

Let's not allow child labor in plantations to take root.



- Of all industries, the plantation sector has the highest number of child laborers, numbering over 2 million, of which 1.4 million are below 15 years old. (NSO, 2001 SOC)
- The large majority, around 71%, are boys.
- Child laborers in plantations perform physically demanding work for long hours every day. They are involved in all phases of work in the fields: clearing, land preparation, weeding, harvesting, distribution of fertilizers and hauling of produce after every harvest.
- Over 1.5 million of these child sacadas are exposed to hazardous situations.
- Among the detrimental effects of labor in the plantations on children are malnutrition, retarded physical development, skin diseases, wounds, bruises, dehydration, headaches, fever, and respiratory problems.
- More serious ailments resulting from exposure to extreme weather conditions and chemical pesticides, become apparent only after years of working in the fields.
- Children are often made to handle toxic chemicals and motorized equipment without proper training.
- Most of these children go about their work without standard protective gear and paraphernalia.

**Children should be protected from abuse.
Open your eyes to the reality of child labor.
Stop child labor.**

120 child *sacadas*
endured bitter
working conditions to make
these a sweet treat.



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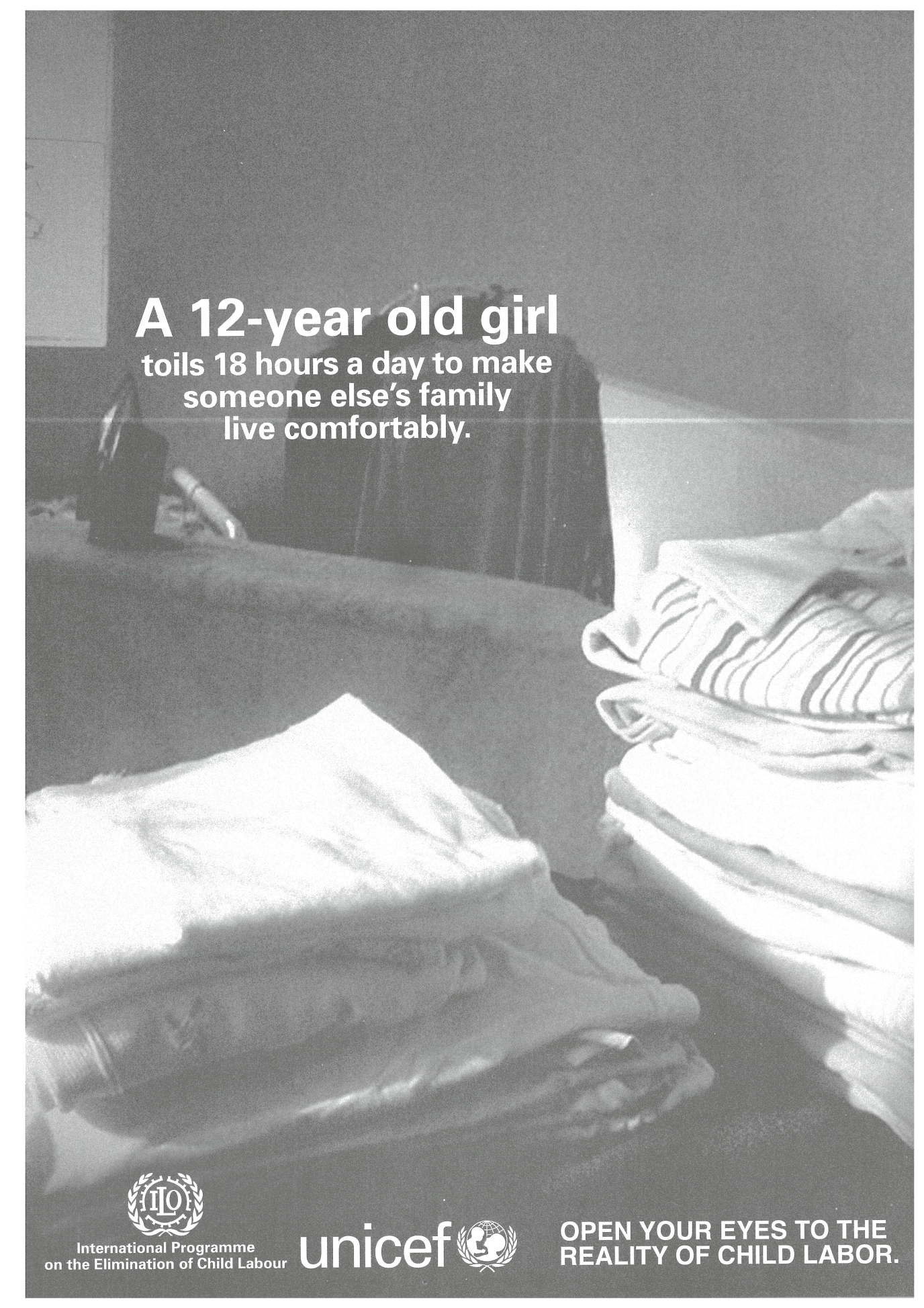
**OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE
REALITY OF CHILD LABOR.**

