

ESTUDY OF THE INFORMAL WORK OF CHILDREN - ADOLESCENTS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRODUCTIVE MATRIX OF THE RIOBAMBA CANTON

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Abstract

Child labor constitutes a violation of the rights of children and adolescents, especially the right to be protected against exploitation, healthy growth, education, play, culture and sports. That is, to fully develop, currently the number of children and adolescents in a state of vulnerability have been increasing markedly, it is evident to see children in the streets looking for income for their homes, without having the slightest protection assuming too much responsibility, and renouncing the right to have a decent education, this affects the future of the economy by referring to the fact that the current population is not being trained in the future to be able to contribute to the generation of income on the part of a formal economic activity.

The incidence of economic type that is reflected is directly affected by child labor since these aspects of social and economic relevance bring positive or negative results, in this case this way of life as day-to-day supervision is the reflection of today economic development of Riobamba since in the aspect of existence of child labor is the trigger for the generation of work is basic as well as less prosperous since children and adolescents are not able to

generate their intellectuality therefore are outside of a preparation of superior study so that there is a generation of a company, industries, the same commercialization as the movement of markets, thus causing poverty and instability in the economy.

Based on this, it is important to apply this research project since it allows us to identify the reality in which families live and the possible causes that lead children and adolescents to be immersed in child labor, and to be able to establish possible solutions mechanisms to this problem cataloged as social and economic.

KEY WORDS: Child Labor, Informal Work, Sustainable Development, Productive Matrix.

INTRODUCTION

Child labour is a social problem in which the integrity of children is affected, since they are deprived of their childhood and of receiving an education. It is very common to see children at traffic lights cleaning the windows of cars or "juggling" every day. Child labour exists in many forms, most of which are on the streets of cities using begging, in the hands of someone who takes advantage of them by putting them to work without giving them any kind of remuneration.

This situation is caused by countless reasons such as: poverty, an education system that does not cover the entire child population in the country. Poverty is put first, because this is the most common and weighty reason why children and adolescents are forced to put aside their studies and go out to the streets to find a way to earn money to take home and for their own livelihood.

There is also an incorrect thought in the parents of these children, since they think that if they begin to earn money from an early age their situation will improve, but this is harmful since they are limiting themselves because when they grow up if they did not have any education this unprofitable work will turn out to be their livelihood.

Considered as any economic work that may or may not be remunerated, carried out by children under 14 years of age who are often forced by unscrupulous people or by adverse circumstances presented to them by the society in which they live. In this way they try to solve their self-sufficiency or family sustenance, which contributes to their physical, mental and intellectual development is not the most propitious according to their age.

Within the city of Riobamba there are many child labors that, in this case according to the economic criterion, the main characteristic is that they are from the urban sectors that go out to the streets to carry out this activity also while children from other cities arrive to work in the City of

Riobamba. More than an urban growth, a city is a human movement where you are born, grow, aspire to a better way of life.

DEVELOPMENT

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Concept

The analysis of socioeconomic conditions is widely used worldwide and is one of the indicators that allow establishing policies and strategies to be used by public or private institutions for the attention to the public in goods and services, and some authors have defined it as the socioeconomic level is a segmentation of the consumer and the audiences that defines the economic and social capacity of a household.

Socioeconomic indicators are "specific, explicit and objectively verifiable measures that seek to account for the changes produced by the project, in other words, they allow specifying the way in which the degree of compliance with objectives and results will be verified.

Socioeconomic status, a measure of social status that typically includes income, education, and occupation, is tied to a wide range of life impacts, ranging from cognitive ability and academic achievement to physical and mental health. Understanding the ways in which children's socio-economic status influences life impacts is a critical issue for education and public health, particularly as global economic trends relegate more families to poverty.

Current knowledge on socioeconomic status and child development indicates that children from families of higher socioeconomic status show better executive functions the ability to actively direct, control and regulate thoughts and behavior than children from families of lower socioeconomic status. As executive functions have been presented as a predictor of school achievement and have also been associated with mental health outcomes, it is possible that the well-established link between socioeconomic status and academic achievement may be partially mediated.(Hook, 2013)

Importance of indicators

The importance of indicators according to (Morgan, 2008) says that, as an instrument of knowledge, it provides accurate and rapid information on general situations of a community and / or specific situations of certain social groups, and their evolution.

