

Q5. Dear Mrs. Smith,

I'm writing to inform you about the horrors of child labour. Please listen to the story of Lakshmi.

SHORT SENTENCE

Wearing nothing more than tattered rags, her skin covered in filth, bruises and grime, Lakshmi struggles under the weight of a huge box that she is carrying through the warehouse. It is 10pm. Lakshmi has been working for twelve hours with no break, no food and no safety equipment. Her sandals provide no protection from the heavy weights she lifts. Her employers care little for her welfare. Her family haven't seen her for over a year. She is a slave, imprisoned in a relentless cycle of ~~tax~~ toil, abuse, neglect and suffering. She wishes she could escape. She wishes she could see her mum. Sometimes, she wishes she was dead.

All around the world, children just like Lakshmi are exploited, maltreated and abused by 'callous adults who are only interested in profit. Imagine your child had to work fourteen hours a day. Imagine your child was beaten, spat at and treated like an animal. This very moment, children are enduring a living nightmare, a torturous hell that they cannot end. Should we stand back and tolerate this? No. Should exploitative employers be allowed to continue with impunity? No. We need to help the helpless and care for the uncared for.

Metaphor

Hypophora

Short para. →

Childhood should be a time of joy, not suffering.

Anaphora

Instead of gruelling days of torturous work, children should be in school. Instead of being spat at by abusive and violent adult employers, children should be cared for by compassionate and tolerant adults.

Antithesis

Children should live with their families, not their slave masters. It is the right of every child to go to school. It is the responsibility of every society to

Epistrophe

ensure that they go to school. If young children are working, then society is failing. As an MP, you can make a difference; you can help children like Lakshmi; you can help stop this horrific exploitation.

Talk direct

The next time I see Lakshmi, I would love to see her smile. I would love to see her carrying books to school without a care in the world. I would love to hear of how she has been reunited with her family and how the adults in her life show compassion not malice, nurture not neglect, love not abuse.

Please contact the ~~Indian~~ ^{Indian} government and pressure them to change. Lakshmi needs your help.

Yours sincerely,

TOM Needham