



28-29 April 2018

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

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Forum:	Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
Issue:	Measures to combat arranged child marriages universally
Chair:	Yasmin Hung and Sean Ko

Introduction

28 girls under the age of 18 get married every minute. This is the reality for girls all across the world; however, this practice is most likely to occur in sub-Saharan Africa and some parts of Asia. According to Girls Not Brides, women married under the age of 18 are very likely to lose their access to education, therefore most child brides become housewives. Child marriage is a direct human rights violation, and it contradicts with many important human rights doctrines, such as The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Tradition, culture, poverty and the lack of education are the main causes why girls get married at such a young age. Among the cultures with high rates of child marriage, women are often considered as an “economic burden” and are inferior compared to men. This is because women do not usually carry the family name after they are married, thus after marriage they live with their husband’s family. After getting married, young girls have to assume the role of a housewife. This means they will stop receiving education, ultimately limiting their job opportunities. Child brides are also often pressured to have children as soon as possible. Due to their lack of sex education, girls don’t have the knowledge of contraceptives and family planning. This means young girls become mothers when they’re still children. Conclusively, child marriage creates a cycle of poverty through. These factors inferiorize the role of women, leading to the extremely limited freedom for women over their own lives.

Definition of Key Terms

Child

Human being that has yet to go through puberty, and is below the legal age

Child Marriage

a formal or informal union before the age of eighteen. This term can be used for both males and females; however females are more likely to become a victim of child marriages.

Gender-based Violence

Gender-based violence usually refers to acts of violence men commit against women. According to the UNFPA, it is estimated one in three women will experience physical or sexual abuse in her lifetime. It can include physical, sexual and psychological harm. The main cause of Gender-based violence is for men to emphasize their superiority over women.

Poverty

Poverty refers to the lack of finances or certain resources, a main contributor to child marriage. According to the standards established by the World Bank, people who live under \$1.90 are classified as extreme poverty.

Less Economically Developed Country

Otherwise known as LEDCs. Nations classified as LEDCs have lower standards of living and less economy prosperity, or development, thus making them less wealthy and developed in comparison to MEDCs. In LEDCs, women tend to have less power and freedom in the society and receive less education due to the local tradition and lack of women empowerment.

More Economically Developed Country

Otherwise known as MEDCs. In MEDCs, people are generally more wealthy and educated, hence, women in MEDCs usually have equal rights as men and receives better treatment in comparison to the counterparts in LEDCs.

Dowry

Dowry, or “Bride price”, is a common tradition in Asia and some parts in Africa. It is often given as a property or finances from the bride’s family to the groom’s as a way of “thanking” him for taking the bride. Although the price of dowry varies a lot, in some places, the price of the dowry is proportional to the age of the bride. Since, the price of dowry can be a huge economic problem for impoverished families, marrying off their daughters has become a solution to evade paying higher prices as dowries.

General Overview

Key causes

Gender inequality

Gender inequality refers to the biased treatment and thoughts toward individuals based on their gender. Although child marriages occurs in both genders, it is an undeniable fact that it girls are more likely to get married as a child. According to the statistics provided by UNICEF and International Women’s Health Coalition, there are 156 million men living today who married when they were under 18. By

contrast, a staggering 400 million women aged from 20-49 were married before they were 18 years old. In some LEDC societies, a woman's freedom is limited. If a girl behaves differently than what the society expects, such as by behaving less morally or not being skilled at housework, she will bring shame to her family. Furthermore, parents in those societies often view their daughters as an economic burden, because they usually won't carry the family name after they're married or to their offsprings. Hence, it will be better if they can get rid of the burden as soon as possible through marriage