- It is a simple portrait of the complex and changing social reality.
- As an instrument of action, the social indicator establishes the social goals, defining the priorities of action, in a more or less consensual way (in the worst case, the one with the lowest degree of citizen

participation, referring to answers to questions the complex and changing closed, scales or items). social reality.

- Allows classifications to be established (social stratification, social inequalities)
- Analyzing punctually and / or seriously problems, conflicts, phenomena, lifestyles, degrees of personal satisfaction, etc. closed, scales or items).

It also makes it possible to evaluate the effectiveness of social, economic and cultural policies and programmes, as well as to plan development and, in a way, to foresee the future.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment can be considered when a person does a job in their own home. Although in this case a physical activity is being developed, that is, it is working, it is not remunerated, therefore, it cannot be considered employment. A much more important concept derives from employment; unemployment.

Unemployment refers to the percentage of the 10 economically active population that is unemployed, that is, that does not carry out any paid activity.

Employment is the way in which a person seeks to earn an honest living, giving up his labor power in exchange for a salary or salary that contributes to the support of his family, with the satisfaction of his basic needs, in this sense employment is an important fact in the economic study, in the book Macroeconomics: Introduction to Economics says that "employment is the total number of people with work at any given time, and unemployment is the total number of people who actively seek employment, but at any given time do not find work, The active population is the sum of people with employment and unemployment"

Unemployment

Both employment and unemployment have their importance for the whole society and for economists, since it "will depend on the levels of poverty and the economic gap that is created between employed and unemployed people, so the government seeks and proposes policies to reach full employment, which is to ensure that all people are employed and receive the benefits of having work, and defeat poverty levels."

The term unemployment is an easy indicator to understand and one concept says that unemployment "measures the proportion of people who look for work without finding it with respect to the total number of people in the labor force. Therefore, the unemployment rate can be defined as the ratio of the number of unemployed people to the labor force."

Formal work

Víctor E. Tokman, citing Portes, Castells and Benton, (2011) in the book *The labor dimensions of productive transformation with equity*, says that the notion of labor formality or informality has been changing focus in recent decades focusing more on the worker than on the productive unit.

Formal work can also be identified as salaried employment in which the "holders have implicit or explicit employment contracts (oral or written), so they receive a basic remuneration that does not depend directly on the income of the unit for which they work (this unit can be a corporation, a non-profit institution, a government unit or a household)." (Tokman, 2011)

There may be people working "formally" in small productive units (previously classified as belonging to the informal sector), as dependent workers in a large company but who, illegally, do so without an employment contract. The crucial thing here is that that person's work is not regulated by an employment contract. (World Bank, 2014) The importance of formal work is given by the respect and compliance with the laws, and for which the contributions to the IESS are taken into account, the payment of the thirteenth, fourteenth, the basic salary, in addition to the employment contract, etc. All this helps to configure formal work, since the informal lacks all these benefits, And mostly salaries are lower than what is basic. (Charles & Jones, 2012)

Informal work

The informal economy thrives in a context of high rates of unemployment, underemployment, poverty, gender inequality and precarious work. In these circumstances, it plays an important role, especially in terms of income generation, because it is relatively easy to access and the standards of education, skills, technology and capital are very low. But most people do not enter the informal economy by choice, but because of the need to survive and have access to activities that provide basic income.

The informal economy is characterized by an acute decent work deficit and a disproportionate percentage of working poor. Extensive empirical research has shown that workers in the informal economy typically face higher risks of poverty than workers in the formal economy. As a result of these and other factors, there is a significant, though not complete, overlap between working in the informal economy and being poor and vulnerable. Although some activities provide reasonable livelihoods and income, most people working in the informal economy: are exposed to inadequate and insecure working conditions and have high levels of illiteracy, low skills and limited training opportunities; have more uncertain, irregular and lower incomes than those working in the formal economy, work longer hours, do not enjoy collective bargaining or

representation rights, and are often ambiguous or covert; and are more physically and financially vulnerable because work in the informal economy is excluded or effectively outside the reach of social security schemes and legislation on safety and health protection, maternity and other standards for the protection of workers. (Geneva, The Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy, 2014)

Growth, globalization and the informal economy

Informality is first and foremost a matter of governance. Often, the growth of the informal economy may be due to: inadequate, ineffective, misguided or poorly implemented macroeconomic and social policies, often developed without tripartite consultations; the lack of appropriate legal and institutional frameworks; lack of good governance for the correct and effective implementation of policies and laws; Where macroeconomic policies, including structural adjustment, economic restructuring and privatization policies, have not focused sufficiently on employment, employment has been reduced or adequate new jobs have not been created in the formal economy.

