

A Sociological Study on Child Rights and Problems in Reintegration of Children on Probation in Sri Lanka

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Probation is an important social process. The rehabilitation of offenders and victims of various degrading practices leads to a better social life. Previous research studies on reintegration of children on probation are very rare. Some children on probation are abused. It is important to study the external impacts that these children have on their rehabilitation and reintegration in the society. Probation can be cited as an indirect act of protecting the rights of children through the United Nations children's rights convention. This research investigates the problems related to reintegration of children on probation and their impact on children's rights and civil rights. The purpose of this is to identify the probation process and to examine the quality of the rehabilitation process. The research method of this study was qualitative and 50 people were used in open interviews. The preliminary results of the study indicate that, most of the children on probation are subject to bad labeling and most of the children under the age of 18 had their basic rights violated during that period. In addition, it was found out that during reintegration probationary children are faced with various problems related to marriage and employment that cause them to violate their rights. Furthermore, the study showed that these children may later suffer from mental illness due to these reasons. Hence, it can be concluded that reintegration of probationary children is negatively labeled and thereby creates problems for their rights.

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