Financial incentives

Parents feel discouraged from continuing to invest in their daughter when they can just get married. This means the parents will not have to be responsible for their basic needs, such as food and education. In many households, one fewer person to take care of benefits their financial situation. Most communities in the world today are patrilineal societies. This means a bride would move in with the groom's family after marriage. Therefore, a family is less willing to pay for their daughter's marriage. They cannot contribute to the household income because will end up living with their husband's family. Girls are considered most useful around the house as mothers and housewives, while the husband provides the only or majority of the household income. In certain communities, families will have to pay a dowry. There are two types of dowries. the first is when the bride's family pay the groom, the second is when the groom pays the bride's family. Both types encourage girls to get married at a younger age. For families living off low incomes, it is beneficial to marry off their daughter when they are young. This is because groom's a willing to pay a larger dowry for a younger and uneducated bride. On the other hand, families can pay less if their daughter is uneducated and young. Thus, in order for families to make the most out of having a daughter, they would opt to marry them off younger.

Controlling female sexuality

A daughter's virginity must be kept until marriage. If she does not it will reflect badly upon not only her but her entire family. This motivates parents to marry their daughter off when they are young to prevent sexual relations and relationships before marriage. In many countries it is considered impure to even have social contact with the opposite gender, so parents use marriage in order to prevent their daughter from participating in sexual activities.

The impact of child marriage

Domestic violence

Girls who marry under the age of 15 are five times more likely to experience marital rape. Marital rape is the act of forcing or coercing one's spouse to participate in sexual intercourse. Due to the notion that rape usually takes place between strangers, a wife being manipulated or pressured into having sex is discounted in society. Due to their lack of maturity and knowledge, young brides are usually reluctant to speak out about sexual or physical abuse from their husbands. If a girl is 18 the chances of her talking to her husband about using contraception and family planning increases. Girls who received less education are also more likely to be victims of domestic abuse.

Psychological impact on young brides

Young brides have a higher chance in developing post traumatic stress order(PTSD), depression, and anxiety because of domestic abuse and overwhelming changes from marriage. Mental health is directly linked to child marriage because marriage after the age of 18 is usually considered a celebratory union, or an event that is worth celebrating, while child marriage usually takes place because of familial and community pressure. Thus, young brides are deprived of an appropriate childhood to fully develop physically and mentally. The main cause is related to their inability to deal with the responsibilities of marriage as a child. A lot of young brides become young mothers too, therefore leading to further psychological damage.

Early motherhood

A young girl's body has not yet developed to be able to successfully carry a child, so girls younger than the age of 15 are 5 times more likely to die from childbirth. 95% of adolescent pregnancies take place in developing countries. A mother under the age of 20 is 50% more likely to give birth to a stillborn child, this statistic also reinforces the lack of biological development for a young girl to be carrying a baby. Once married, girls have little to no say about the use of contraceptives and family planning. Many schools don't teach sex education, so young girls are oblivious to what they can do to take control of their own bodies. They are often pressured by their husband or new family to bear a child as soon as possible. For young girls getting pregnant isn't usually by choice. 200 adolescent girls die daily because of pregnancy complications. Infant mortality rates can also increase because girls have not reached levels of maturity to take care of a baby. Most child brides become mothers when they are still children themselves. Young girls don't have the knowledge or support system to successfully raise a child. Statistically, infants are 60% more likely to die in their first year, if their mother is under the age of 18.

Negative economic impacts

The ICRW and World Bank conducted a collaborative research project to assess the economic impact of child marriages. They discovered child marriages will force the country to sacrifice trillions of

dollars by 2030. The biggest factor to this catastrophic economic impact is directly related to family sizes. When a girl becomes a mother at a younger age it tends to result in larger families, and thus a larger overall population. Child marriage is plays a huge part in creating large families because it prevents girls from investing more time in education and work. The abolishment of child marriage would lead to girls receiving more opportunities to further their studies in their fields of interest. Another main factor is child marriages reduce the earnings of the wife by 9% on average. Young girls who lack a rich educational background don't have the capabilities to earn as much as girls who furthered their education. This has a negatively affects the household income, furthering the impact on the national economy. While child marriage is fundamentally a social issue, it also has detrimental economic impacts.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
November 23 rd , 1990	The Convention on the Rights of a Child was created by the OHCHR
September, 2011	Girls not Brides is founded
	UNICEF marks this day as the annual International Day of the Girl Child
October 11th, 2012	This day was set to be the International Day of Girl Child. At this day, issues that girls are facing worldwide and what they need are discussed.