Victims of child labor in domestic help need our help.



- There are over 230,000 minors working in private households in the Philippines. At least 80% of these are girls. *(NSO, 2001 SOC)*
- The monotony of their work deprives them of the opportunity to learn skills that would make them grow into productive adults.
- Many employers prefer children as domestic helpers because they are perceived to be more submissive and hard working, and they can serve as company for their children when they are away.
- On the average, a child domestic worker toils about 15 hours a day, and is on call 24 hours a day. Thus, when a member of the household comes home at 2:00 AM, she has to be ready to get out of bed and be of service to him.
- Days off are usually limited to only once a month, and in some cases, days off are not granted at all. As a result, child domestic workers have virtually no freedom of movement, as they are able to venture beyond the house's gate only when sent out on errands.
- The exposure to verbal, physical and even sexual abuse is reportedly high.
- The current minimum wage is only P800 per month, but there are many cases of child domestic helpers not getting paid at all.

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A 12-year old girl
toils 18 hours a day to make
someone else's family
live comfortably.

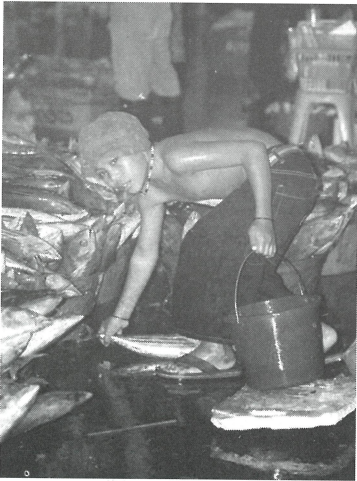


