Spring 2015

Child Labor in Colombia: Physical and Psychological Discomfort at Work in Children Who Work and Attend School

Andrea Morales Reyes
Clemson University

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This study examined the health consequences of child labor in Colombia during 2011. The data collection was through the use of a dataset on the economic and non-economic activities of children and adolescents engaged in child labor. This data was gathered through the National Survey of Child Labor. The data collection was a joint effort between the DANE, ICBF, the Colombian Ministry of Labor, and ILO. The data was collected between October and December 2011 on 48,876 children. This study reduced the sample to only include children who reported having had a job the week previous to taking the survey. Frequencies, descriptive statistics, and cross-tabulations were computed to examine demographics as well as labor and school statistics. The statistical analyses were conducted using 22.0 SPSS software.

RESULTS

Frequencies and Descriptive Statistics:

By 2011, over a fourth of the Colombian children were engaged in child labor. Children who worked and attended school were associated with statistically significant higher means of physical and psychological discomfort than their respective counterparts.

CONCLUSION

The group of children who worked and attended school was associated with statistically significant lower mean physical and psychological discomfort than the group of children who worked and did not attend school.

REFERENCES


Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank Mauricio Oliveira for making available the data. Also, special thanks to Bonnie Holiday, Mark Small, Daniel Blinkey, and Jasmine Hedge for their ongoing support and valuable comments.