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

The UNFPA has been actively involved in preventing child marriage and reducing the percentage of child brides in multiple countries. Not only does the UNFPA help prevent child marriage, they also provide support to child brides through family planning and maternal health education. They work on multiple levels to prevent child marriage, such as collaborating with international NGOs, governments and local communities. A specific program called the Action for Adolescent Girls Program was created in 2012 to increase UNFPA investments towards ending child marriage. Their strategy is to encourage governments to target investments in ways that will help end child marriage, such as encouraging social participation, providing leadership opportunities, and access to basic health care services.

UNICEF is also active in combating against child marriage. The organization created an awareness day on October 11th to raise awareness on child marriage. They have also gathered a lot of data to accurately report statistics on child marriages in several countries. UNICEF focuses a lot on the research aspect, and because of UNICEF people can now access reliable data on the prevalence of this issue.

UNFPA and UNICEF, has collaborated and launched a global program known as the “UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage”. The program helps girls at the risks of child marriage to choose their own futures, thus saving them from being binded from social norms. It also aims to ensure certain governmental policies are securing and empowering adolescent girls' rights. It targets a list of 12 countries, at high risk of pressuring adolescent girls to become child brides.

- Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages, 9 December 1964
- Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa, 3 December 1984 (**A/RES/39/29**)
- Child, Early and Forced Marriage, 18 December 2014 (**A/RES/69/156**)
- Rights of the Child, 27 November 2017 (**A/RES/72/245**)

Possible Solutions

A potential solution is to gather the support of community elders and parents to object to marrying girls off at such an early age. A girl's parents are traditionally the ones in charge of when their daughter gets married, and if they are unwilling they often receive pressure from older generations to find their daughter a husband while they are young. Through a series of informational meetings and classes, community elders and parents can be educated on the dangers and the health complications child marriages pose. This will allow them to be more informed on the consequences of their actions. Even if the older generations are more reluctant to let go of traditional norms, parents may be more vocal about ending child marriage.

By providing parents with an economic incentive not to marry their young daughters off, may benefit the current situation. Most parents marry their daughters off at such an early age due to economic benefits. There are multiple reasons why marrying their daughter off while they are young is financial advantages. In some communities' men are willing to pay more money for a younger bride. The families will also have one less person to feed in the house, relieving them of extra burden. If daughters were capable young women who could help generate money for the family, parents would less likely see them as an asset that needs to be given away as soon as possible. Through low interest loans for allowing their daughter to stay unwed or providing opportunities for young women to learn a skill or trade that allows them to earn money may alleviate families' financial troubles.

With the help of NGOs and IGOs countries can be encouraged to create clear laws and policies about child marriage. By setting an age when girls can marry, along with a defined action plan on steps the government plans on taking will benefit the situation at hand. Governments should consider socio-economic factors that play a part in the popularity of child brides. Strategies such as increasing leadership opportunities and educational opportunities for women will also indirectly impact ending child marriage. Moreover, marriage registrations at a regional level should be centralized and organized so the chances of legally marrying a young girl will gradually decrease. If countries already have laws implemented they can focus on investing in making sure the legal framework is enforced.

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Forum:	Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
Issue:	Measures to adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, to improve social welfare systems in order to achieve greater equality
Chair:	Dhirpal Shah and Dokyong Ryoo

Introduction

Launched in August of 2012 by former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) mobilizes scientific and technical expertise from academia, civil society, and the private sector to support sustainable development problem-solving at all levels: local, national, and global.

The target of adopting fiscal, wage, and social protection policies falls under the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of reducing inequalities within and among countries (Goal 10). The SDSN has proposed to monitor the progress made in this front by observing the percentage of eligible populations covered by national social protection programs around the world. The SDSN also monitors the ratification and implementation of the labour standards by the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the compliance of these laws.

