



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Labour



FREE TO BE ME

CHILD LABOUR E-ACTIVITY PACK



Welcome



Welcome to the Ministry of Labour's E-Learning Activity Pack, a unique assortment of learning activities that will boggle your mind and test how much you know but most importantly teach you about a very important topic: Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago.

All children look forward to being able to have fun, make friends, go out with their families and of course get to choose what they want to be when they grow up. These are called children's rights. In order to ensure that everyone is aware of these rights to an education and childhood and **what constitutes Child Labour**, the Ministry of Labour (MOL), which is responsible for the prevention and elimination of Child Labour, has assembled this activity pack targeted to children from ages five (5) and over but we also encourage adults to participate in these fun learning activities.

So, you may be wondering what is Child Labour? According to the International Labour Organization, Child Labour is work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children and interferes with their schooling by: depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work.

It is our hope that these activities will empower you to identify if Child Labour is taking place in your communities and become a champion to fight against Child Labour in our country.

Tell someone and report it!

We invite you to share our activity booklet with your friends and family, and together let us protect our children from working below the legal age of 16.

Connect with the Ministry of Labour by providing feedback and screenshots of your activities.

Here is how:

Tag us [@labourgovtt](#) on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Via Email: labour-communications@gov.tt

For more on Child Labour visit: www.labour.gov.tt/endchildlabour2021

*Commemorating the International Year for the
Elimination of Child Labour: 2021*

**It is illegal to employ children below 16 years in
Trinidad and Tobago; even during crisis**



**Es ilegal emplear a niños menores de 16 años en
Trinidad y Tobago, incluso en tiempos de crisis**

WHAT DOES CHILD LABOUR CONSTITUTE?



**Child Labour is when children cannot:
go to school, play with friends,
go to the beach, go to the movies, ride their bike, rollerblade
or do other fun activities BECAUSE they are forced to work like
adults.**





Penny has four (4) pet chickens she feeds every morning before she goes to school. She enjoys doing this chore because it is harmless and does not prevent her from doing her school work, attending school, nor from engaging in other fun activities.



**CAN YOU GUESS THE ANSWER TO
THE TRIVIA QUESTION?**



TRIVIA TIME!

**Child Labour is when a Child is deprived of
his/her rights to:**

- a) Education only**
- b) Education and Childhood**
- c) Not do chores**
- d) Socialize on Social Media**



ANSWER



Child Labour is when a child is deprived of his/her rights to:

Answer: b) Education and Childhood

Even during crisis, it is ILLEGAL to deprive a child of his/her rights to an education and childhood for the purpose of work.



Let's read a Story

My mummy is my hero. When she was just 12 years old, my grandmother, granny Anne, took her out of school to help her clean houses. Granny Anne also did not finish Secondary School because as the eldest, she too had to quit school to help her mom take care of her five siblings. My mom did not get to enjoy many things as a child, because Granny Anne was a single parent and because she did not finish school, she was only able to obtain low paying jobs. So she could not afford to send my mom to Secondary school, neither was she able to buy her a lot of cool toys that other children enjoyed. Mommy told me that she was not used to going to her neighbours' birthday parties because she could not afford to carry a gift. This made her really sad all the time. This was my mom's childhood story.

Today, my mommy is and will forever be my hero because after experiencing these bad things, she decided that she will not allow me to grow up without those things that she missed out on. My mom works hard every day and ensures that I go to school and that I am well clothed. She prepares my favourite meals, especially my favourite breakfast of bake and buljol. I also get rewarded with videogames when I bring home good marks in test and I play football, my favourite hobby, with my cousins.

I did not grow up with my dad because my mom is also a single parent but she has kept her promise to ensure that I am able to fulfill my dreams of becoming a veterinarian, one day. That is why she makes sure that I can go to school and learn. I love animals and want to be able to take care of them just like how my mom takes care of me. I have two rabbits and a turtle, Kenny, Bunny and Murtle.

From my mom's and my story, I have learnt that being a hero does not entail having muscles or wearing a cape, but providing all the support, love and protection for those you care about and doing all in your power not to become the villain in your loved ones' story. This is why my mom is my heroine.





