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Globalization and Crime against Children (Special Reference with Juvenile Justice Act 2015.)

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ABSTRACT:

The aim of this paper is to show the negative consequences of globalization via the internet, on student sexual abuse, and to provide an analysis of children's rights and their shortcomings in the urban area. This paper studies the different laws on child abuse in our countries and some of the international and national organizations that support children's rights. Law and Society both are interconnected institutions. Law is made for the Welfare, safeguard, and development of society therefore each and every citizen whether is child Young are old man is required to act within the parameters prescribed by the lawmakers for the society. Everybody has to act abide and obey the law of the land to maintain the accepted social, cultural, and legal desired acceptance.

The Juvenile Justice Act 2015 has been enacted by the Lok Sabha of India on 7th May 2015. Which was subsequently passed by the Rajya Sabha in December 2015. The purpose of this act is to reduce crimes committed by children between the ages of 16 and 18 by including the provisions for 16 to 18 years old to be tried like adults in case of innocent heinous crimes. 1 It provides justice to the victim of such crime one of the most important points of the Juvenile Justice Act is to provide specialized and preventive treatment for children. The children are important assets of the Nation. Their care and requirements are our responsibility as well as the responsibility of the nation which is why it is necessary for the nation to take care of the interest of the children. Juvenile Justice Care and Protection of Children Act 2015 is a child who has not attended the age of 18. This law is enacted taking into consideration, conventions of rights of the child and other related well-being of the international instrument working in the sphere of the care and protection of children in the olden days.² The problem of Juveniles was not considered as a separate system the children were equally treated as adult persons and they were thrown into prison without any specialized wing of judges to try their offenses. Children were locked in jail along with hardened criminals and equal punishment was given to both juveniles and adults.³ Gradually the idea of giving separate treatment to Juvenile arose in the mind of our juristic person and as a consequence separate treatment for children and women in India as well provided in the Constitution of India and as such special treatment has been provided in the Juvenile justice action for the trials of the juveniles. This is with intent to give a lighter punishment, Reformative punishment instead of hard punishment. They were given

¹ byjus, https://byjus.com/free-ias-prep/juvenile-justice-act/, (last visited Feb. 01, 2024).

² Divyansh10, Juvenile Justice System In India, legalserviceindia, (Feb. 01, 2024, 4:19 PM), https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-6794-juvenile-justice-system-in-india.html ³ *Id*, at 1395.

hard punishment equal to a mature Criminal offense by juveniles are some wrongful acts done against society.

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INTRODUCTION:

Criminology has gradually permitted the concept of globalization, but more so as applied to International terrorism and organized crime. In the past 40 years, there has been remarkable correspondence in the nature of Juvenile/ youth justice Reform, particularly across Western society. Basically, our society feels social degression, therefore, the parents or Guardian generally sufferance the wrong done to their children as such the morals of a child become downtrodden by their own parents such children feel disappointed and therefore such children shall never be capable of being discipline in their life and cannot live alive of high moral in the society. The way in which thread and Technology have made the world into a more connected and interdependent place is known as globalization. Globalization is linked to crime and criminality. Generally, globalization decreases the cost of manufacturing. There are some main factors contributing to globalization is information technology, economic factors, cultural factors, and political changes.

The globalization has gutted a lot of attention lately. Society is the future of the next generation. As a multi-dimensional phenomenon, globalization has extensively created negative and positive effects on civil societies. In urban areas, the internet also focuses on student sexual abuse. There are many factors related to the effects of globalization via the Internet. It has been noticed that there has been A Remarkable shift from a welfare model based on meeting individual needs to a justice model more concerned with the offense than the offender. Experimentation with forms of restorative justice as a means of reintroducing a greater emphasis on rehabilitation.

Keywords: Globalization, governance, policy transfer, cybercrime, computer crime, online violence.

Objectives of Research:

Objectives for the present study are set out as follows

The research objective is to critically examine the impact and effectiveness of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 in India. This study aims to assess whether the Act's provisions, which focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders, have achieved their intended outcomes. Additionally, the research will investigate the Act's compatibility with international standards and human rights principles. By analyzing data, case studies, and legal frameworks, this study seeks to provide valuable insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the Juvenile

⁴ Muncie, J. (2005). The globalization of crime control—the case of youth and juvenile justice: Neo-liberalism, policy convergence and international conventions. Theoretical Criminology, 9(1), 35-64. https://doi.org/10.1177/1362480605048942

⁵ quizlet, https://quizlet.com/460372350/globalization-flash-cards/, (last visited Feb. 01, 2024).