Throughout the development debate, the analysis of the relationship between economic growth, employment and the fight against poverty has gone through several stages. An important premise of the pioneers of development studies in the 1950s was that the benefits of economic growth would eventually benefit the poor through a trickle-down effect. This idea remained a central assumption of mainstream thinking that inspired the development of structural adjustment programmes in the 1980s and poverty reduction strategy papers in the early 2000s. However, the development strategies implemented in developing countries over the past 70 years have shown that, without employment-friendly policies, growth alone cannot be expected to translate spontaneously into better incomes and productive jobs. The model and sources of growth, as well as the way in which its benefits are distributed, are equally important for the achievement of poverty reduction and social justice goals. (Geneva, The Informal Economy, 2014)

The social and economic costs of informality

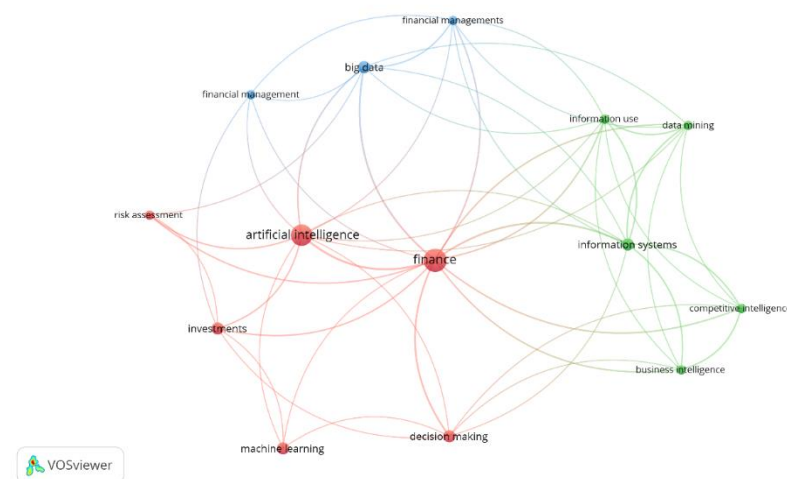
By its very nature, the characteristics of the informal economy are largely negative, as it can trap individuals and firms in a spiral of low productivity and poverty. A coherent national strategy to facilitate the transition to formality needs to recognize that the costs of labor informality are high for firms, workers, and the community. From the point of view of workers without protection, the negative aspects of working in the informal economy far outweigh the positive aspects. Workers in the informal economy are not recognized, registered, regulated or protected under labour and social protection legislation and therefore cannot enjoy, exercise or defend their fundamental rights.

As they are generally not organized, collective representation before employers or public authorities is insufficient or non-existent.

Workers in the informal economy are characterized by varying degrees of dependency and vulnerability. Women, youth, migrants and older workers are particularly vulnerable to the most severe decent work deficits in the informal economy. They are exposed to violence, including sexual harassment and other forms of exploitation and abuse, such as corruption and bribery. Child labour and bonded labour are also features of the informal economy.

Most economic units in the informal economy do not enjoy secure property rights, impeding their access to capital and credit. Informality can also inhibit investment in larger entrepreneurial activities and hinder trade because informal enterprises are often not large enough to fully exploit economies of scale. Large firms not only benefit from economies of scale, but also have easier access to more skilled labour and bank credit (including trade credit). They tend to be more reliable than smaller companies in delivering contracts on time, which is an appreciable advantage for building long-term customer relationships. Micro and small enterprises in the informal economy lack the capacity to generate sufficient profits to reward innovation and risk-taking, two essential elements for long-term economic success. Studies on the subject show that high rates of informality drive countries to the lower and more vulnerable end of global production chains and attract capital flows related to the existence of a large supply of low-wage labor.

Figure 1. Co-occurrence of words



POVERTY

From an economic point of view, poverty is usually defined as the "lack of goods and services necessary to meet basic needs". Establishing an

irrefutable definition of this concept, however, is not as simple as it seems: on the one hand, the term "basic needs" is, to say the least, imprecise; and on the other, poverty is usually relative, that is, it depends on the context and is established in comparison to other people or countries. In addition, as this research on the subject points out, the concept can be affected by religious and cultural particularities.

