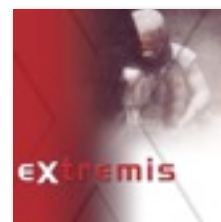


Childhood Lost

Documentary

(1 x 52 min.)



Working Children in Manila, Philippines

When they are not fighting wars, children are waging other battles, facing other dangers, sometimes just to survive. Around the world, 250 million children aged 5 to 14 work instead of going to school. And 50 million of them work in conditions that place their health, and even their lives, at risk. "Fireworks are really dangerous, especially when you're filling them. Sometimes, friction in the powder sparks an explosion. You have to work very slowly because an explosion could kill everyone. Gently, I work very gently. Just as if I were rocking a baby."

Rachel Milanes, 14, Full-Time Worker



Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone

There are over fifty armed conflicts in almost all of them, children are used as soldiers. Young Rambo's recruited by force cannon fodder for seedy economic interests. And so are child soldiers at the heart of the civil war in Sierra Leone. What is a child soldier? He or she is a person of less than 18 years who joins an army or is forced to participate in armed conflict. Most often, the child soldier is between 15 and 18 years of age, but some are as young as 10 or 12.

Kay Yussuf, 16. A child soldier, Kay has killed, raped, tortured.



Juvenile Prostitution, Vancouver, Canada

The sex trade feeds on young flesh. Every year, one million children swell the ranks of the worldwide prostitution and pornography industry. An industry whose profits reach five billion dollars a year. Historians have confirmed that prostitution is the oldest profession in the world. If prostitution does in fact have different faces, some are more disturbing than others. Take the case of Naomi, street name Lexus, who is only 16. When we met her, she had been selling herself on the streets of

Vancouver, British Columbia, for more than two years.

Lexus, 16, A child prostitute.



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