averagely raped three to ten time in their life span. On child labor problem, from 48.6% of children who below 15 years old in Ethiopia, half of the children were active economically in the age group 10-14 in the country among seven million children in the listed age group. Out of the entire children population in Ethiopia who faced to the challenges of child labor, nearly six out of ten children and one out of ten children lived in rural and urban respectively. These empirical evidences show that the majority of the children work in the primary economic activity in this country. On vulnerable children, though estimates vary, recent approximations claim that there are over 5 million orphans including 1.5 million AIDS orphans in Ethiopia. These include social orphan, mother or father or both orphan, famine orphan, malaria and other infectious disease orphan, and war orphan. The prevalence of such problems in Ethiopia have faced the challenges of lot emergencies, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, lack of educational and health accesses, mental-ill, and other physical impairment.

What the recommendation put for reducing such problems in Ethiopia are that the government should create and apply the guideline of child protection with the civil society, local and international NGOs, and Civil societies; the government should focus on the marginalized Ethiopian children, especially for the disabled, impaired, and handicapped children, the pastoralists' and orphaned children, and the children who have a lack of educational and health accesses; the government should structure Ministry, Bureau, and Office from the federal level to kebele for the concerning of children only without overlapping youths and women; the government and NGOs, and other formal and informal sectors should conduct research and draft projects for minimizing those problems in a country promptly.

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I. Introduction

Children are the future generation who should be socialized and grown in a good healthy condition because they are the future adults and development in every countries (Miles, 2009). If the children have not necessarily been socialized, they shall be exposing different faces for their physical, mental, psychological, moral, and community development at large (Gobena, 1998). 48.6% of Ethiopia people are children who are below 15 years old. (CSA, 2013). Ethiopia is characterized by a high fertility rate and a rapid population growth with comparing to other sub Saharan countries. Despite the fact the fertility rate of Ethiopia is become minimized from 7.17 in the years between 1950 and 1955 to 5.07 in 2016, the small amount of reduction on rapid population growth and unexpected fertility rate were the challenges to have tackled the realization of their rights and other related benefits (UNICEF, 1998; CSA, 2016). Of the total child population, 85% live in the rural areas and the remaining 15% live in the urban areas. Ethiopia has experienced enormous problems of severe and widespread poverty despite its vast natural resources and has been unable to meet the basic needs of its population in general and children in particular (Myers, 1991) since children are those who socialized in a safe and healthy environment are the adults of tomorrow and the bases for the future development of a country (Miles, 2009). Unless children are properly socialized, there will be a chance to become challenging for their personal and societal development (Gobena, 1998). (Please delete the green bold paragraph?)

Today, child problems like labor, trafficking; marriage, sexual abuse and so forth are viewed as a grievous issue throughout the world. Particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the problem is very serious (ILO, 2016). It is a critical human rights problem because it denies the child's time to take part in activities that are useful for the 'normal' growth of the

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child like time to go to school and time to play (ILO, 2016). Many young people who are below 15 years work in different and types of tasks and industries which are plainly precarious and harmful (Mendelievich, 1979: 46). Child labor is one of the most prevalent causes and forms of child exploitation and abuse. Its negative effect is observed in the physical, intellectual and social development of the working children (Weston, 2005; Myers, 1991). Currently, millions of children toil in non-schooling type of work, early marriage, and trafficking through deception mostly under hardship and hazardous conditions which are detrimental to their health and wellbeing (UNICEF, 2015). According to UNICEF (1998: 48-49), the majority of out-of-school children are likely to be working, in turn, work prevents many children from going to or benefiting from education (UNICEF, 2015).

Therefore, Child Protection Policy is a very crucial instrument for safeguarding the rights of children and protecting the violence of children on the condition of at risk labor, exploit their power, and overwhelm not to have educational and health access because of the prevalence of child emergencies: child trafficking, child labor, and child sexual abuse. Due to the fact that every countries which have child protection policy would have its own advantages for the protection of children from over all sever and complex problem they have, it might also have disadvantages because the drafting of some social and public policy have been based on class, ethnicity, language, nation, nationalities, and cultures. In turn, they have shown their dominancy over the marginalized part of society. Child Protection Policy of Ethiopia is not an exceptional for not being widely emphasized these groups.

II. Problem Identification

The children protection policy of Ethiopia needs to reduce the main problems of the children, such as children trafficking, sexual abuse, child labor, and orphan and vulnerable children (Raey, 2007; FDRE, 2012).