Access to national social protection is recognized as a basic right protected by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. That said, more than half the world's population lacks national social protection coverage. The International Labour Organization includes ten elements as part of comprehensive social security coverage: medical care, sickness benefits, protection for disability, old age and survivorship, maternity, children, unemployment, and employment injury, and general protection against poverty and social exclusion.

Definition of Key Terms

Fiscal Policy

Fiscal policy is the use of government spending and taxation to influence the economy. These policies are typically used to promote sustainable growth.

Wage Policy

Wage policies are all the systematic efforts of the government in relation to the national wage and the salary system. They involve any and all shifts to the minimum wage, living wage, and the fair wage.

Labour Standards

Labour standards are the conventions agreed upon by international actors set forth to protect basic worker rights, enhance workers' job security, and improve their terms of employment.

Social Protection Policies

Social protection systems help especially poor and vulnerable individuals and families cope with crises and shocks, find jobs, improve productivity, invest in the health and education of their children, and protect the aging population.

Social Insurance

Social insurance is a government sponsored program which protects economic risks from sick or unemployed individuals, and the elderly.

Social Assistance

Social assistance is a system where the government of a nation gives a certain amount of money to households, determined through the amount of income received.

Labour Market Intervention

Governments intervene in labour markets by employing policies or keeping minimum wage, which can help reduce the differences in earnings.

Equality

The principle of equality involves all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself being accountable to just, fair and equitable laws and being entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.

Collective Bargaining

Collective bargaining is the negotiation between the employers and employees that states the terms and conditions of the workplace, including the number of hours for working. The ILO also sees collective bargaining as a fundamental right, so that fair wage can be achieved.

General Overview

Social protection

The most common types of social protection are social insurance, social assistance and labour market interventions to promote employment and protect workers. Other types of social protection include public work

programmes and increases in workers' income. Cash transfers, a newer instrument of social protection, have also recently gained popularity, as they help increase productivity and pay. However, there is limited evidence to suggest that it promotes economic growth.

Key issues

Controversy over income redistribution and fiscal policies

There has been much controversy over income redistribution via taxation, as the wealth gap between the upper class and lower class continues expanding. Since taxes received from the citizenry are used for the roads, highways, and public systems in a nation, some believe that increasing the taxes will help improve the social services of the system. However, the corruption of governments could stop the improvement of the nation, since transparency in government finance is necessary.

Different countries have adopted widely varying fiscal policies, which mainly include variations in taxation and government spending. For example, the United States of America is able to employ taxation through placing individual income taxes, payroll taxes, and corporate income taxes. On the other hand, countries such as Saudi Arabia are trying to regain and maintain a stable economy through expansionary fiscal policies, by increasing the prices of the exported oil.

Minimum wage debate and universal basic income

Many countries set a standard minimum wage. As of September 2015, 92% of the 186 ILO member states had policies of minimum wage. Though the minimum wage gives a fair rate of pay for each worker, there is a risk that the amount of unemployed individuals could increase. In addition, many believe that this solution may not be the most effective way to reduce poverty, as increasing the economic growth could widen the wealth gap. The universal basic income allows citizens to gain an amount of money from the government, as a form of social security. As a relatively new idea tested in a few countries, it is not encouraged to replace the current system, but could possibly be an added benefit for further stability.

Ratification and implementation of fundamental ILO labour standards

The ILO labour standards are one indicator to measure progress for the overall subgoal of adopting policies to improve social welfare systems. The ILO has eight fundamental conventions which cover the issues of freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour; the minimum age for labour and the immediate elimination of the worst forms of child labour; and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, including equal remuneration. As of right now, countries are required to report on these conventions (if they have

ratified them) every two years. This is backed by a system within the ILO that helps to ensure implementation. The ILO reviews this data and makes recommendations to member states. The next step would be to ensure that more member states ratify these conventions and that the considerations and recommendations of the ILO are applied to national policy.