⁶ Karl Thompson, Factors Contributing to Globalisation, revisesociology, (Feb. 01, 2024, 4:19 PM), https://revisesociology.com/2017/05/24/factors-contributing-to-globalisation/

Justice Act 2015, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of juvenile justice reform in the country

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Research Methodology:

This research employs a mixed-methods approach to comprehensively analyze the Juvenile Justice Act 2015. Initially, a quantitative analysis will be conducted by gathering statistical data from government reports and judicial records to assess the Act's impact on juvenile crime rates, rehabilitation success, and recidivism. Concurrently, a qualitative analysis will involve in-depth interviews with legal experts, social workers, and juvenile offenders to gauge the Act's practical implications. A comparative analysis of international juvenile justice systems will also be conducted. The triangulation of these methods aims to provide a holistic evaluation of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 and its effectiveness in achieving its objectives.

Globalization in India:

Globalization and its Impact on the Justice System in India

Globalization, the process of increased interconnectedness and interdependence among countries, has had a profound impact on various aspects of society, including the justice system in India. Over the past few decades, India has emerged as a key player in the global economy, and this transformation has not only reshaped its economic landscape but also brought significant changes to its legal and justice framework. One of the most noticeable effects of globalization on India's justice system is the increasing complexity of legal matters. With the influx of multinational corporations, cross-border investments, and international trade agreements, legal disputes have become more intricate, often involving multiple jurisdictions. This has necessitated the adaptation of India's legal infrastructure to handle these globalized cases. As a result, Indian courts have witnessed a surge in cases related to international trade, intellectual property rights, and foreign investments.

Furthermore, globalization has also brought about the need for India to align its legal standards and practices with international norms. For instance, India has undertaken significant legal reforms to comply with international treaties and agreements, such as those related to intellectual property, trade, and human rights. These changes have not only improved India's global standing but have also contributed to the overall evolution of the country's justice system. However, the impact of globalization on India's justice system is not without its challenges. One of the primary concerns is the potential erosion of national sovereignty. As India integrates further into the global economy, it may face pressure from international organizations and corporations to amend its laws and regulations in ways that might not align with the interests of its citizens. Balancing the imperatives of global trade with the need to

⁷ medium, https://medium.com/@info.thematrimoniallawyers/the-landmark-dowry-case-judgment-a-paradigm-shift-in-indias-legal-landscape-2244947068fa, (Last visited Feb. 01, 2024).

⁸ Koul, A.K. (2018). WTO, International Trade and Human Rights. In: Guide to the WTO and GATT. Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-2089-7_35

protect domestic industries and ensure justice for its people remains a complex challenge for India's policymakers and legal authorities.

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Another pressing issue is the access to justice for marginalized communities. While globalization has led to economic growth and the emergence of a burgeoning middle class in India, it has also exacerbated income inequality. Many vulnerable populations, including rural communities and tribal groups, still face significant barriers to accessing legal services and the justice system. Ensuring equitable access to justice for all citizens remains a critical challenge in the era of globalization. Additionally, the rapid flow of information and ideas across borders has heightened awareness of legal issues and human rights abuses, leading to greater scrutiny of India's justice system by international organizations and the global community. This increased transparency can serve as a double-edged sword, as it can both highlight injustices and provide an opportunity for improvement, while also subjecting the system to external pressures and criticisms. Globalization has transformed India's justice system in profound ways. It has brought about greater complexity, the need for legal reforms, and challenges related to sovereignty and access to justice. While globalization offers numerous opportunities for India to engage with the world and strengthen its legal framework, it also requires careful navigation to ensure that the benefits are distributed equitably and that the country's sovereignty and the rights of its citizens are upheld. Balancing these interests will be a continuing challenge for India as it embraces the opportunities and confronts the complexities of an interconnected globalized world.

Juvenile Justice System in India:

The Juvenile Justice System in India has evolved significantly over the years to address the unique needs and challenges of children in conflict with the law. Ensuring the welfare and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders is a paramount goal, distinct from the punitive approach taken with adult offenders. This essay provides a comprehensive overview of the juvenile justice system in India, covering its historical evolution, key legislative frameworks, challenges, and recent reforms.

Historical Evolution:

The foundation of the Indian juvenile justice system can be traced back to the British colonial era when the Apprentices Act of 1850 was introduced. This Act provided for the care and protection of juvenile offenders and regulated their apprenticeship. However, it was not until 1986 that India enacted the Juvenile Justice Act (JJA), marking a significant milestone in the development of a dedicated legal framework for juvenile justice.