III. Children Trafficking

Getting available data on human trafficking in general and child trafficking in particular is difficult owing to its illegal, hidden, the extent and magnitude of trafficking activities and problems,, and different scholars have give various definition to what child trafficking is defined (WHO, 2012: 1; Frieda, 2009: 1). But, Children appear to be more vulnerable to trafficking, one-fourth the victims of trafficking is below the age of 18 (Yoseph et al., 2010:19). And, different researches show that more than 600,000 human beings are trafficked internationally each year, 27% of this population consists of children, which means 216,000 children were trafficked each year (Davey, 2005; UN, 2012: 7) not including 1, 500 children are legally departed from Ethiopia daily (MOLSA, 2012). Among the child victims, there were more detected calms at trafficking of girls than of boys: two of every three trafficked children are girls, child trafficking victims' account for about 16% of them (UN, 2012: 7).

A recent newspaper indicates that 35, 000 Ethiopian children have migrated to the Gulf States (Yoseph et al., 2010: 36-37). Furthermore, A research conducted by UNICEF (2012) indicates that 45,000-60,000 trafficked Ethiopians have irregularly migrated across the Metema border, Northern Ethiopia to arrive at Sudan, Libya, Italy, German, and France in between the years 2011 and 2012. Among them, about 27% were children.

More than 869, 567 children who the age between 10 to 14 were illegally migrating from Ethiopia, among them 51, 442 in age between 10 to 14 children were from Tigray region, which means 6 % of the total trafficking in a country level, and 9% of the total 613, 806 children in regional level. The central Zone of Tigray region accounts for more than 26, 546 trafficked children were originated in this zone, which means it covers 52% of the total children trafficking in Tigray region (CSA, 2007).

The prevalence of such amount children trafficking in Ethiopia impacts on human development: life expectancy (Frank and Gergana, 2009: 33). Children trafficking impacts on human development means human capital: health, education and the quality of standard of living because they have a direct relationships, and/or the concept of human capital can be integrated with the concepts of human development on education and cognitive development, psychological, biological and brain development (John, 2014: 1, 3, and 26). And, the advanced measurement of human development considers the concept of human capital (Kwon, 2009: 31).

Children trafficking are possibly the worst human development outcome linked to increasing global mobility (Please delete it?). The impacts of children trafficking also have a wider implication on human development because trafficking undermines the health, safety, and the security of all nations it touches (Dos, 2008: 5 cited in Frank, Gergana, 2009: 1).

Trafficking in children can cause a child's death serious illness and permanent injury (ILO, 2009: 35). Being in preserving and wide spreading trafficking situation in different countries, especially the source of child trafficking like Ethiopia also has social, psychological, economical, and emotional severity they have (ILO, 2009). and hate themselves even attempt to suicide (ILO, 2009: 34). These problems impact on children's future in a less assured because he/she will not have the skills required to earn a living or progress in life, this results in the human development efforts are undermined and the cycle of poverty continuous,

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putting younger generations at risks of this trafficking (ILO, 2009: 36).

The children trafficking impacts on gaining more potential child power; it affects on education. In Tigray region alone, there are 432, 831 between 10 and 14 years children have got education from the total children population of 613, 086, but 51, 442 children were migrated, which means 12% of the total literate children on the stated ages (CSA, 2007) although IOM (2003) states 1 out of 6 trafficked children has occurred through completed elementary education. So, by this case economic development or the reduction of poverty is lamed due to the expansion of illiterate and also because potentially productive future workers are lost to the economy. And also, children who reform from trafficking with injuries or disease also put a financial burden on their families and on the country and becoming dependence have been followed up (ILO, 2009: 36; US state department, 2004). In addition to that, trafficked children may experience reproductive problems, as a later date (US state department, 2004).

Trafficking in children is also a crime against individual that trafficking activities contravene fundamental human rights, denying people basic and broadly accepted individual freedom (Frieda, 2010: 2-3; UNODC, 2008: 81-85). Hence, children trafficking results loss of human resources, and becoming one of the social, economic and political issues in here Ethiopia in general (UNODC, 2008: 1; Gudetu, 2014: 244).