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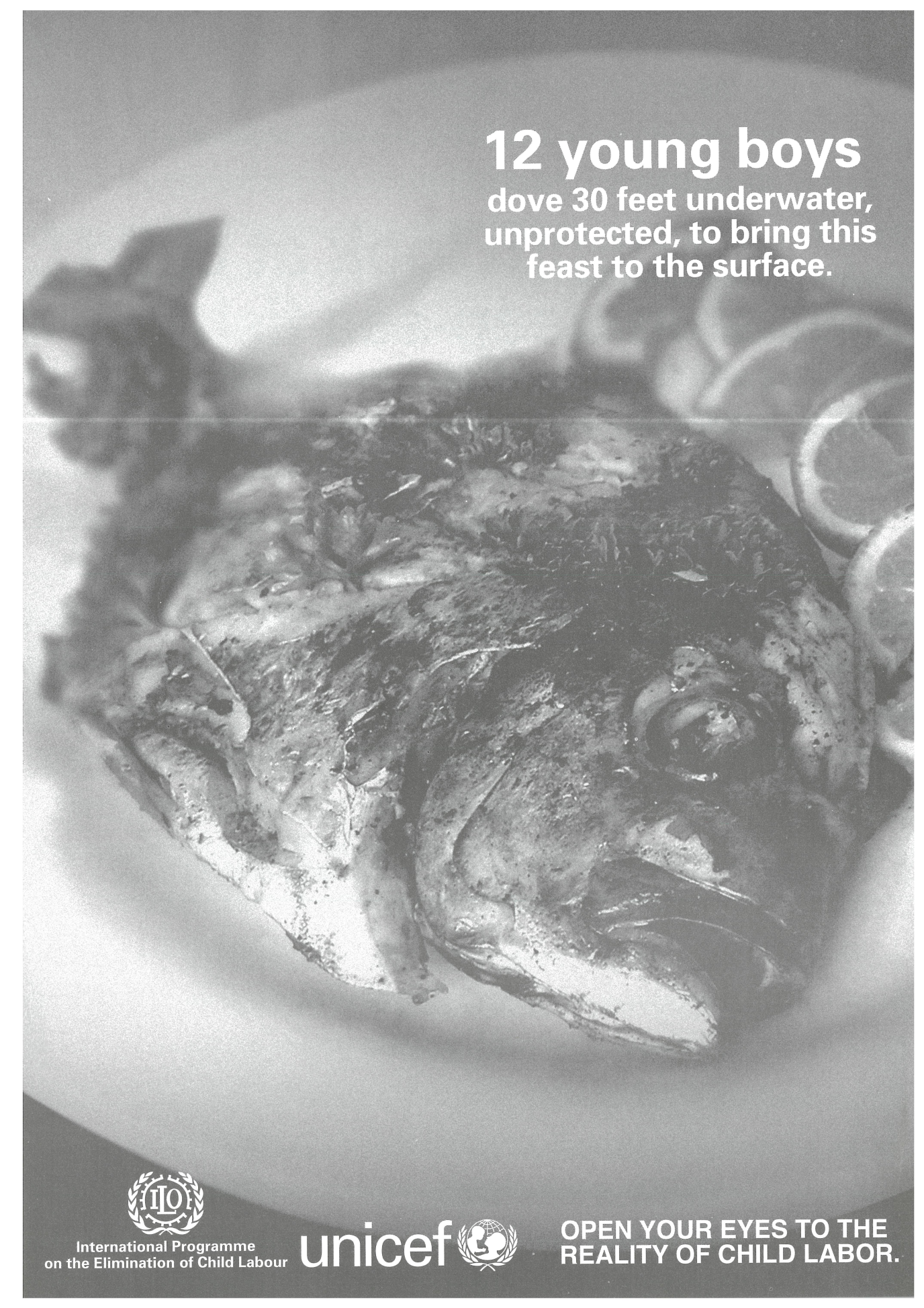
**OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE
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An in-depth look at child labor in deep-sea fishing.



- There are over 200,000 children aged 5-17 years presently working in the fishing industry. (*NSO, 2001 SOC*)
- A large majority of these are boys.
- Many of these children are exposed to physical, chemical and biological hazards.
- Maltreatment at the hands of their masters is not uncommon.
- A typical working day for these children lasts from 12 to 15 hours.
- Because they do not use standard protective gear, they suffer from decompression symptoms, harsh weather conditions, cuts, bruises, skin diseases, sore eyes, body burns, hearing impairment, and paralysis.
- Loneliness at sea and the dangerous daily routine during the fishing months take a heavy psychological toll on them.

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A black and white photograph of a large, cooked fish, possibly a sea bream, served on a white plate. The fish is garnished with fresh herbs and lemon slices. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light.

12 young boys
dove 30 feet underwater,
unprotected, to bring this
feast to the surface.

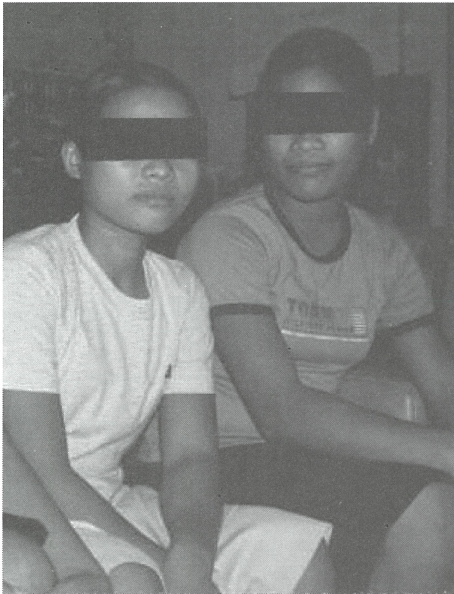


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Children in the flesh trade: the shocking facts.



