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### The Factories of Lost Children

In United States, more and more businesses outsource their manufacturing of their goods due to the cheap labor force. However, people never think about why the labor force is inexpensive, and never think about there might be child labor among the labor force. This article "The Factories of Lost Children", written by Katharine weber in 2006 published on New York Times, is mainly talking about the tragedies happened on child labor in third world factories, and author claims that children will die as long as we don't question the source of the inexpensive products we buy because it has become our national habit to outsource, and these days we outsource our tragedies, too (251). Moreover, the audience the author focused on is people who buy inexpensive products which made by cheap labor force, companies who use cheap labor force outsourcing and also the government regulators who can regulate the companies which use the child labor force outsourcing. In addition, in order to make her argument persuasive, author uses a lot of evidence like statistics and examples in a chronological order through 1911 to 2006. The uses of effective and credible facts as evidences make me believe author.

In this article, author uses examples as historical evidence most frequently. She uses examples through this entire article. Like in the beginning of the article, author starts with: "Ninety-five years ago, March 25 also fell on Saturday. At 4:40 p.m. ...(Weber P249)." author

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starts her article with an example and shows readers how this tragedy fire event began with a careless mistake caused by cigarette butt or tossed match that led to a 146 people died tragedy. Also in paragraph 11, author says: "But we will also never know how many children were among the dead on May 10, 1993, in Thailand ... (Weber P250)." This is an another example made by author that states a same tragedy event that have 188 people dead and most of them were described as teenage girl. By using four major cases as examples in this article author has clearly shows her audience how these tragedies happen and how seriously the consequence were. All these examples persuade the readers step by step of child labor issue; author shows all these historical evidences of factories which using child labor and the serious consequences of numbers of dead children when the accident happen in the factories.

In this article, another evidence author uses is statistics, and author uses statistics in paragraph 7, 9,10,11,12, and 13. For example, in paragraph 10, author says: "who died 95 years ago today-140 named victims plus six who were never identified (were some of those charred remains children?)-include one 11-year-old, two 14-year-old... (Weber P250)." By using statistics of numbers of dead in 1911, author tells the tragedy made by that day, and it's still a myth that how many children actually died on that day. Also, in paragraph 12, author says that: "where at least 10 of the 52 trapped in the flames by locked doors and windows were 10 to 14 years old (Weber P250)." By this statistics author is trying to show readers the large percentage of child force among the total and the low survival rate of these poor young teenagers. By showing these statistics author can clearly make readers to know the tragedy happened through 1911 to 2006, and how many children died on record. Moreover, there might be more children died under the actual record. After read these statistics, readers can directly

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understand the serious consequence of child labor. Also, these statistics make readers to think that how can we solve this issue?

The organization of this article is also makes readers easily understand her main claim. She wrote this article in a chronological order. Author starts her article with the fire accident happened in 1911 and she describes this event's process detailed from beginning to the end through paragraph one to paragraph ten. Then in the following paragraphs 11, 12, and 13 she lists other three fire accidents happened in factories worldwide in order of year 1993, 2000, and 2006. In all these four events she states out how many dead, and how highly the percentage of teenage among them. Author is trying to use facts let the readers themselves to get how seriously this issue is. Author does not give her claim until the last paragraph, in the last she states that we should start to question the inexpensive outsource in addition to prevent the tragedy happen again. By using this type of structure author leads readers from example to example in a time order; this pulls readers themselves to understand how badly cheap child labor leads up. Then, at the end author gives her claim and calls action to readers to start question inexpensive outsourcing. This is an efficient way to persuasive readers to believe her.

After reading this article, I start to think about are the inexpensive products I bought were made by child labor in third world factories. Author did a great job of using examples and statistics effectively to persuade her audience agree with her idea. Also, this article's clearly structure in chronological order makes readers easier to understand her claim of people need to start question of inexpensive outsourcing to prevent tragedy like before cases won't happen.

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Work Cited

Weber, Katharine. "The Factories of Lost Children." *The Aims of Argument: A Text and Reader*. 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. Timothy W. Crusius, Carolyn E. Channell. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011. 249-251.  
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