Key Legislative Frameworks:

⁹ Rani, Seema & Khan, Mohd. (2023). Juvenile Delinquency in India: An Analysis. International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews. 04. 221-227, https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372890583_Juvenile_Delinquency_in_India_An_Analysis/citation/download

The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986: This was the first comprehensive legislation to deal with the care, protection, and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. It established the Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) and Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) to handle juvenile cases. ¹⁰ The Act defined a juvenile as a person below 16 years of age and emphasized reformative measures over punitive ones. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000: This Act raised the age of juveniles to 18 years and introduced a more child-centric approach. It expanded the role of JJBs and CWCs, emphasizing the principle of the "best interests of the child."

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The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015: This significant revision brought India in line with international standards, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). It maintained the age of juveniles at 18 years and introduced a two-track system distinguishing between heinous offenses and other offenses. While juveniles accused of heinous crimes could be tried as adults, rehabilitation and reformative measures remained the primary focus.

Key Components of the Juvenile Justice System:

Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs): JJBs are the cornerstone of the juvenile justice system. They are responsible for conducting inquiries, ordering rehabilitation measures, and ensuring the well-being of juvenile offenders. ¹² JJBs consist of a judicial magistrate and two social workers, at least one of whom should be a woman. ¹³

Child Welfare Committees (CWCs): CWCs play a vital role in the care and protection of children in need of care and protection (CNCP). These committees, consisting of members with expertise in child rights and welfare, have the authority to declare a child as a CNCP and decide their placement, including adoption or foster care.

Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration: The Juvenile Justice Acts emphasize rehabilitation and social reintegration as key objectives. This involves a range of measures such as counseling, vocational training, and educational support to enable the juvenile offender's reintegration into society.¹⁴

Challenges in the Juvenile Justice System:

Overcrowded Institutions: One of the persistent challenges in the juvenile justice system in India is the overcrowding of juvenile homes and institutions. Limited resources and capacity

lawinsider, https://www.lawinsider.in/columns/juvenile-justice-system-of-india-jurisdiction-of-courts-and-beyond, (last visited Feb. 01, 2024).

¹¹ THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) ACT, 2015, No.2, Acts of Parliament, 2015 (India).

¹² Raina Ando, M. A., Components of the Juvenile Justice System, legalbeagle, (Feb. 01, 2024, 4:19 PM), https://legalbeagle.com/6739518-components-juvenile-justice-system.html

¹³ THE JUVENILE, Supra note 11, at 1399.

¹⁴ THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) ACT, 2015, 40, No.2, Acts of Parliament, 2015 (India).

issues have led to substandard living conditions in many facilities, affecting the quality of rehabilitation and care. 15

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Delayed Justice: The system often grapples with delays in case disposal, which can hinder the effectiveness of rehabilitation measures. Speedy trials and timely decisions are essential for the successful rehabilitation of juvenile offenders.

Socio-economic Disparities: Children from marginalized backgrounds, such as those living in poverty or belonging to disadvantaged communities, are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system. Addressing these disparities and ensuring equitable access to justice remains a challenge.

Lack of Skilled Personnel: The effective implementation of the juvenile justice system relies on trained and skilled personnel, including social workers, counselors, and psychologists. A shortage of such professionals can hinder rehabilitation efforts.

Reintegration into Society: Ensuring that juvenile offenders are successfully reintegrated into society after serving their sentences remains a complex task. Social stigma and limited opportunities for education and employment often hinder reintegration efforts.

Recent Reforms and Initiatives:

India has recognized the need for continuous improvement in its juvenile justice system. Some recent reforms and initiatives include:

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs): The government has introduced SOPs to streamline the functioning of JJBs and CWCs, ensuring uniformity in procedures and decision-making. Training Programs: Efforts have been made to provide specialized training to professionals working in the juvenile justice system, including judges, social workers, and counselors. Awareness Campaigns: Public awareness campaigns have been launched to promote the rights of children and sensitize society to the unique needs of juvenile offenders.

Digitalization: The use of technology, including case management systems, has been introduced to improve the efficiency and transparency of the system. The Juvenile Justice System in India has come a long way since its inception, evolving from a punitive approach to one that prioritizes the welfare and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. Legislative reforms, the establishment of specialized boards and committees, and awareness campaigns have played a crucial role in shaping this system. However, challenges such as overcrowding, delays in justice, and socioeconomic disparities persist and require ongoing attention and reform. As India continues to develop and its society evolves, so too must its approach to juvenile justice to ensure that the rights and best interests of children are upheld and that they have the opportunity to reintegrate into society as productive and responsible citizens.