Marginalized groups

A discussion of gender issues in social protection policies, strategies and programmes is of paramount importance as the vulnerabilities to risk vary significantly by gender. Due to the fact that the impacts of shocks affect women and men differently, social protection needs to be tailored accordingly. On average, women are more likely to be disadvantaged in terms of work opportunities, and are more likely to be excluded from formal social protection programmes since they typically need basic education, health, and nutrition systems. Global changes in the labour market, macroeconomics and demographic transition are resulting in disproportionately negative impacts on women, particularly those outside the formal sector. This is mainly due to the lack of education and health services provided during an economic decline, including the rising problems of sex trafficking.

People from different racial backgrounds must also be a part of the social protection policies, strategies and programmes. However, not only is social protection lacking, income redistribution is not equal in terms of minority groups. The racial wealth gap has only furthered due to the racial discrimination.

Major parties involved

International Labour Organization (ILO)

The ILO has eight core and fundamental conventions, legal instruments drawn up by ILO constituents to set up basic principles and rights at work. These core conventions describe key labour standards aimed at promoting opportunities for productive work, where men and women can work in conditions of equity, security, and dignity. The ILO has worked extensively with the World Bank and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) such as the African Union, the European Commission, UN Development Programme – International Policy Centre (UNDP-IPC) and UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to increase the number of countries that provide universal social protection.

World Bank

The World Bank’s twin goals are to end extreme poverty and to boost shared prosperity in the world by 2030. More specifically, the goals are to reduce extreme poverty in the world to less than 3 percent by 2030 and to foster income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population in each country. At a meeting with

the International Labour Organization on achieving social protection, the president of the World Bank Group (Jim Yong Kim) said:

“Social protection is a means to reduce poverty, achieve greater gender equity, reduce economic inequalities, and to promote good jobs. While many developing countries are already achieving universal schemes designed to ensure that nobody is left behind, only one in five poor people in the lowest-income countries is covered by any form of social protection today. It is profoundly significant that we have come together collectively to help countries close these coverage gaps.”

However, there are also criticisms and controversies surrounding the World Bank, as the governing system can impact social and economic problems. As the World Bank is an institution with emphasis on regulating their finances and growing their economy, the solutions presented may not include alternate ways to develop. Furthermore, the World Bank makes most decisions based on the interests of the most powerful countries, since they are the largest donors. The World Bank also spark controversy over their stance on the environment, as they continue to support larger industries that have contributed to air pollution. In addition, the development funding projects of building dams have affected indigenous people, as they had to find new, suitable living spaces.

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

The UN Social Protection Floor Initiative (SPF-I) seeks to invest in people as a prerequisite for sustainable and fairly shared economic growth. It consequently seeks to support countries to put in place a minimum level of social protection for all.

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an agreement reached by the 193 UN member states, a milestone in forging an enhanced global partnership that aims to foster universal, inclusive economic prosperity and improve people’s well-being while protecting the environment.

- ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 2008
- United Nations Social Protection Floor Initiative, April 2009
- Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Third International Conference on Financing for Development July 2015
- The New Urban Agenda, United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development (Habitat III), October 2016

Possible Solutions

The first step in making social protection more accessible to the portion of the population that truly requires it is by identifying those that need it. In the past few years, nations like the Dominican Republic have striven to improve their ability to identify the poor. In the case of the Dominican Republic, their government has

succeeded in documenting more than 250,000 extremely poor individuals (45% of which are women). This identification has allowed for these individuals to access social assistance programs, including programs such as cash transfers and programs to update the poverty status of close to 3 million individuals.

Furthermore, outlining the basis of what social protection should include is critical. According to the National Social Protection Floors, social protection should include these four essential social security guarantees: guaranteed access to goods and services constituting essential health care, education and other social services; basic income security for children with the aim of facilitating access to nutrition, health, education care and any other necessary goods and services; basic income security for persons in active age unable to earn sufficient income; basic income security for people in old age.

