

1 Policy Briefing on Child Protection Policy of Ethiopia in 2 Emergencies

3 Nahom Eyasu

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5

6 **Abstract**

7 Children are the future generation who will be socialized and grown in a good healthy
8 condition because they are the future adults and development in overall the world. If the
9 children have not necessarily been socialized, they shall be exposing different faces for their
10 physical, mental, psychological, moral, and community development at large... 48.6

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12 **Index terms**— child; protection, policy; briefing; ethiopia.

13 **1 Policy Briefing on Child Protection Policy of Ethiopia in 14 Emergencies**

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16 Summary-Children are the future generation who will be socialized and grown in a good healthy condition
17 because they are the future adults and development in overall the world. If the children have not necessarily been
18 socialized, they shall be exposing different faces for their physical, mental, psychological, moral, and community
19 development at large... 48.6% of Ethiopia people are children who are below 15 years old. Among 48.6%, nearly
20 18% are under the age of 5 years, which means 37% of the entire below 15 years old and these have encountered
21 to the challenges of child trafficking, child labor, sexual abuse, orphan and vulnerable and other related problems.

22 Despite the fact that the Ethiopia government has launched lot policies, such as child protection policy for
23 tackling such problems, these have still been occurring and expanding in different districts in a country without
24 the discrimination of ethnicity, language, and nations and nationalities. More specifically, in fact getting available
25 data on human trafficking in general and child trafficking in particular is difficult owing to its illegal, hidden, the
26 extent and magnitude of trafficking activities and problems, more than 869, 567 children who the age between
27 10 to 14 were illegally migrating from Ethiopia. On other issue, 70% in Ethiopian girls are sexually abused and
28 harassed and 30% girls were raped at least one time in their life before reaching the age of eighteen. However,
29 nearly five out of ten girls assured that they were averagely raped three to ten time in their life span. On
30 child labor problem, from 48.6% of children who below 15 years old in Ethiopia, half of the children were active
31 economically in the age group 10-14 in the country among seven million children in the listed age group. Out
32 of the entire children population in Ethiopia who faced to the challenges of child labor, nearly six out of ten
33 children and one out of ten children lived in rural and urban respectively. These empirical evidences show that
34 the majority of the children work in the primary economic activity in this country. On vulnerable children,
35 though estimates vary, recent approximations claim that there are over 5 million orphans including 1.5 million
36 AIDS orphans in Ethiopia. These include social orphan, mother or father or both orphan, famine orphan, malaria
37 and other infectious disease orphan, and war orphan. The prevalence of such problems in Ethiopia have faced
38 the challenges of lot emergencies, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, lack of educational and health accesses,
39 mental-ill, and other physical impairment.

40 What the recommendation put for reducing such problems in Ethiopia are that the government should create
41 and apply the guideline of child protection with the civil society, local and international NGOs, and Civil societies;
42 the government should focus on the marginalized Ethiopian

43 **2 Introduction**

44 Today, child problems like labor, trafficking, marriage, sexual abuse and so forth are viewed as a grievous issue
45 throughout the world. Particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the problem is very serious (ILO, 2016).

6 CHILDREN TRAFFICKING

46 It is a critical human rights problem because it denies the child's time to take part in activities that are useful
47 for the 'normal' growth of the children are the future generation who should be socialized and grown in a good
48 healthy condition because they are the future adults and development in every countries ??Miles, 2009). If the
49 children have not necessarily been socialized, they shall be exposing different faces for their physical, mental,
50 psychological, moral, and community development at large ??Gobena, 1998). 48.6% of Ethiopia people are
51 children who are below 15 years old. (CSA, 2013). Ethiopia is characterized by a high fertility rate and a rapid
52 population growth with comparing to other sub Saharan countries. Despite the fact the fertility rate of Ethiopia
53 is become minimized from 7.17 in the years between 1950 and 1955 to 5.07 in 2016, the small amount of reduction
54 on rapid population growth and unexpected fertility rate were the challenges to have tackled the realization of
55 their rights and other related benefits (UNICEF, 1998; CSA, 2016). Of the total child population, 85% live in
56 the rural areas and the remaining 15% live in the urban areas. Ethiopia has experienced enormous problems of
57 severe and widespread poverty despite its vast natural resources and has been unable to meet the basic needs
58 of its population in general and children in particular (Myers, 1991) since children are those who socialized in a
59 safe and healthy environment are the adults of tomorrow and the bases for the future development of a country
60 ??Miles, 2009). Unless children are properly socialized, there will be a chance to become challenging for their
61 personal and societal development ??Gobena, 1998). (Please delete the green bold paragraph?) C child like time
62 to go to school and time to play (ILO, 2016). Many young people who are below 15 years work in different and
63 types of tasks and industries which are plainly precarious and harmful ??Mendelievich, 1979: 46). Child labor is
64 one of the most prevalent causes and forms of child exploitation and abuse. Its negative effect is observed in the
65 physical, intellectual and social development of the working children ??Weston, 2005; ??yers, 1991). Currently,
66 millions of children toil in nonschooling type of work, early marriage, and trafficking through deception mostly
67 under hardship and hazardous conditions which are detrimental to their health and wellbeing (UNICEF, 2015).
68 According to UNICEF (1998: 48-49), the majority of out-of-school children are likely to be working, in turn,
69 work prevents many children from going to or benefiting from education (UNICEF, 2015).