ABSOLUTE POVERTY

The first refers to the situation of the individual independently of that of others, and exists when he cannot meet his physical needs: lack of nutrition, clothing or housing.

RELATIVE POVERTY

It indicates a situation of deprivation in relation to other people, and it may be the case that, even if basic material needs are covered, immaterial needs are not: in this sense, an illiterate person or a person excluded from participation in social life can also be considered poor.

Encompassing all these aspects, a good definition is offered by the economist Alexander Schubert: "Poverty means not having enough to eat, a high infant mortality rate, low life expectancy, few educational opportunities, poor access to drinking water, inadequate health care, inadequate housing conditions and little participation in decision-making processes." (Lonien, 2013)

CHILD LABOUR

It is the one that deprives children of living their childhood stage in a natural way. They are the tasks that prevent them from developing properly and in a dignified manner.

Translated into everyday actions, child labour is one that:

- It does not allow them to attend school properly. Either because they cannot attend classes regularly or because they have little time to study, the learning process is interrupted or altered.
- It compromises their physical integrity and mental health. Sometimes the task means more physical exertion than they can bear. Also, and not least, the mental health of the child is at risk, since he has to live situations for which he is not psychologically prepared.
- It affects your personal relationships. Physical labor takes time away from children to play and interact with their peers, which is critical for proper development.

Child labour statistics

According to data released by UNICEF, it is estimated that there are approximately 150 million working children worldwide, between 5 and 14 years old.

This figure has been decreasing in recent years, although it is still a very high figure.

When the geographical distribution of these children is analysed, Africa is the continent that tops the list. On average, one in four African children is engaged in child labour.

Asia ranks second and data indicate that one child in eight is in paid work on the continent.

In Latin America, this figure drops to one in ten.

Globally, there has been a slow decline in the number of children in child labour. In Africa, however, the figure continues to rise. (Martin, 2015)

TYPES OF CHILD LABOUR

Depending on the culture of the country, the socio-economic level of the place and how severe the social policies are, Child Labour comes in different forms. One of the worst forms of child labour is that which involves clear conditions of slavery. In this case the children are usually separated from their family and receive little or no remuneration, only working for food.

Two other forms of child labour are prostitution and child pornography.

However, beyond the different forms, UNICEF distinguishes between two main types of child labor:

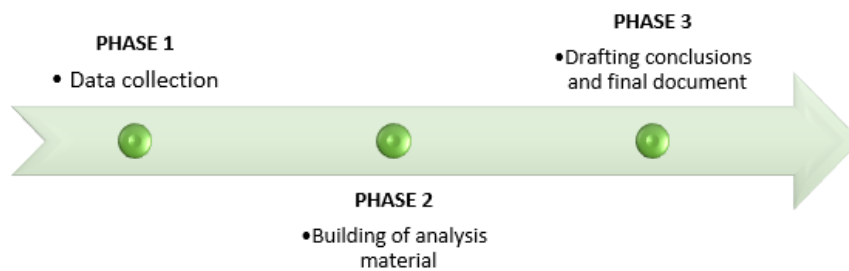
Children who work within the family nucleus. Together with their parents and siblings in families of peasants or artisans, the children work and contribute to the economy of the house.

In this case, the typical situation responds to a great poverty of the family, which does not have infrastructure or the minimum social guarantees.

Children work under orders from third parties. Many times it is multinational companies that hire this type of labor. Other times they are people who have fraudulent businesses and take advantage of vulnerable conditions.

It is in this second group that the worst cases of child exploitation are generally found.

Figure 2. Methodological design



Source: Own elaboration

Causes of child labour

These children, in most cases, are forced by their own parents or relatives to perform paid work.

Another characteristic is that whoever hires this type of labor, pays less than what would correspond to an older person. In this way, a business is established around the work of children, which feeds and enhances one of the scourges of humanity. Even in many cases, the remuneration for the work that these children perform is not economic. In exchange for long hours of work, he is given the food of the day.

Why does child labour still persist?

Surely you think, like most people, that child labor is something that should not exist, since all children have the right to develop properly.

While the number of child labourers has been slowly declining and there has also been a decline in the number of children employed in the worst forms of child labour, many still continue to work in appalling conditions.

Professionals explain this reality through the following causes:

Poverty. The vast majority of children in the child labour market belong to poor households. This is a cause that enhances the kind of vicious circle that is established around the problem.