Juvenile Justice Act 2015:

1400

¹⁵ Rani, Seema & Khan, Mohd. (2023). Juvenile Delinquency in India: An Analysis. International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews. 04. 221-227., https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372890583_Juvenile_Delinquency_in_India_An_Analysis/citation/download

The Juvenile Justice Act 2015, a significant legislative milestone in India, brought about substantial changes in the country's approach towards juvenile offenders. This landmark legislation replaced the outdated Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 2000. The Juvenile Justice Act 2015 aimed to strike a balance between the rehabilitation of juvenile offenders and holding them accountable for their actions. In this essay, we will explore the key provisions, objectives, and implications of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015. The provisions of the Juvenile J

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Objectives of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015:

Rehabilitation: One of the primary objectives of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 is the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders into society. The Act recognizes that children involved in criminal activities often come from disadvantaged backgrounds and may have been victims of abuse or neglect. Therefore, it emphasizes the importance of providing them with an opportunity for reform and a chance to lead a productive life.

Age-appropriate justice: The Act adheres to the principle of treating juveniles differently from adult offenders. It recognizes that juveniles have not fully developed emotionally, mentally, or morally and are, therefore, less culpable for their actions. Consequently, it prescribes a separate justice system for juveniles that focuses on their individual needs and circumstances.

Key Provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015:

Age of juveniles: The Act defines a juvenile as a person who has not yet completed eighteen years of age. This provision ensures that children under the age of eighteen are treated as juveniles, irrespective of the nature of their offenses.

Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs): The Act establishes JJBs at the district level, composed of experts in child psychology, social work, and law. These boards are responsible for determining the appropriate measures for the rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders.

Diversion: The Act encourages the diversion of juveniles away from the formal justice system whenever possible. It provides for counseling, community service, and other rehabilitative measures as alternatives to judicial proceedings, particularly for minor offenses.

Sentencing options: In cases where the JJB finds a juvenile guilty of a serious offense, it has the authority to impose a range of sentences, including counseling, probation, and, in exceptional cases, incarceration in a special home. The Act prescribes a maximum period of three years of detention for juvenile offenders. ¹⁸

Expunging records: The Act allows for the expunging of a juvenile's criminal record once they reach the age of twenty-one and demonstrate good behavior. This provision aims to ensure that a juvenile's past mistakes do not hinder their future prospects.

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¹⁶ Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, No. 2, Acts of Parliament, 2015 (India).

¹⁷ Juvenile Justice, *Supra* note 16, at 1401.

¹⁸ Arlene Manoharan and Swagata Raha, The Juvenile Justice System in India and Children who commit seriousoffences – Reflections on the Way Forward, oijj, (Feb. 01, 2024, 4:19 PM), https://www.oijj.org/sites/default/files/documentos/the_juvenile_justice_system_in_india_and_children_who_commit_serious_offences.pdf

Adoption and foster care: The Act places a strong emphasis on finding suitable families for orphaned, abandoned, or surrendered children. It promotes adoption and foster care as a means of providing a stable and loving environment for such children.

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Implications of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015:

Protecting children's rights: The Act prioritizes the protection of children's rights and interests. Recognizing the vulnerabilities of juveniles and their need for specialized care, it upholds the principles of justice, fairness, and compassion.

Reducing recidivism: By focusing on rehabilitation and reintegration, the Act aims to reduce the likelihood of juvenile offenders returning to a life of crime. It seeks to break the cycle of delinquency by addressing the root causes of juvenile offending.

Addressing criticism: The Act was met with criticism from some quarters, particularly in cases involving heinous offenses committed by juveniles. Critics argue that it is lenient and fails to hold juveniles accountable for their actions. ¹⁹ However, proponents assert that it is in line with international conventions and recognizes the principle of proportionality in sentencing. Challenges in implementation: While the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 lays down comprehensive provisions, its effective implementation remains a challenge. Issues such as understaffed JJBs, lack of infrastructure, and limited resources hinder the Act's full potential. Impact on society: The Act has had a profound impact on the perception of juvenile offenders in society. It has contributed to changing the narrative from punishment to rehabilitation, fostering a more compassionate and understanding approach towards children who come into conflict with the law. The Juvenile Justice Act 2015 represents a significant shift in India's approach to juvenile offenders, emphasizing their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. While the Act has faced criticism, it aligns with international standards and recognizes that juveniles are a distinct category deserving of special consideration. The Act underscores the importance of protecting children's rights and addressing the root causes of juvenile delinquency, ultimately aiming to build a more just and compassionate society. However, its successful implementation remains a challenge that requires ongoing efforts from all stakeholders to ensure that the Act's objectives are realized.