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda has outlined many concrete steps that need to be taken in order to reduce inequality, including providing fiscally sustainable and national appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, with a focus on those furthest below the poverty line and the vulnerable, persons with disabilities, indigenous persons, children, youth and older persons. It also encourages countries to consider setting nationally appropriate spending targets for quality investments in essential public services for all, including health, education, energy, water and sanitation, consistent with national sustainable development strategies.

Finally, policies that are recommended by delegates should not be strict and set in stone, but rather, should be malleable to fit the different needs of different member states. Clauses in the resolution do not have to be too specific or detailed, since nations have varied sets of issues. Rather than a one-size-fits-all social policy approach, delegates should instead seek to establish minimum performance standards of national social protection policies. Through these actions, the minimum of income security can be created.

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Forum: Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

Issue: Measure to regulate the effects of globalization on drastic livelihood inequalities in regards to living standards, income, education and the like

Chair: Umair Ahamed Nizamudeen and Angela Wang

Introduction

The three main types of globalization are political, social, and economic. Because economic globalization leads to asymmetries in livelihood integrants in the society and due to its quantifiable nature, this report will primarily focus on the influence of economic globalization on livelihood inequalities.

In order to understand the need for a solution to this issue, it is important to understand why inequality within and across societies is important. Inequality is particularly significant fundamentally due to its potential to cause market failure. For instance, unequal opportunity leads to the underproduction of goods and services that benefit the lower classes of the social hierarchy in comparison to the higher classes. Moreover, other consequences of inequality like injustice is evident in the form of price discrimination, which is when producers sell the same product at varying prices to the different social classes of the society. Hence, inequality is an important issue to address.

Definition of Key Terms

Globalization

An ongoing process of increased interconnectedness and interdependence between people and countries around the world economically, politically, and socially. Two essential elements of that drives globalization include the opening of borders that increases flows of ideas and goods and government policies that facilitate such flows. Globalization has resulted in both positive and negative outcomes on the development of LEDCs and MEDCs.

Economic Globalization

Economic globalization is the increasing economic integration and interdependence of national, regional, and local economies across the world through an intensification of cross-border movement of goods, services, technologies, and capital.

Inequality

The state of not being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.

Multinational Corporations (MNCs)

Enterprises that has facilities and other assets in more than one country, and usually has a centralized head office that coordinates global management. On one hand, it can provide work and enrich one country's economy, but they can also exploit the workers with low pay and destroy the environment.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

An investment made by a company or an individual in one country in business interests in another country, in the form of business operations or acquiring business assets in that foreign country. It establishes substantial control over the decision making of that foreign business.

Trade Barriers

A barrier to trade is a government-imposed restraint on the flow of international goods or services. There are two types of trade barriers:

1. **Tariff:** a tax on imported goods and services. Tariffs raise the price of imported goods relative to domestic goods in order to make them less attractive to customers with a purpose of raising revenues or protecting domestic industries from foreign competitors.

2. Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs): restrictions that makes importation or exportation of products difficult or costly. NTBs arise from different measures by government and authorities through laws, policies, restrictions, or specific requirements. It is often in the form of trade embargoes, sanctions, levies, or quotas.

Human Development Index (HDI)

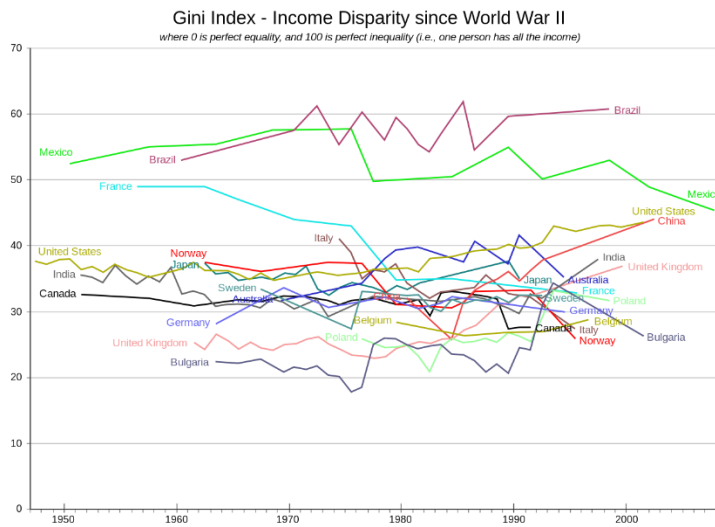
A statistic of life expectancy, education, and per capita income to rank countries into four tiers of human development.