Children leave the education system to work, are not trained and therefore remain poor. And future generations follow the same path. The poverty that is established and increased over the course of generations is not only economic. By being excluded from the education system, the value framework is vulnerable to other miseries.

Vices such as alcohol, tobacco and drug use soon begin to haunt the environment in which exploited children move.

Inefficient state policies. When states lack clear rules on child labor, the problem is immediately established.

Many entrepreneurs and smallholders see child labour as a valid mechanism to make their businesses more profitable. This is complemented by the lack of a legal framework that severely punishes this type of crime.

Deficient education. When there is a demand for a service, it is that there are people convinced that that service is the solution for their business.

In the demand for child labour there is a clear deficit in terms of education and values. These are instilled and transmitted at home and in educational settings.

It is also the family environment that often promotes the exploitation of their own children, because they are not able to see beyond basic and immediate needs. In summary, the problem of child labour is still important at the global level. When there is less poverty, more education and better state policies, surely this situation can improve. (Martin, 2015)

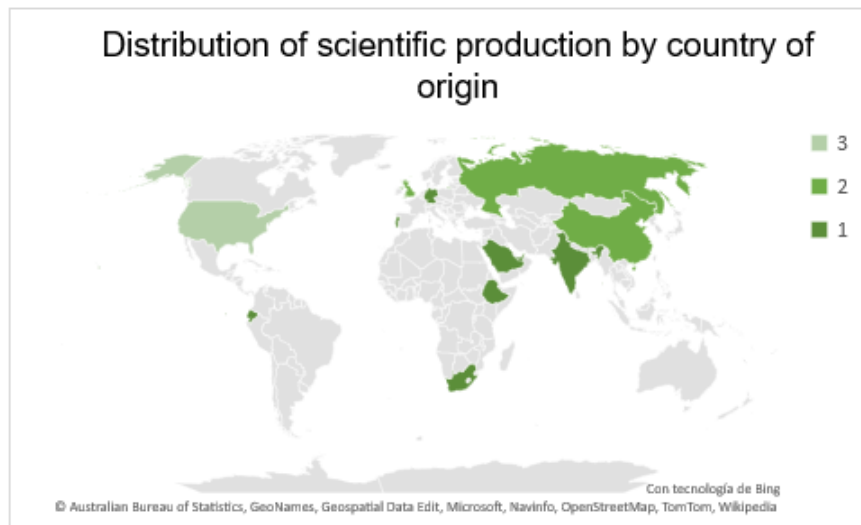
CHILD LABOUR IN ECUADOR

At the end of 2012, the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses INEC conducted a specialized survey on child labor at the national level. The first results show that for that year 8.6% of children and adolescents between 5 and 17 years of age worked, equivalent to approximately 360,000. A closer look shows that in urban areas child labour reached 4.3 per cent, while in rural areas it reached 15.5 per cent. At the territorial level, the provinces of Cotopaxi, Bolívar and Chimborazo have the highest incidence of child labour, with 25.1%, 22.2% and 21.0%, respectively.

In relation to ethnicity, child labour is higher among indigenous children and adolescents, where it reaches 29.0 per cent, compared with 6.9 per cent among Afro-Ecuadorians and 7 per cent among mestizos.

For those children between 5 and 14 years old, the indicator reached 6.5%, while for the group between 15 and 17 years old it reached 15.7%. Of particular importance is the group of children and adolescents working between 5 and 14 years of age, since the Code on Children and Adolescents sets 15 years as the minimum age for all types of work. Framework that is included in the National Plan for Good Living 2013-2017, which in its Goal 9 includes the goal "Eradicate child labor from 5 to 14 years"

Figure 4. Distribution of scientific production by country of origin.



Source: Own elaboration (2022); based on data provided by Scopus

This goal, to which Ecuador has committed to achieve in 2017, calls on sectors such as the government (at its different levels) as well as the private, academic, among others, to articulate efforts and wills in order to achieve the objective. The declaration of Ecuador in 2011 as a country free of child labor in landfills, the first in Latin America to do so, is an example of what can be achieved through the coordination and mobilization of wills in favor of the rights of children and adolescents. On the other hand, the initiative 'Network of Companies for an Ecuador Free of Child Labor', led by the Ministry of Labor Relations, with 28 companies (public and private), contributes to the strengthening of a business culture that is committed to the eradication of child labor. (Telegraph, 2014)

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

The results of the surveys carried out on children and adolescents in the Riobamba canton are presented.