- Because of the clandestine nature of this profession, the number of children in prostitution cannot be accurately measured. Estimates range from 60,000 to 100,000.
- Child prostitution takes many forms, including mobile sex trade in streets, malls and other public places; on-board service in docked ships or boats; prostiTUTION to pay for school fees; stripping and other forms of indecent dance; massage service; guest relations officer work; work slavery wherein children are trafficked as sex slaves in sex dens.
- A large majority of child prostitutes are girls, but the number of boys is steadily increasing.
- Most child prostitutes are recruited from the rural areas to work in urban areas of the Philippines or even abroad.
- The appeal of the child prostitute lies precisely in the "innocence" factor.
- These children are exposed to a variety of hazards, including contraction of HIV/AIDS and other STDs, risk of physical violence, and failing health from long hours of work.
- Child prostitutes also suffer from the harmful psychological effects of their profession, development of distorted values, economic exploitation, lack of love and affection, breakdown of family ties, loss of self-worth, and endangered lives if they decide to quit.

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A 14-year-old girl
is scarred for life
because of one man's need
for a moment's pleasure.

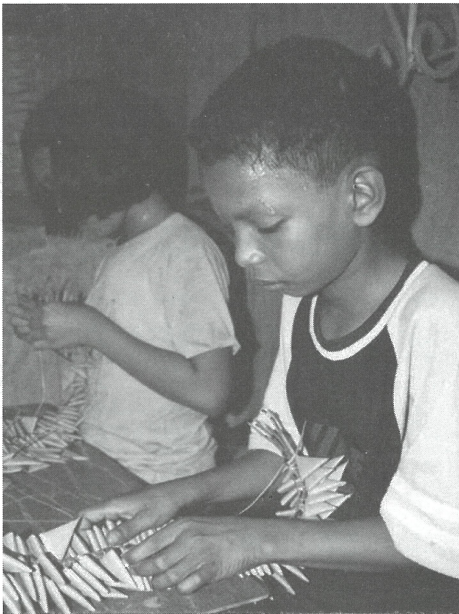


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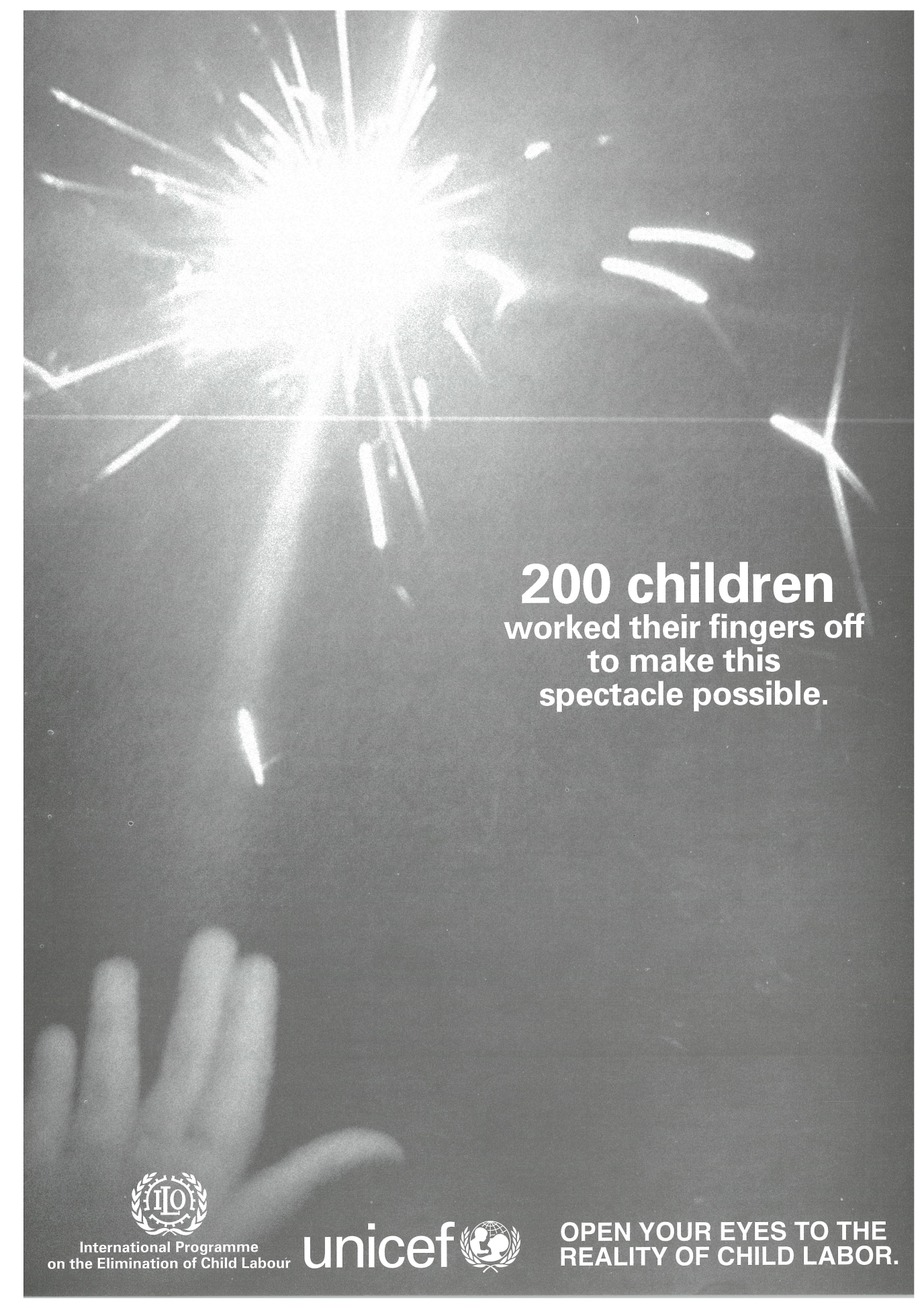
**OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE
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Child labor in the hazardous fireworks industry: the burning reality.



