**PAPER NUMBER #439**

**Hazardous child labour: quantifying a hidden crime**

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**Objectives/aims**

Globally, over 72 million children are engaged in hazardous child labour, defined as work that is harmful to their health, safety or moral development. Linked to this global effort, the Freedom Fund launched two studies in 2017 to assess the scale and nature of hazardous child labour in Northern India.

**Methods**

The research projects being presented are among the most rigorous studies to date on the scale and nature of child work and hazardous child labour. We know that child labour is often caused or even compelled by family economic necessities, parents are often the culprit in making their children contribute to the family’s subsistence. As such, we believe conventional household surveys will not likely provide adequate information about hazardous child labour.

Two studies in Northern India to estimate the rate of hazardous child labour will be compared and contrasted. One study used a hybrid of time-spatial random sampling and link-tracing among child workers, and the other used a systematic random sampling of worksites in high-prevalence neighbourhoods. In total, over 1,500 child workers and 1,400 worksites were surveyed.

**Main findings**

The presentation will focus on the process and challenges of translating international conventions into locally relevant, operationally feasible methodologies for measuring population-level impact. In particular, I will discuss sampling approaches for accessing hidden populations and offer practical tips for encouraging candid responses from child workers.