Let children
Explore and learn
Aspire and achieve
Reward their effort
Nurture their future

**ACCESS TO AN EDUCATION IS A FUNDAMENTAL
RIGHT OF ALL CHILDREN.
EQUIP THEM WITH LEARNING TOOLS
DO NOT BURDEN THEM WITH WORKING TOOLS.**



Let's Play a word game

Unscramble the Child Labour Words:

HDCLIOHDO	COITEUDAN
ISSCIR	KOWR
ECOHRS	

Try your hand at unscrambling these Child Labour words. Put on a timer and try to do it in twenty (20) seconds





These are key words when we
discuss Child Labour!
This was too easy right?



Do you know why these words are important?

How do they relate to Child Labour?

Even during a 'crisis' such as poverty or the COVID-19 pandemic, Child Labour is illegal. Having access to an 'education' is the first step of a child fulfilling his or her dreams. Every child should have access to a healthy, happy 'childhood', that is his or her right. A child should not be forced to 'work' to support his or her family. Doing 'chores' are a great way to learn new things once they are not too burdensome on a child's mind and body

Can you
spot the Child Labour scenario?



A)



I sell these by myself on
the street everyday, to
help daddy buy food for
us to eat.

B)



I learn to count money
when I go to grandpa's
parlour on weekends.

That was easy!
The answer to this activity is scenario A,
here is why:



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO

ANSWER: SCENARIO A)



I sell these by myself on the street everyday, to help daddy buy food for us to eat.

A child who is left on the roadway to sell on his own can become a victim of human trafficking or be vulnerable to physical dangers such as road accidents, effects from working long hours in the sun or rain among other physical hazards. Working on weekends in his/her parents' business once the hours are not long and the child's health is not in any physical or mental danger, is not Child Labour. Instead, the child is learning the business in preparation for his/her future.

When last have you played a word search puzzle?

SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR WORDS!

Words run horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards. Find Words as fast as you can.



T	D	R	E	A	M	S	I	J	H	E	K
G	J	K	W	H	I	D	E	S	U	B	A
G	S	B	R	Q	T	J	M	Y	C	C	S
A	S	T	T	O	Q	B	R	L	X	M	S
V	N	M	Y	V	W	O	X	G	N	E	X
Z	C	E	D	Z	A	J	H	Z	R	C	I
F	R	N	R	N	L	S	T	O	P	O	L
A	N	E	M	D	K	D	H	Y	F	V	L
S	J	U	P	N	L	C	W	U	V	L	E
C	P	N	J	O	W	I	N	P	B	E	G
E	B	O	R	K	R	C	H	M	S	D	A
O	M	N	T	M	R	T	X	C	X	J	L

work
report
chores

fun
dreams
spot

stop
children
abuse

legal

Play our wordsearch game online and send us your score online!

<https://www.proprofsgames.com/ugc/word-search/spot-the-child-labour-words-4/>



HERE ARE THE ANSWERS FOR THE PREVIOUS WORD SEARCH !





It is Trivia Time again, take a shot at guessing the right answer!

TRIVIA TIME



What is the Legal Age for young persons to work in Trinidad and Tobago?

a) 15

b) 18

c) 16

d) 21



Here's the answer to our Trivia.

ANSWER



What is the Legal Age for young persons to work in Trinidad and Tobago?

**Answer: c)16
NO child under age 16 should be employed in T&T.**

There are two exceptions for children below the legal age of sixteen to work: Children can help out if their family has a business, once it does not infringe on their schooling nor childhood and is not physically or mentally harmful to the child. This will teach them how to operate a business.

Children can also be enrolled in an approved apprenticeship programme by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of learning while on the job.

From these two scenarios, which do you believe is Child Labour, A or B?



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO A OR B?

A)



Because of Covid-19 my father's salary got cut. To help out I had to stop school and work in the grocery.

B)



On weekends, my dad teaches me how to make a home garden so when I get older I can take care of myself.

Take a screenshot of this image and tag our Social Media pages with your correct answer.

If you chose Scenario A: You are correct!
Find out why this is the correct answer.