1. What economic activity do you do?

Table 1: Development of economic activities

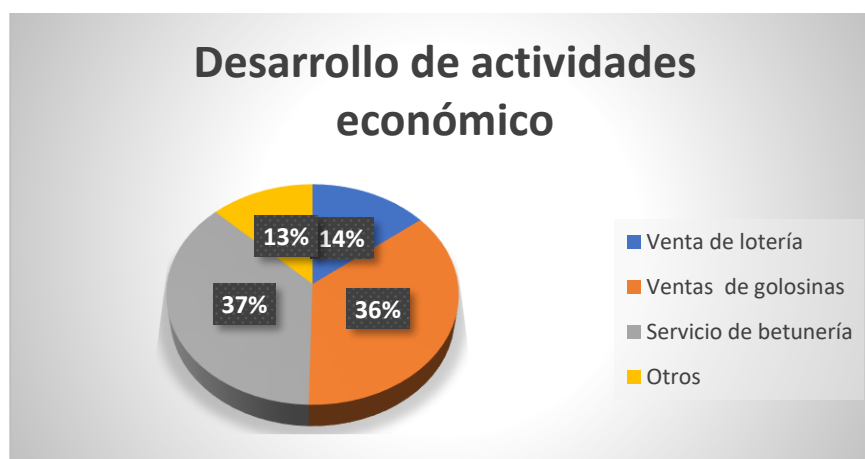
No.	ALTERNATIVES	FREQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE
1	Lottery sale	57	14,36
2	Candy sales	143	36,02
3	Bitumen service	147	37,03
4	Other	50	12,59

TOTAL		397	100,00
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Source: Survey of children and adolescents in the canton of Riobamba

Elaborated: The Authors

Graph No 1 Development of economic activities



ANALYSIS:

According to the survey carried out, it is determined that 37% of children and adolescents carry out bitumen activities, 36% are engaged in the sale of sweets in food courts and means of transport, the cause of child labour is subject to the following criterion: "in the countryside there are no schools", thus generating that parents prefer that they work.

2. How often do you carry out your economic activity?

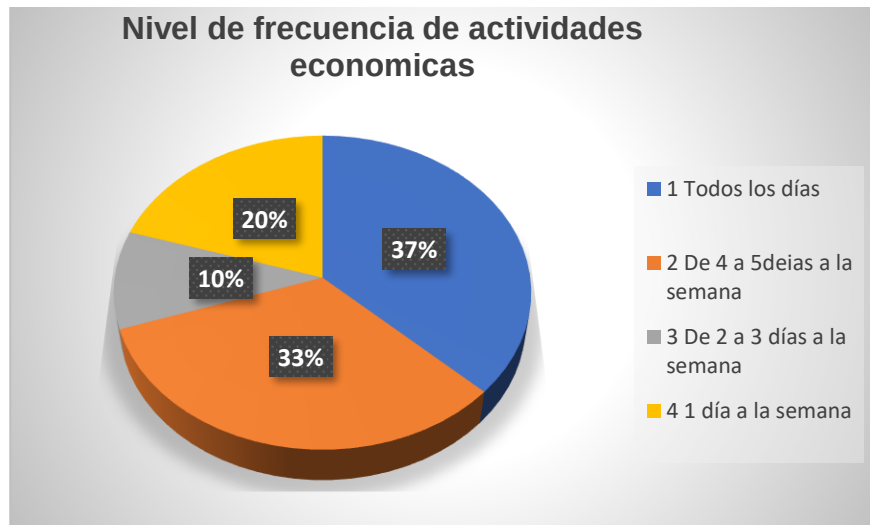
Table 2: Level of frequency of economic activity

No.	ALTERNATIVES	FREQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE
1	Every day	140	37,03
2	From 4 to 5deias per week	137	32,75
3	2 to 3 days a week	40	10,08
4	1 day a week	80	20,15
TOTAL		397	100,00

Source: In cuesta realize to the children girls and adolescents of the canton Riobamba