IV. Sexual Abuse

Lot social researchers' finding could be shown us that sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation of children have prevailed and expanded in Ethiopia The prevalence of all types of children sexual violence including rape, sexual harassment and abduction in Amhara. Oromo and Tigray have encountered with limited variations between urban and rural as well as between different cultural groups (MOLSA, 2005). Another study by Kelemu (2011) which was conducted on the issue of child sexual abuse in Gondar town high schools and the base line survey in Bahir Dar town by FSCE (2005) revealed that sexual exploitation of children prevails in high in high schools. Similarly, a national study by Ministry of Education and Women's Affairs (2008), on violence against girls in primary schools in Ethiopia revealed that a great number of teachers, parents and students in Addis Ababa, Afar, and South Nation, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia perceive the level of children's sexual violence in schools in their areas to be high with comparing to other nation and nationalities of Ethiopia. The study also explained that sexual violence and abuse took place in schools on the way to and from schools in which much of the abuse and violence that girls exposed to take place (MOWCYA, 2012).

The average age of children that are forced to enter the sex trade industry is between 12 to 14 years, these children in prostitution are exploited 10 to 20 times per night, seven days in row (HRC, 2013:13). This problem came from their parents, up to 20, 000 children, some 10 years old are sold each year by their parents by less than $ 1.20 per children (ECACT, 2011).

The most comprehensive evidence comes from a publication of the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) on the state of violence against girls including sexual violence in Ethiopia (2006 cited in Getnet and Desta, 2008) issued that70% in Ethiopian girls are sexually abused and harassed and 30% girls were raped at least one time in their life before reaching the age of eighteen. However, nearly five out of ten girls assured that they were averagely raped three to ten time in their life span. Besides to this 80% of Ethiopian girls were faced to the challenges of most prevalence of sexual observed seen in the country: verbal abuse, child molestation (touching and fondling of a sexual nature) as well as rape; however, verbal abuse and child molestation have encountered to 97% causes of rape at a later date. In which abuses occur within the school, the home and environments as well as in the community leading one to the belief that there are literally no safe places for girls. Perpetrators of abuse are often male friends, adult male neighbors and strangers but at times, shockingly enough; close family members including fathers and brothers (UNICEF, 2012).

V. Child Labor

Child labor is a complicated issue in a country like Ethiopia. As in many under developed countries, such as Africa, child labor is a widespread problem in Ethiopia (ILO/EAMAT, 1996: 5). Almost 47 percent of Ethiopia's population is under 15 years of age (CSA, 2013). According to the 2001 National Child Labor Survey Report, around 18,197,783 of the estimated 55.9 million total populations were children between the ages of 5 and 17. The survey result shows that about 85 percent of the country's children were engaged in some kind of activity, that is, productive activity or housekeeping activity. Overall, 9,483,611 children (52.1 percent of the total children) were reported to have worked productive activities during the reference period in Ethiopia (CSA, 2001: xiii). It is currently facing this problem particularly in cities and towns where like in other developing countries the informal sector covers a significant share in the total urban economy (Mengesha, 1998: 1). For example, in Addis Ababa, 65,171 children were engaged in productive activity especially in the informal sector (CSA, 2001: 47).

According to the 2005 National Labor Force Survey, out of the total 222,239 children between the age of 10 and 14, 17, 769 were employed in the informal sector in Addis Ababa (CSA, 2005). The type of

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exploitation, in general, include low wages, long working hours, denying the child's right to education, denial of the rights of the child for constructive leisure, etc. (Dyorough, 1984: 51 as cited in Mengesha, 1998). Research shows that from 48.6% of children who below 15 years old in Ethiopia, half of the children were active economically in the age group 10-14 in the country among seven million children in the listed age group. Out of the entire children population in Ethiopia who faced to the challenges of child labor, nearly six out of ten children and one out of ten children lived in rural and urban respectively. These empirical evidences show that the majority of the children work in the primary economic activity in this country (UN, 2012).

With the purpose of tackling these problems, every concerned body of children, such as government organizations, NGOs, and other formal and informal sectors have undertaken awareness-raising programmmes as well as conducting research regarding child protection from their emergencies. The Ethiopia government has affirmed lot international convention and agreement for the protection of children, such as the minimum Age Convention No. 138, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of Children, and the Worst Forms of Child Labor (UN, 2012). Besides that, Ethiopia has seen continuous and sustainable economic growth and development for the consecutive more than 10 years. These growth and development have played their roles in coming educational development in the country. And, various policies have also played their roles for coming economic development and growth: this policy may also one of the parts of it. Further, this child protection policy briefing has its own significance and values both the federal and regional government of Ethiopia by announcing how much children are under various social, economical, and psychological problems