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO

Answer: Scenario A)

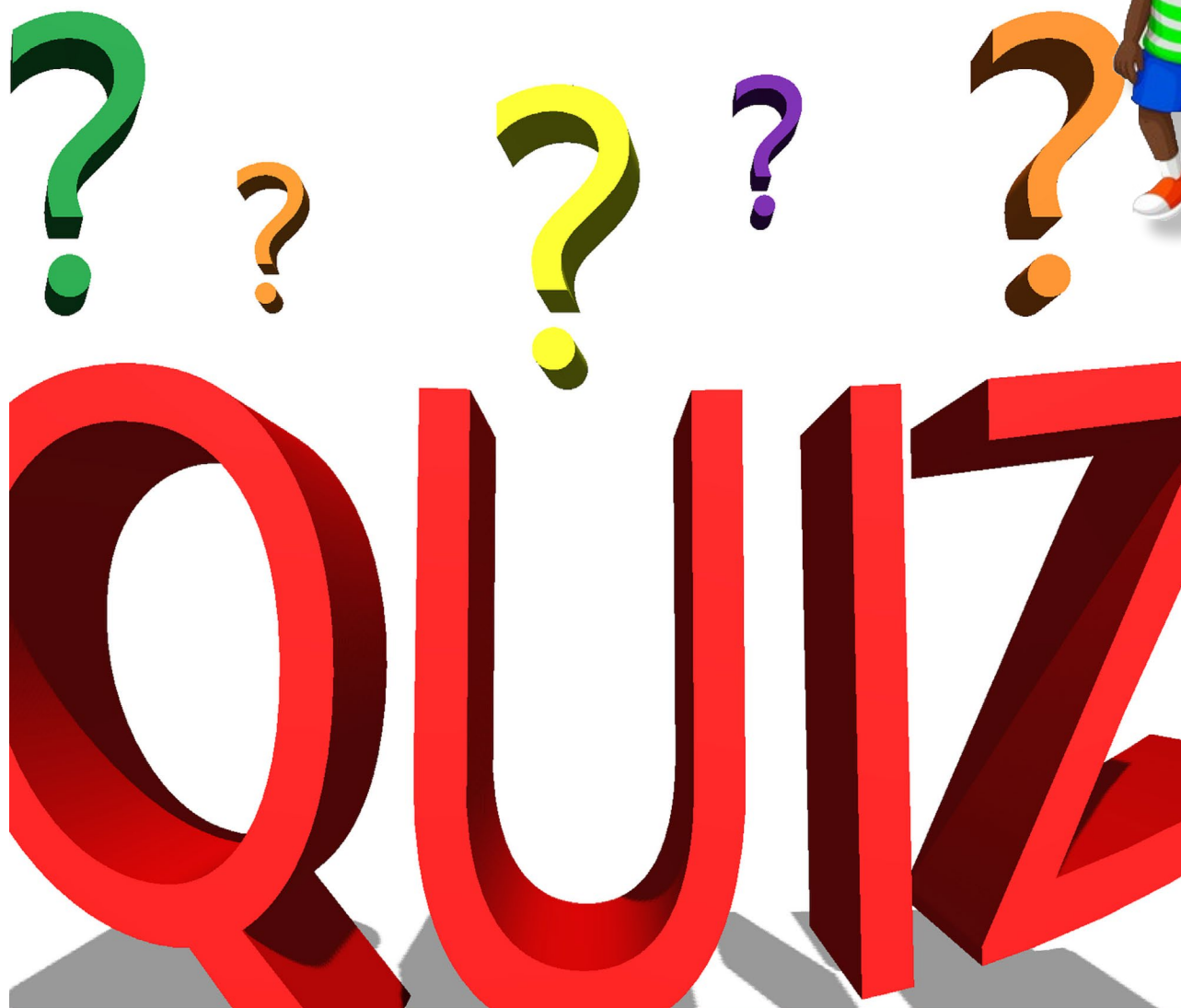
Because of Covid-19 my father's salary got cut.
To help out I had to stop school and work in the grocery.



Even during crisis, to have a child assume the responsibilities of an Adult and deprive that child from accessing his/her most basic right to an education is Child Labour.

However, preparing a child to accept responsibility and to build character, once it does not hamper the child's schooling or childhood, is NOT Child Labour.

Guess the answer to our final Trivia question:



What is the name of the Unit within the Ministry of Labour to which reports of Child Labour should be made?