- Approximately 3,500 children work in the pyrotechnics industry. Of these, 2,000 are in Region III.
- The average age at which these children in pyrotechnics start working is 12 years.
- Most of them work for backyard-type manufacturers with substandard safety measures, if any at all.
- 30% of these children dropped out of school even before they started working, while 57% were still studying when they started working but eventually dropped out to earn more.
- They bring home a daily earning of anywhere from P20 to P100.
- The highly combustible materials the children handle daily pose a high risk of injuries and loss of life.
- Inhalation of the fine powder used for firecrackers causes dizziness, asthma, and breathing difficulties.
- On the average every year, three children die and seven are injured in work-related accidents.

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200 children
worked their fingers off
to make this
spectacle possible.



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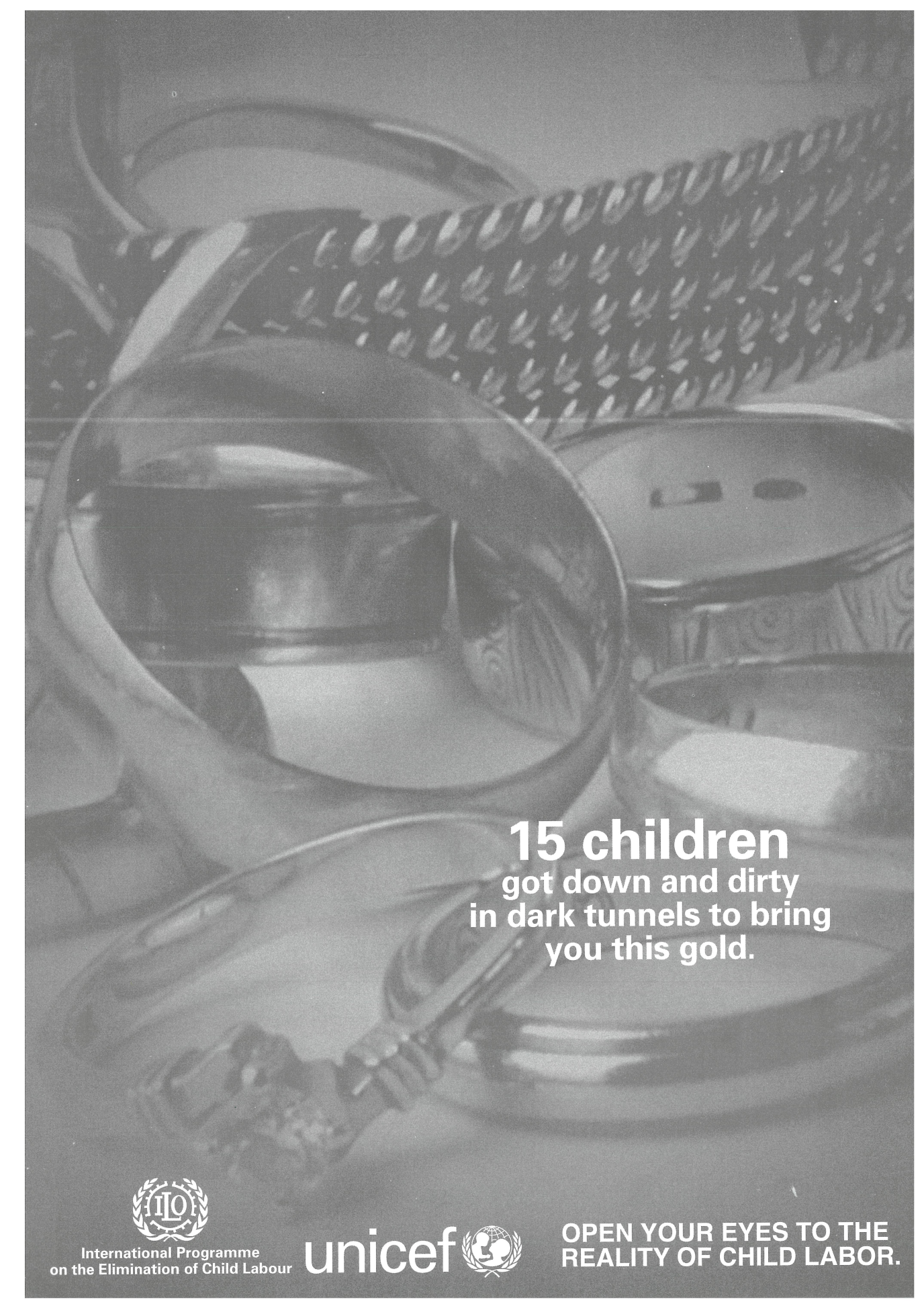
**OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE
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Digging into the facts of child labor in mining.