VI. Orphan and Vulnerable Children

Due to the occurrences of poor living standards as well as conditions in this under developed nations, the concerned bodies have struggled for caring and curing millions of orphaned children. Though lot local and international organizations have put their estimation, recent approximations claimed that there are over 5 million orphans including 1.5 million AIDS orphans in Ethiopia. This estimation shown that the children are those who were 18 years old were being influenced to different exposures: lose of mother, father or both, healthy orphan and so forth (Abebe and Asase, 2007; Gross and Connors, 2007). After AIDS orphans, "The remaining 70% of orphans are often classified as 'famine orphans,' 'war orphans,' 'malaria orphans,' and 'social orphans,' i.e. children who have been abandoned mainly due to poverty" (Abebe and Asase, 2007). The researcher, such as Bhargava (2005) explained that the children who exposed on losing their families might face to stresses, depression, insomnia, totally Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, in turn, they challenged to how vital assisting and nurturing are physical, emotional, health, and economic losses.

The emergence of high amount of orphan recorded in Ethiopia was characterized to the loss of parents, the prevalence of instability due to drought and famine, lack of well equipped healthy materials, challenged by good healthy conditions, extreme poverty, child labor practices and stigmatization because of being children. (Abebe and Asase, 2007). At last not the least, physically impaired, disabled, and handicapped and pastoralists' children have largely faced to the problem of education, the participation of social activities, educational involvement and so forth (UNICEF, 2016).

VII. Conclusion

At the same time lot scholars may be describing about child protection policy based on their country context, this paper also brief the child protection policy in Ethiopia to be more effective for children's issues.

Children are the future generation; they should be cured, cared, and protected from different terrible and troubles that beyond their controls. Despite the fact that the government of Ethiopia has formulated Child Protection Policy for protecting the trauma of variety conditions within children and different formal and informal sectors have also given their contributions for sustaining their natural human rights and the constitutional democratic rights in Ethiopia based on the country's child protection policy, child trafficking, child labor, and child sexual abuse are the chronicle child problems in this country. For your surprising, 216,000 children have been trafficked each your abroad for the purposes of exploitation. Out of its number, 144, 000 girls' children have been faced by the challenges of this problem. Metema district is the major trafficking route flow area to be expanded this problem in a country in general and North Gondar Zone in particular.

Child's sexual abuse is also the sever challenges for executing the children rights in a country. The average age of children that are forced to enter the sex trade industry is between children have encountered to appear to be prostituted in the age of 12 to 14 years, these children in prostitution are exploited 10 to 20 times per night, seven days in row, which means 5,475 times per night for one year. Child labor is also a complicated issue for sustaining the prospects and the rights of children in Ethiopia. 85% of children have given their natural forces for agriculture with a minimum wages and for more than eight hours. This is in turn; get back to bring the deterioration of their physical fitness, mind, and fear of education. There are more than 5 million Orphan and Vulnerable Children in Ethiopia. Out of it, 30% were lived with HIV/AIDS. And 70% of children were

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socially, famine, malaria and other infectious disease, and disabled orphans.

VIII. Recommendation

What the writer of this policy briefing paper on child protection in emergencies recommends about the protection of child for the formal and informal sectors are that:

- The government should create and apply the guideline of child protection with the civil society, local and international NGOs, and Civil Societies even if the government can apply the implementation plan
- The government should focus on the excluded and marginalized Ethiopian children, especially for the disabled, impaired, and handicapped children, the pastoralists' and orphaned children, and the children who have a lack of educational and health accesses
- The government should construct some primary, secondary and college buildings for the special needs children
- The government should emphasize on the place where huge amount of child labor, child trafficking, sexual abuse, and orphan and vulnerable children exploitation were carried out and finding solution about them with the country's partnership and other fund raisers via research and project designing and management though some insufficient endeavors have been performed.
- The government should structure Ministry, Bureau, and Office from the federal level to kebele for the concerning of children only without overlapping to youths and women for the purpose of executing child protection policy properly.
- The NGOs should create awareness, image building, and support the children who are excluded entirely.
- The government should structure health insurances for children
- The government should provide free social welfare for children for reducing the orphaned children.
- The government should draft and ratify the proclamations, canon, and protocol how the NGOs, Civil societies, and private sectors run their works on the rights of children in particular and for their protection in general even though some consensus work plan have been unforgotten.

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