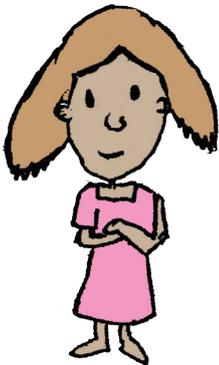


# Perspectives on Child Labour

1.



"In a perfect world, my parents would earn enough money to provide for my family's basic needs and I would be going to school. I'd have time to play. Instead, I work long hours to help support my family. Child labour is unfair and has robbed me of my childhood but I want to help my family."

2.



"It is unfair that we are often painted as the bad people. People come to me desperate for a loan and they are willing to offer their child's labour to pay it back. I can help them. Sure I make a good living from this, but I'm the one who takes the risks. I have a family to support too."

3.



"Good business is all about making a profit. Children are cheaper to employ than adults and are more obedient too. There are lots of families who want their children to work in this factory, so why should I turn them away? The people accept this here – even the government officials. If this factory closed down, the community would be even worse off."

4.



"Using child labour is unfair and against the law. I only employ adults. Our products are slightly more expensive, but they include a label that says 'No child labour has been used in the manufacturing of this product.' I know there are more and more people who will only buy clothes if they know children have not been used. Together, we can make a difference."

5.



"In 1986, the Child Labour Act banned child labour in this country. People caught breaking the laws are punished and our statistics show that these laws are working. However, our limited resources means that we are focused on other more urgent issues now."



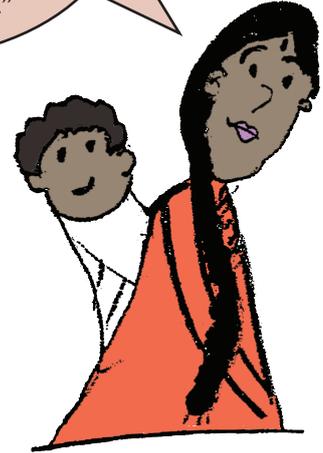
"I've seen the terrible effects of child labour. My goal is to see child labour eliminated. However, in many situations the child's income is essential for the family's survival. We are working to improve child rights, work conditions and run special catch-up schools. By increasing community awareness we hope to achieve our goal."

6.



"I'm ashamed that my work does not pay enough to support my family. I don't want my children to miss out on education. I wish they didn't have to work, but we are trapped in poverty. I wanted a better life for my children than the life I have known."

7.



## For You To Do!

1. Identify the person most likely to express the values or perspectives above by placing the corresponding number below:

- \_\_\_ Child labourer
- \_\_\_ Employer of child labour
- \_\_\_ Parent of child labourer
- \_\_\_ Money lender
- \_\_\_ Government official
- \_\_\_ World Vision staff
- \_\_\_ Socially responsible employer

2. Have all students take a stand on the strongly agree – strongly disagree continuum across the room using the following statements. Invite students to explain or justify their position.

- "Children belong in school and not the workplace."
- "Boys and girls should be allowed to work if they choose to do so."
- "It is OK for children to work if their survival depends on it."