Effect of globalization on crime against children and the Justice system:

Globalization, characterized by increased interconnectedness and interdependence among nations, has brought about numerous changes in various aspects of society, including the dynamics of crime and the functioning of justice systems. India, a rapidly developing country, has experienced significant shifts in its social, economic, and cultural landscape due to globalization. While globalization has brought about several positive changes, it has also had a profound effect on the prevalence of crimes against children and the functioning of the

¹⁹ docmckee, https://docmckee.com/cj/criminal-justice-an-overview-of-the-system/criminal-justice-section-5-2the-prosecution-and-defense/, (Last visited Feb. 6, 2024)

juvenile justice system.²⁰ This essay explores the complex relationship between globalization and child-related crimes in India and analyzes its implications for the juvenile justice system.

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Globalization and Crimes Against Children:

Economic Disparities: One of the most noticeable effects of globalization in India has been the significant economic disparities it has created. While some segments of society have prospered, a large population remains marginalized and impoverished. Children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds are more vulnerable to exploitation, child labor, and human trafficking. The globalization of the labor market has also increased the demand for child labor in industries that seek cheap and unregulated workforce, perpetuating the cycle of child exploitation.

Digital World: The digital revolution brought about by globalization has introduced children to various online platforms and social media. While this has opened up opportunities for learning and social interaction, it has also exposed them to new forms of exploitation, such as cyberbullying, online grooming, and child pornography. The anonymity provided by the internet makes it challenging to track and prosecute those involved in such crimes.

Cultural Influence: Globalization has led to the spread of Western culture, which can impact the traditional values and norms that protect children. Exposure to Western media, including movies and television shows with explicit content, can desensitize children to violence and sexual exploitation, contributing to an increase in crimes against them.²¹

Globalization and the Juvenile Justice System:

Legal Framework: India's juvenile justice system has undergone significant changes to align with international standards due to globalization. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, of 2015, reflects a more child-friendly and rights-based approach. However, while these reforms are a step in the right direction, the implementation remains a challenge due to resource constraints and the sheer volume of child-related cases.²²

Child Trafficking: The ease of movement and increased connectivity facilitated by globalization have led to a rise in child trafficking cases. The juvenile justice system must adapt to deal effectively with cross-border trafficking, including coordination with international agencies and neighboring countries.

Cybercrimes: As globalization brings India deeper into the digital age, the juvenile justice system must evolve to address cybercrimes against children. Specialized units and trained personnel are required to investigate and prosecute these cases while safeguarding the rights of the accused, who may themselves be minors.

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 $^{^{20}}$ studocu, https://www.studocu.com/en-us/document/university-of-arkansas/general-sociology/the-effects-of-globalization-on-cultural-assimilation-and-preservation/42405236, (Last visited Feb. 6, 2024).

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²² Asha Bajpai (2018) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015: an analysis, Indian Law Review, 2:2, 191-203, DOI: 10.1080/24730580.2018.1552233

Cross-Cultural Challenges: Globalization has led to an influx of ideas, cultures, and traditions, making it necessary for the juvenile justice system to be culturally sensitive. This is crucial when dealing with cases involving children from diverse backgrounds, as cultural norms and practices may influence both the crime and the response to it.

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Challenges and Solutions:

Resource Allocation: One of the primary challenges in addressing crimes against children in the context of globalization is resource allocation. The government must invest in the juvenile justice system by providing adequate funding, personnel, and infrastructure to handle the growing caseload.

Education and Awareness: Education and awareness campaigns should be launched to inform children about online risks, rights, and reporting mechanisms. Parents and caregivers should also be educated on child protection measures.

International Collaboration: To combat cross-border crimes, India must collaborate with international organizations and neighboring countries to share information, intelligence, and best practices in handling child-related cases.

Socioeconomic Development: Efforts to reduce economic disparities and poverty, driven by globalization, are essential to decreasing vulnerabilities among children. Comprehensive social welfare programs can provide families with economic security, reducing the likelihood of child labor and exploitation.

Legal Reforms: Regular reviews and updates of laws and regulations related to crimes against children are necessary to keep pace with evolving challenges, particularly in the digital realm.

CONCLUSION:

Globalization has ushered India into a new era of opportunities and challenges. While it has improved the lives of many, it has also created fertile ground for crimes against children to thrive. The juvenile justice system must adapt to the changing landscape, recognizing the unique challenges posed by globalization. By addressing economic disparities, enhancing education and awareness, strengthening international collaboration, and continually reforming the legal framework, India can better protect its children in this interconnected world. Ultimately, safeguarding the well-being and future of its youngest citizens is a moral imperative and a testament to a society's commitment to justice and progress.

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