Elaborated: The Authors

Figure 2: Level of frequency of economic activities

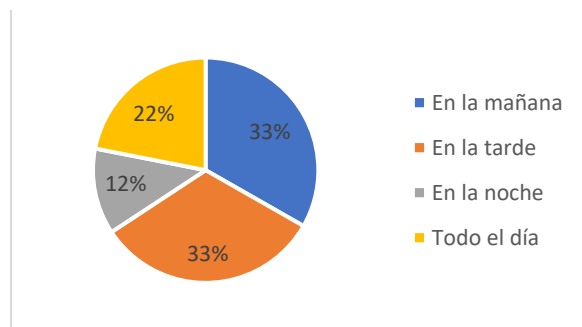


ANALYSIS:

The graph reflects that 37% of the people surveyed work every day because they do not attend any educational unit, 33% perform their work is daily to work, due to the economic situation in their homes, additional the father of the family forces minors to work

3. At what times does it carry out its activity?

CHART No. 3 WORKING HOURS



Source: Survey of children and adolescents in the Riobamba Canton

Prepared by: The Authors

TABLE N° 3 WORKING HOURS

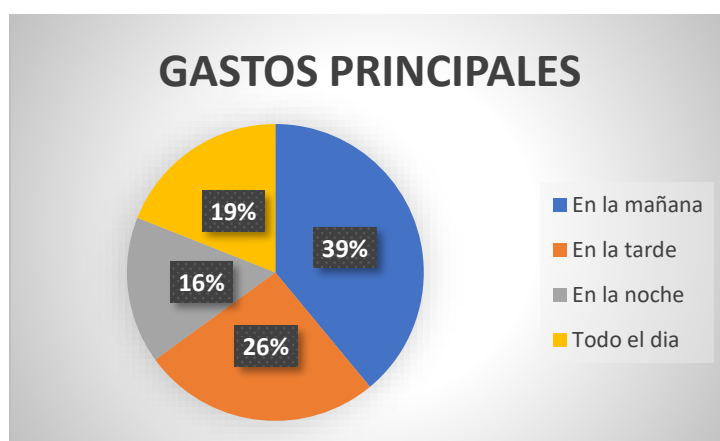
ASPECT	VALUE	%
In the morning	132	33%
In the afternoon	129	32%
At night	49	12%
All day	87	22%
TOTAL	397	100%

ANALYSIS

Based on the results obtained in the application in the survey, it can be determined that infants who work in the morning represent 33%; 32% of minors work in the afternoon; In addition, the percentage of children who work at night represents 12% and 22% of respondents work throughout the day.

4. Do you use the money you receive mainly for expenses such as?

CHART N° 4



Source: Survey of children and adolescents in the Riobamba Canton

Prepared by: The Authors

TABLE N° 4 MAIN EXPENSES

ASPECT	VALUE	%
In the morning	153	39%
In the afternoon	105	26%
At night	65	16%
All day	74	19%
TOTAL	397	100%

Source: Survey of children and adolescents in the Riobamba Canton

Prepared by: The Authors

ANALYSIS

Based on the results obtained, it is determined that the money they receive is mainly destined to household expenses, the money collected by their activities is received by the parents, where they allocate the income received for the primary needs in the home.

5. ON AVERAGE, HOW MUCH DO YOU RECEIVE FOR YOUR ACTIVITY ON A DAILY BASIS?

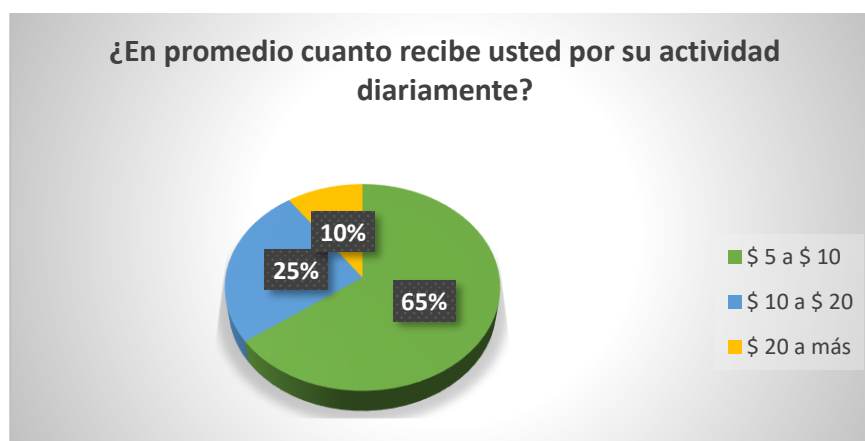
TABLE 5: INCOME FROM ACTIVITY

No.	ALTERNATIVES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1	\$ 5 a \$ 10	258	64,98740554
2	\$ 10 a \$ 20	100	25,18891688
3	\$20 or more	39	9,823677582
TOTAL		397	100

SOURCE: Surveys of children and adolescents in the canton of Riobamba.