Living Standards

Generally refers to the level of wealth, comfort, material goods and necessities available to a certain socioeconomic class, in a certain geographic area. A country's living standards are often measured by the HDI (Human Development Index).

Gini Index

Statistical measure of income dispersion amongst the population derived from the Lorenz curve which represents income distribution in a country. A value of 0 represents perfect equality, where everyone all values are the same, and 1 represents maximal inequality.



According to the Gini Index, income disparity is steadily rising

General Overview

History of Globalization

The foundations of globalization began forming centuries ago, but it was during the Industrial Revolution that globalization was actually initiated, especially within Europe through inventions and new agricultural techniques that allowed cheap and mass production. In the 19th century, globalization reached its modern form through continued industrialization, imperialism, and conquests, opening more countries to foreign trade. By the 20th century, barriers and trade costs has decreased, and trade contracts and agreements had also been signed for stable and expanded trade. After World War II, globalization was driven by multinational corporations in developed countries, and institutions are being formed for freer trade, leading to inequality in both less and more developed countries.

Skilled workers and low-skilled workers

As MNCs manufacture products in LEDCs due to cheaper labor costs or other factors of production, there are large portions of workers who are low skilled and some high skilled. Since high-skilled workers are employed and work more efficiently in an industrial environment, they dominate the market, knocking the low-skilled workers out of the market. This is the theory that American economist Eric Maskin proposed.

In addition to Eric Maskin's theory that suggests that low skilled workers get cut off the market due to globalization, it can also be said that low skilled workers gets exploited for cheap labor, further dividing the population in terms of livelihood. This situation is evident in the clothing industry in Bangladesh. A managing director of an international enterprise told the Post Magazine, "Ten years ago, you could only buy a T-shirt for US\$5. Now you can buy a sweater for US\$6, and for US\$9 you can buy a jacket." Despite the fact that globalization is benefiting consumers in many ways such as cheaper prices, it is at the cost of the workers who are in the other end of social spectrum. This occurs because such industries do not require high-skilled labor, so MNCs exploit the unskilled laborers due to their limited working capacity and the lack of regulations.

Impacts on Unemployment

In less developed countries, the exposure to free trade has resulted in an increased competitiveness in the production of commodities. Because foreign competitors can often produce large amounts of products cheaply, many local industries and producers often lose their jobs as they are unable to adapt and compete with cheap products produced imported by foreign companies.

Because of the cheap labor and the lack of regulations in developed countries, many corporations transfer their companies from developed to less developed countries. The increase of job opportunities given to people in less developed countries have resulted in unemployment in developed countries. According to

estimates by the Economic Policy Institute, China has drained away 3.2 million jobs, including 2.4 million manufacturing jobs.

IMF (International Monetary Fund)

One role of the IMF is to stabilise exchange rates; however with that goal comes with undesirable consequences, such as rising inequality. Usually, the government spending of an LEDC exceeds the GDP of the country in its previous year in order to grow the economy, which is called a budget deficit. The IMF provides the country with the amount of the budget deficit in a form of a loan. When budget deficit increases, the currency exchange drastically decreases in terms of the nation's currency value, which means that the IMF does not encourage much of an increase in a nation's budget deficit. As a consequence, member nations are limited to economic growth potential. Thus, in order to make time effective use of the limited amount of money borrowed, such nations tend to spend their budget deficit amount on large corporations, leaving the lower ends of the society ignored. This subsequently resulting in an increase in inequalities.

Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs)

SAPs, provided by the IMF (International Monetary Fund) and the World Bank are loans to countries experiencing an economic crisis. These programs that force countries to concentrate on trade and production in order to boost economic growth is a major cause of inequality and poverty. After SAPs are enforced, countries are forced to pay off their debts in a timely manner, and less developed countries thus need to produce more commodities. In order to promote economic activity, governments are forced to deregulate their economy through decreasing tax rates and devaluing the currency, which makes a country's product less expensive to foreign countries. As a result, industries concentrate on producing similar cash crops and commodities, increasing competition between industries and initiating a price war to produce cheaper goods. This competition result in issues of cheap labor, child labor, merciless activities, and overtime pay. Moreover, the need for countries to repay their debt forces governments to cut spendings on social services such as health and education, while economic policies are prioritized. In order to further decrease government spending, governments lift subsidies, which are sums of money granted by the government to keep the price of a commodity low disregards increased the prices of goods and have resulted in riots.

Corruption and the Lack of Regulations of Foreign Corporations

When developing countries allow external actors such as IMF, World Bank, and foreign corporations in, they open their economies for foreign corporations and agree to massive tax concessions in return for loans. Due to ineffective policies and the lack of regulations, foreign corporations have exploited labor in the less developed countries and subjected them to poor working conditions. These foreign corporations undervalue goods, refuse to pay for taxes, and steal trillions of dollars worth of resources. These cases of corruption contribute to worsening living standards in less developed countries.

Social Service Systems

The ability to access public services such as education, health, and the costs of these services play an integral role in affecting livelihood inequalities during globalization. A country that provides education and health benefits tends to have less inequality, as measured by their Gini coefficient. However, because of the regressive nature of large amount of spending on health and education, emerging and developing economies are more limited in their ability to provide these services to their citizens. This lack of government support contributes to inequality substantially, as it separates the skilled to less skilled workers and allows for the exposure and corruption of foreign corporations on the uneducated and the less skilled.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
October 30, 1947	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) signed
1948	Formation of Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Early 1980s	Third World Debt Crisis
January 1, 1994	North American Free Trade Agreement Founded
January 1, 1995	World Trade Organization (WTO) found
November 2001	The Doha Round Launched

UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

- Goal 10 of the Sustainable Development Goals: Reduced Inequalities
- Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence, 19 December 2008 (A/RES/63/222)

- ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, Adopted in 2008

Possible Solutions

Because many people living in less developed countries are continuously being affected by the ineffective and weak government policies and regulations, many laborers have been exploited by foreign corporations and by organizations such as WTO and the World Bank. This has thus affected the living conditions of the people. To decrease this mistreatment, it is vital for both organizations and nations to impose more regulations regarding the working conditions of the people, transparency, and prevent the manipulation and mistreatment of less developed countries.

The limited budget of LEDCs, along with the influences of external actors such as the IMF and the World Bank, has caused unequal access to education around the world. This inhibits the poor and the less-skilled, making them vulnerable to more skilled foreign competitors. Moreover, it creates a income disparity between the rich and the poor and prevents social mobility. Thus, it is vital to encourage governments to implement effective policies that provides inclusive and high quality education for all, in ways such as funds made exclusively for free and equal education by non-state actors.

Another solution would be trade regulations such as tariffs. Tariff and non-tariff trade barriers will lead to a more effectual condition in the case of inequality due to globalisation. Since inequality within a certain industry's workforce escalates when an MNC in the same industry enter the local market, trade barriers has the aptitude to lessen or even halt an MNC's production in the local market. However, the limitations of such a decision immense. For instance, all governments would not accept such a solution since it will lead to lower imports of quality goods that might not be able to be produced as effectively locally. This may also lead to consumer dissatisfaction if such products do not meet their demands or if the price is too high. Secondly, trade barriers also mean that such products should be produced within the country and governments often need to subsidise such companies in order to meet the global prices (which is less than when it is locally manufactured). Most importantly, large companies may move to another state to manufacture their products as a result of the trade barriers.

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