- a) Corporate Communications Unit**
- b) Child Labour Unit**
- c) Labour Market Information Unit**
- d) Labour Inspectorate Unit**

Here's the answer to our final trivia question:



QUESTION

ANSWER

What is the name of the Unit within the Ministry of Labour to which reports of Child Labour should be made?

Answer: d) Labour Inspectorate Unit

Have you seen children working within your community or other communities?

Contact any of our Labour Inspectors via telephone or email:

Telephone: 461-9852 | 744-4500 | 462-4734 | 744-4784

Send an email: labour.inspector@gov.tt

Send us a private message on Facebook or Instagram @labourgovtt

Your report remains anonymous and confidential; make the right choice, save a child from Child Abuse by making that report today.

It is time for another Spot the Child Labour Scenario, let's see if you get the correct answer:



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO

A OR B?

A)



I'm so sick, I had to take my children out of school and let them work so they can help me pay the bills.

B)

I am helping mom wash the wares because she is not feeling well.

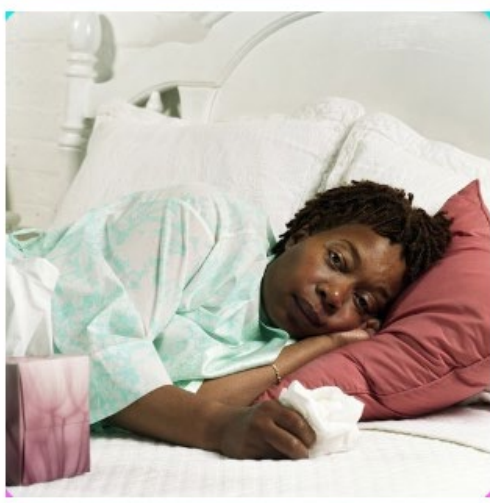


The COVID-19 pandemic is a type of crisis and should not be an excuse to employ children. So what is the answer?



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO

ANSWER: SCENARIO A)



I'm so sick, I had to take my children out of school and let them work so they can help me pay the bills.

Even during a crisis, parents should NOT allow their children UNDER age 16 to work like Adults in order to support the family. There is NO excuse for forcing underaged children to work. Child Labour is Child Abuse!

It is time for the second round of our
'Unscramble the Child Labour Words!'
Let's Go!



Unscramble the Child Labour Words:

PEDEVRI

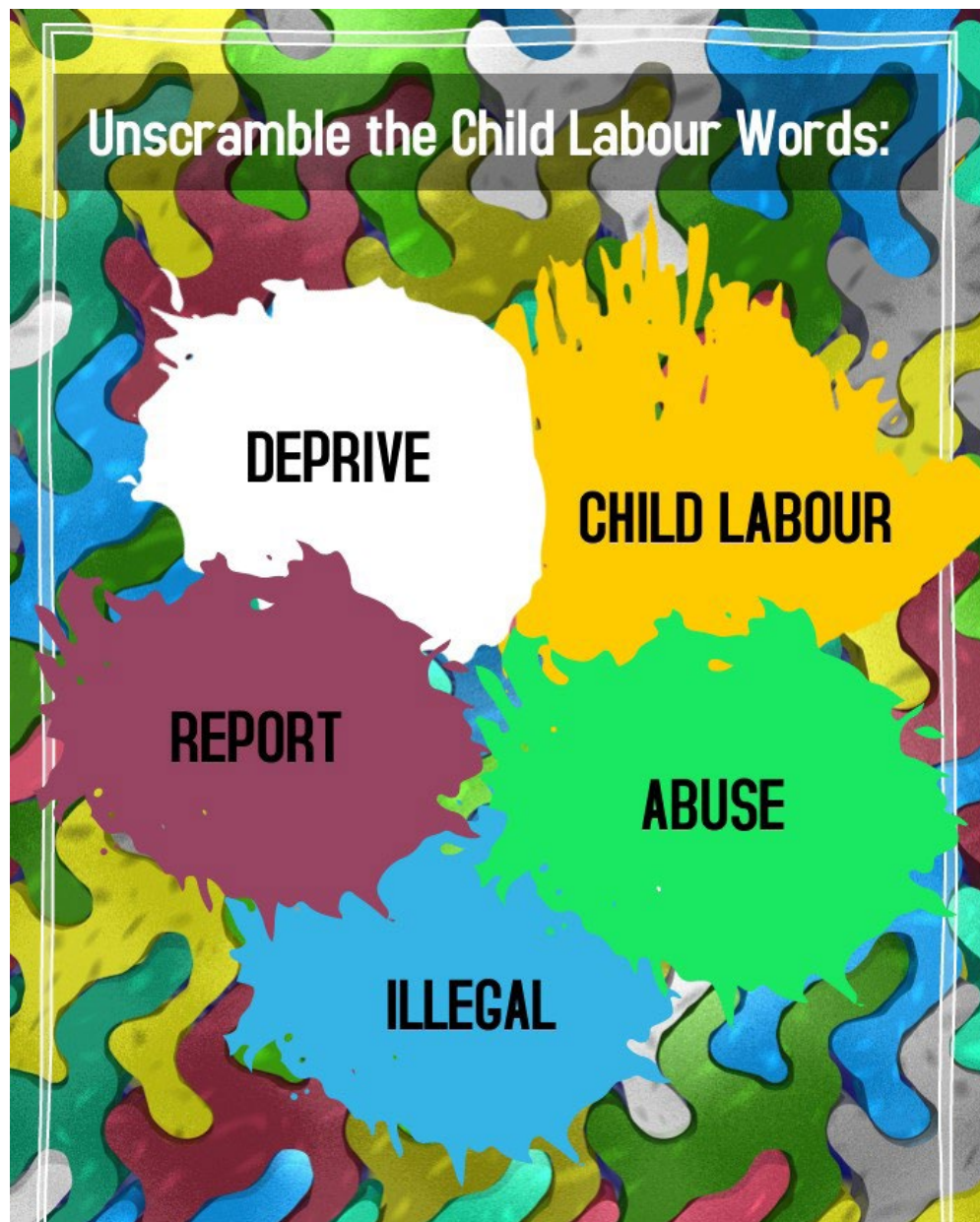
DHCIL RUAOLB

TROPE

SEUBA

LAELGL

These are key words when we discuss Child Labour!
This was too easy right?



Let's take a look at what these 'Key Words' mean:

Do not '**deprive**' children of their rights to an education nor their childhood.

This is Called '**Child Labour**'

Child Labour is a form of '**Abuse**'

If you spot Child Labour in your community, '**report**' it!

Child Labour is '**illegal**' in Trinidad and Tobago and attracts a fine of \$25,000 for employers and 3 years imprisonment and a fine of \$5000.00 for parents, if they are found guilty.

This is our final spot the Child Labour Scenario Activity:
Can you spot Child Labour? In which scenario, A or B?



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO A OR B?

A)



I feed my pet goat
Billy before and after
school everyay.

B)

On my Uncle's Farm, my job
is to tote the animals feed
and water to their stables
and take them for a walk
everyday.



If you Spot Child Labour in Scenario B you are correct! Find out why this scenario is Child Labour:



SPOT THE CHILD LABOUR SCENARIO

ANSWER: SCENARIO B)

On my Uncle's Farm, my job is to tote the animals' feed and water to their stables and take them for a walk everyday.



To have a child engaging in work where that child has to "tote" heavy animal feed and water is considered hazardous work. This places the child's physical health in danger and can be classified as Child Labour which is **ILLEGAL** in Trinidad and Tobago!



ARE ANY OF YOUR FRIENDS MISSING ONLINE CLASSES?

HOW CAN YOU HELP? REMEMBER THE WORD CHIPS!

- C- Check in on your friends to ensure that they are alright. Make a call.**
- H- Help by enquiring why your friend is not in class and see how you can assist.**
- I- Inform an Adult, if you have found out that your friend has problems or does not attend classes because he or she is working.**
- P- Pass on ChildLine's contact to your friend for child support at 131.**
- S- Stay in touch with your friend to make sure that he or she is okay and send a report to the Labour Inspectorate Unit at 299-0300 option 3 or ChildLine at 131 if your friend continues to work.**

YOUR EDUCATION IS YOUR FUTURE, LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER!