PREPARED BY: The Authors

GRAPH N° 5: INCOME FROM ACTIVITY



SOURCE: Surveys of children and adolescents in the canton of Riobamba.

PREPARED BY: The Authors

ANALYSIS:

From the data obtained, it is evident that 65% of respondents receive an income of 5 to 10 dollars for informal work, 25% have an income of 10 to 20 dollars and 10% receive the amount of 20 dollars or more for their work done.

6. In your family economy, does the income you generate correspond?

TABLE N° 6: INCOME GENERATED IN THE FAMILY ECONOMY		
ASPECT	VALUE	%
25%	85	21%
50%	97	24%
75%	149	38%
100%	66	17%
Total	397	100%
Source: Survey of children and adolescents in the Riobamba canton.		
Prepared by: The Authors		



Source: Survey of children and adolescents in the Riobamba Canton

Prepared by: The Authors

ANALYSIS

The surveys applied allow us to determine that the income they generate for the family economy represents 75% of the total income per family. Being able to determine that there is abuse and exploitation of the minor in the execution of his work

7. Does the income you receive cover all needs?

TABLE No. 7 INCOME REQUIREMENTS

No.	ALTERNATIVES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1	YES	217	55%
2	NO	180	45%
	TOTAL	397	100%

Source: Surveys of children and adolescents in the canton of Riobamba

Elaborated: The Authors

FIGURE No. 7 INCOME REQUIREMENTS



Source: Surveys of children and adolescents in the canton of Riobamba

Elaborated: The Authors

Analysis:

From| The data obtained, 217 people responded with a favorable response regarding the income they receive covers the needs of the family nucleus, this represents 55%. The remaining 45% determine that there is still a financial gap in the household.

RESULTS

The analysis of the Survey developed in July 2017, had the purpose of determining an updated number of children who are in child labor and its incidence. The research universe includes children and adolescents from 5 to 17 years of age, from the urban and rural population of the Riobamba canton.

Se performed a probability sampling for the age group 5 to 17 years, where the sample size was calculated with a confidence level of 95%.

The area of residence also marks important differences between the working and non-working conditions of children and adolescents in Riobamba. In rural areas, work is done about 5 times more than in cities in the case of children and 3 times more in the case of adolescents.

Closely related to this result, it is found that the incidence of child labor among the indigenous population is substantially higher than among other groups of ethnic self-definition.

The other side of the problem of child labour is given by the conditions and the conformation of the labour supply, defined as the presence of people willing to work in the market.

The labor offer is a decision, both individual and collective, of allocation and valuation of time. This decision depends, in part, on the expected economic returns, the information and opportunities observed in the market, and the monetary opportunity costs that families and individuals bring to child labour.

Many models and studies have been developed on the individual and collective labor supply, which realize that these are processes of cooperative conflict, where the work decision depends on what is considered as a contribution (current or future) of each person.

Families do not have enough information to know the future contribution, or lack sufficient decision-making capacity within the household, it can be intuited that they will tend to overestimate the immediate contribution of work versus non-work taking as reference education, leisure and unpaid work.

That is, how this time and contribution is valued, who ultimately decides on the allocation of time and roles, and what social factors affect these decisions, are key elements to understand the micro logic of the job offer.

CONCLUSIONS

- It is confirmed that the main factor causing the work of children and adolescents in Riobamba is poverty, which as it worsens, conditions are reproduced so that child labour increases. Poverty is directly associated with the work of children and adolescents.
- There is a glaring contradiction between the official reports of the Ecuadorian government on poverty eradication, the level of unemployment and income distribution and the growth of the child working population. While the government claims that poverty in Ecuador has decreased, the unemployment rate is low and income

distribution is increasingly equal; It is observed that the population of children and adolescents working each year that passes in greater.

- The unstable situation of the household and the need to generate income are the main causes, in the short term and in urban areas, of the work of children and adolescents. In many cases, it is the family that drives children to work, negatively conditioning the exercise of their fundamental right to access regular and continuous education.

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