- Over 18,000 children are engaged in mining and quarrying. Half of these are 10 to 14 years old. *(NSO, 2001 SOC)*
- Most of these children work in small-scale mining outfits, which use low-technology methods and do not follow safety standards.
- The child laborers participate in almost all phases of production, from extraction to processing.
- Without any formal regulation or inspection of working conditions, child laborers in mining are often forced to work for long hours.
- It's not unusual for these children to become stunted as a result of carrying excessively heavy loads. They also complain of body pains and exhaustion.
- Those in quarrying are constantly exposed to the threat of having certain body parts smashed by tools, as well as the danger of cave-ins, landslides and falling rocks.
- Aside from these perils, children in mining are also exposed to large amounts of dust and mercury-based chemicals which can cause serious brain damage.

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15 children
got down and dirty
in dark tunnels to bring
you this gold.



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**OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE
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Rights have been taken away from some children.

Help recover them.



Defending the rights of victims of child labor.

- As a policymaker, you play a major role in the fight against child labor. The laws and policies you author have the potential to effectively eliminate child labor in the country.
- You have the power to effect significant change by formulating and passing laws that protect and promote the rights of children.
- You can also see to it that adequate funds are allocated for the enforcement of such laws, and develop or review existing policies that are designed to implement action against child labor.
- Every action you take, every decision you make, will go a long way in helping defend the rights of this nation's children.

Help stop child labor.



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Victims of child labor want to be heard. Listen to them.

Stopping child labor through advocacy.

- Supporting causes you believe in is a thrust of your advocacy group. And the records show that you have indeed thrown your support behind many worthy endeavors.
- We would like you to take a close look at the issue of child labor.
- All over the country, millions of children aged 5-17 are subjected to harsh working conditions by unscrupulous employers who are only out to cut costs.
- We urge you to support the fight against child labor, through fund raising activities, endorsement of child rights programs, and whatever other ways you can help.
- Make a solid contribution towards helping children be children indeed.

Help stop child labor.



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Some children have lost hope.

Help them find it.

Implementing programs of hope for children.

- All laws are ultimately useless unless properly enforced. That's why we look to you, the implementers, as the hope for children who are protected by very specific laws.
- By seeing to it that the National Program Against Child Labor is duly implemented, you can play a very important part in the war against exploitation of children.
- Your investigation efforts, surveillance work, and filing of criminal charges against violators of child labor laws will save many children from a life of drudgery and forced labor.
- Give children hope for a bright future.

Help stop child labor.



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