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

79 3 II.

80 4 Problem Identification

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

83 5 III.

84 6 Children Trafficking

85 Getting available data on human trafficking in general and child trafficking in particular is difficult owing to its
86 illegal, hidden, the extent and magnitude of trafficking activities and problems,, and different scholars have give
87 various definition to what child trafficking is defined (WHO, 2012: 1; Frieda, 2009: 1). But, Children appear
88 to be more vulnerable to trafficking, one-fourth the victims of trafficking is below the age of 18 ??Yoseph et
89 al., 2010:19). And, different researches show that more than 600,000 human beings are trafficked internationally
90 each year, 27% of this population consists of children, which means 216,000 children were trafficked each year
91 (Davey, 2005; UN, 2012: 7) not including 1, 500 children are legally departed from Ethiopia daily (MOLSA,
92 2012). Among the child victims, there were more detected calms at trafficking of girls than of boys: two of every
93 three trafficked children are girls, child trafficking victims' account for about 16% of them (UN, 2012: 7).

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

98 More than 869, 567 children who the age between 10 to 14 were illegally migrating from Ethiopia, among them
99 51, 442 in age between 10 to 14 children were from Tigray region, which means 6 % of the total trafficking in a
100 country level, and 9% of the total 613, 806 children in regional level. The central Zone of Tigray region accounts
101 for more than 26, 546 trafficked children were originated in this zone, which means it covers 52% of the total
102 children trafficking in Tigray region ??CSA, 2007).

103 The prevalence of such amount children trafficking in Ethiopia impacts on human development: life expectancy
104 ??Frank and Gergana, 2009: 33). Children trafficking impacts on human development means human capital:

105 health, education and the quality of standard of living because they have a direct relationships, and/or the
106 concept of human capital can be integrated with the concepts of human development on education and cognitive
107 development, psychological, biological and brain development (John, 2014: 1, 3, and 26). And, the advanced
108 measurement of human development considers the concept of human capital ??Kwon, 2009: 31).

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

113 Trafficking in children can cause a child's death serious illness and permanent injury ??ILO, 2009: 35). Being in
114 preserving and wide spreading trafficking situation in different countries, especially the source of child trafficking
115 like Ethiopia also has social, psychological, economical, and emotional severity they have ??ILO, 2009). and
116 hate themselves even attempt to suicide (ILO, 2009: 34). These problems impact on children's future in a less
117 assured because he/she will not have the skills required to earn a living or progress in life, this results in the
118 human development efforts are undermined and the cycle of poverty continuous, putting younger generations at
119 risks of this trafficking ??ILO, 2009: 36).

120 The children trafficking impacts on gaining more potential child power; it affects on education. In Tigray
121 region alone, there are 432, 831 between 10 and 14 years children have got education from the total children
122 population of 613, 086, but 51, 442 children were migrated, which means 12% of the total literate children on
123 the stated ages (CSA, 2007) although IOM ??2003) states 1 out of 6 trafficked children has occurred through
124 completed elementary education. So, by this case economic development or the reduction of poverty is lamed due
125 to the expansion of illiterate and also because potentially productive future workers are lost to the economy. And
126 also, children who reform from trafficking with injuries or disease also put a financial burden on their families and
127 on the country and becoming dependence have been followed up (ILO, 2009: 36; US state department, 2004). In
128 addition to that, trafficked children may experience reproductive problems, as a later date (US state department,
129 2004).

130 7 IV.