CHORES VS HAZARDOUS WORK



Doing chores at home is not Child Labour once it is not hazardous to the child's mental or physical health. Chores teach children to be responsible and prepare them for when they become older.



Chores can become hazardous for children if they become burdensome for children physically and mentally. If the tasks are too strenuous for children, or if the chemicals or tools being used pose an immediate threat to their physical health, then this is hazardous work.



**Worst forms of child labour
include child sex trafficking,
child prostitution, child
pornography, child soldiering,
trafficking of drugs, hazardous
work and dangerous work.
This applies to children who are
under 18 years.**

**If you spot or suspect this is
happening, REPORT IT to the
Counter Trafficking Unit at
800-4288 or Labour Inspectorate
Unit at 299-0300 Option 3.**



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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PLEDGES TO SUPPORT AND PROTECT OUR NATION'S CHILDREN AND FREE THEM FROM ALL FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR.

The Ministry of Labour through its National Steering Committee and Labour Inspectorate Unit are working assiduously toward achieving Target 8.7 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

TO END CHILD LABOUR BY 2025.



Decent Work | Industrial Peace | Opportunity For All

labour.gov.tt     



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OUR KEY ACTION AREAS TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL ARE:

- ☐ The development and implementation of a 6-Step Strategic Compliance model for the Labour Inspectorate Unit.
- ☐ The establishment of a Child Labour Protocol
- ☐ The development of a light and hazardous work list by sector
- ☐ The development of a situational analysis and conduct of a data Mapping Exercise
- ☐ The conduct of primary research by a consultant to assess the situation of Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago
- ☐ Collaboration with Key Government/Non-Government Agencies
- ☐ Development of a National Action Plan for Child Labour

COMMEMORATING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR: 2021

Trinidad and Tobago joins the world in aiming to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 of the United Nations which focuses on the elimination of child labour in all its forms by 2025 and the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030.

WHO PROTECTS CHILDREN FROM CHILD LABOUR IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO?

The Labour Inspectorate Unit (LIU) is the enforcement arm of the Ministry of Labour with responsibility for the prevention and elimination of child labour which is undertaken by conducting inspections upon receipt of reports.

ROLE OF THE NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION AND ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

The Ministry of Labour also established A National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour comprised of technical experts from organizations across government, civil society and academia with responsibility for the development and protection of children from child labour. The Committee's role is to raise awareness among the population on child labour, develop a national policy to address child labour in Trinidad and Tobago and to provide recommendations to strengthen the capacity of the Labour Inspectorate Unit to enforce the laws on the employment of young persons.

The International Labour Organization plays a critical role in providing technical and financial support to the Ministry of Labour towards bringing an End to Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago.

Check out our Child Labour Puppet Show and Virtual Art Showcase videos and much more on Child Labour in Trinidad and Tobago, visit the Ministry of Labour's website: www.labour.gov.tt/endchildlabour2021

COMMEMORATING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR:2021.



Here is a directory of emergency contacts where child support and protection can be accessed:

**SAVING A
CHILD IS A
CALL AWAY**



**It is ILLEGAL to
employ children
who are under
16 years in T&T.**

- ✓ Access Welfare Grants and Psychosocial Support Services at the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services: 800-1673
- ✓ Access 24/7 Psychological Counseling for your child via ChildLine: 131 or 800-4321
- ✓ Report Child Abuse to the Children's Authority: 996
- ✓ Report Hazardous Work by minors (16-18 years) to the Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA): 623-OSHA (6742)
- ✓ Report the employment of children below age 16 to the Labour Inspectorate Unit, Ministry of Labour: 299-0300 option 3, 131 or The Children's Authority: 996
- ✓ Report Child Trafficking at the Counter Trafficking Unit: 800-4288
- ✓ Access Student Support Services: Ministry of Education's Student Support Services' Division: 622-2181 exts. 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036



Ministry of Labour

**HAVE YOU SEEN
CHILDREN
BELOW AGE 16
WORKING
IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**



THIS IS ILLEGAL!

REPORT CHILD LABOUR:



Labour Inspectorate Unit: 299-0300 option 3

ChildLine hotline: 131

Children's Authority hotline: 996

TAKE ACTION TO END CHILD LABOUR IN T&T



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