131 8 Sexual Abuse

132 Lot social researchers' finding could be shown us that sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation of children
133 have prevailed and expanded in Ethiopia The prevalence of all types of children sexual violence including rape,
134 sexual harassment and abduction in Amhara. Oromo and Tigray have encountered with limited variations
135 between urban and rural as well as between different cultural groups (MOLSA, 2005). Another study by Kelemu
136 (2011) which was conducted on the issue of child sexual abuse in Gondar town high schools and the base line
137 survey in Bahir Dar town by FSCE (2005) revealed that sexual exploitation of children prevails in high in high
138 schools. Similarly, a national study by Ministry of Education and Women's Affairs (2008), on violence against
139 girls in primary schools in Ethiopia revealed that a great number of teachers, parents and students in Addis
140 Ababa, Afar, and South Nation, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia perceive the level of children's sexual
141 violence in schools in their areas to be high with comparing to other nation and nationalities of Ethiopia. The
142 study also explained that sexual violence and abuse took place in schools on the way to and from schools in which
143 much of the abuse and violence that girls exposed to take place (MOWCYA, 2012).

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

148 The most comprehensive evidence comes from a publication of the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) on the
149 state of violence against girls including sexual violence in Ethiopia (2006 cited in Getnet and Desta, 2008) issued
150 that 70% in Ethiopian girls are sexually abused and harassed and 30% girls were raped at least one time in their
151 life before reaching the age of eighteen. However, nearly five out of ten girls assured that they were averagely
152 raped three to ten time in their life span. Besides to this 80% of Ethiopian girls were faced to the challenges of
153 most prevalence of sexual observed seen in the country: verbal abuse, child molestation (touching and fondling
154 of a sexual nature) as well as rape; however, verbal abuse and child molestation have encountered to 97% causes
155 of rape at a later date. In which abuses occur within the school, the home and environments as well as in the
156 community leading one to the belief that there are literally no safe places for girls. Perpetrators of abuse are
157 often male friends, adult male neighbors and strangers but at times, shockingly enough; close family members
158 including fathers and brothers (UNICEF, 2012).

159 9 V.

160 10 Child Labor

161 Child labor is a complicated issue in a country like Ethiopia. As in many under developed countries, such as
162 Africa, child labor is a widespread problem in Ethiopia (ILO/EAMAT, 1996: 5). Almost 47 percent of Ethiopia's
163 population is under 15 years of age ??CSA, 2013). According to the 2001 National Child Labor Survey Report,

13 CONCLUSION

164 around 18,197,783 of the estimated 55.9 million total populations were children between the ages of 5 and 17. The
165 survey result shows that about 85 percent of the country's children were engaged in some kind of activity, that
166 is, productive activity or housekeeping activity. Overall, 9,483,611 children (52.1 percent of the total children)
167 were reported to have worked productive activities during the reference period in Ethiopia (CSA, 2001: xiii).
168 It is currently facing this problem particularly in cities and towns where like in other developing countries the
169 informal sector covers a significant share in the total urban economy (Mengesha, 1998: 1). For example, in Addis
170 Ababa, 65,171 children were engaged in productive activity especially in the informal sector ??CSA, 2001: 47).

171 According to the 2005 National Labor Force Survey, out of the total 222,239 children between the age of 10
172 and 14, 17, 769 were employed in the informal sector in Addis Ababa ??CSA, 2005) exploitation, in general,
173 include low wages, long working hours, denying the child's right to education, denial of the rights of the child
174 for constructive leisure, etc. (Dyorough, 1984: 51 as cited in Mengesha, 1998). Research shows that from 48.6%
175 of children who below 15 years old in Ethiopia, half of the children were active economically in the age group
176 10-14 in the country among seven million children in the listed age group. Out of the entire children population
177 in Ethiopia who faced to the challenges of child labor, nearly six out of ten children and one out of ten children
178 lived in rural and urban respectively. These empirical evidences show that the majority of the children work in
179 the primary economic activity in this country (UN, 2012).

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

191 11 VI. Orphan and Vulnerable Children

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

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

209 12 VII.

210 13 Conclusion

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

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

222 Child's sexual abuse is also the sever challenges for executing the children rights in a country. The average
223 age of children that are forced to enter the sex trade industry is between children have encountered to appear to

224 be prostituted in the age of 12 to 14 years, these children in prostitution are exploited 10 to 20 times per night,
225 seven days in row, which means 5,475 times per night for one year. Child labor is also a complicated issue for
226 sustaining the prospects and the rights of children in Ethiopia. 85% of children have given their natural forces
227 for agriculture with a minimum wages and for more than eight hours. This is in turn; get back to bring the
228 deterioration of their physical fitness, mind, and fear of education. There are more than 5 million Orphan and
229 Vulnerable Children in Ethiopia. Out of it, 30% were lived with HIV/AIDS. And 70% of children were

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