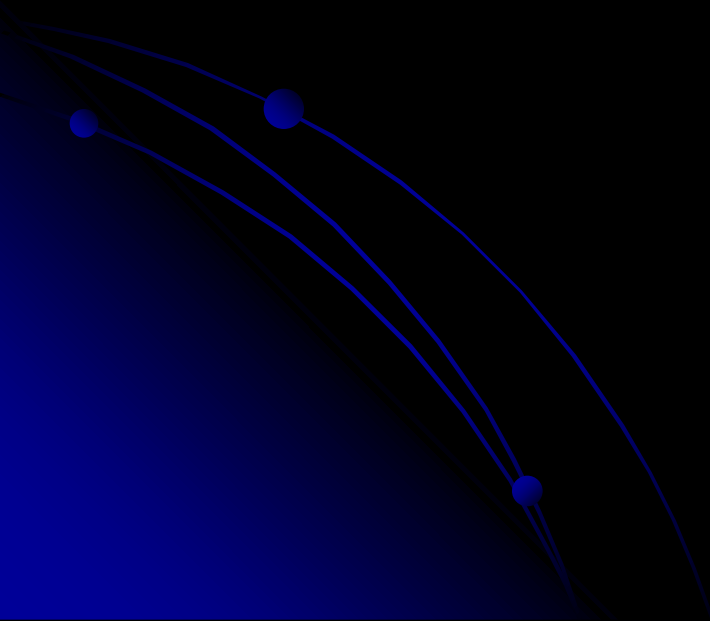
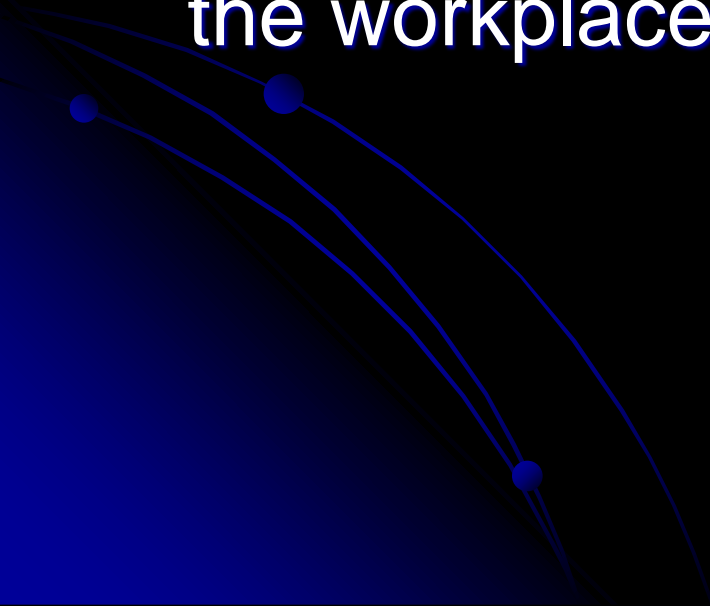



CHILD LABOUR



The Issue

- Around the world an issue for many years
 - Now in New Zealand because we are exploiting young children in the workplace
 - Dignity and Protection of Young People in the workplace are now major issues
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Church Teaching

- An important principal of social justice is that children are a gift from God they have been entrusted to us and they are not a commodity that should be exploited. They are a community responsibility and we must care for them.
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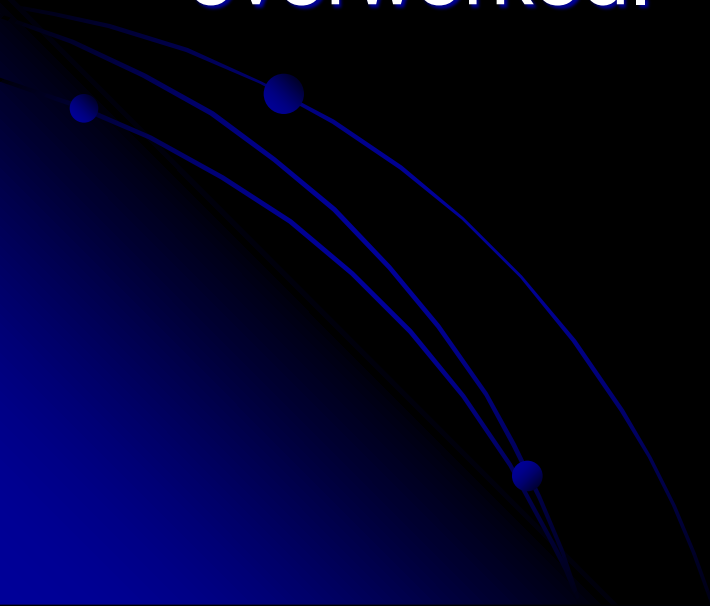
- Rerum Novarum (Pope Leo 1891) and Centensimas Annus (Pope John Paul ii) illustrate the special care that must be taken with children in order for them to grow. Conditions must be hygienic and pay must be fair. Safety must be ensured. Rerum Novarum makes special reference to children's beginning in the working environment, stating that a factory should not get hold of a child until their physical and intellectual powers mature.

- What can we do?
- How does this impact us?
- Is the problem bigger than you and I?



Why does the Church speak out?

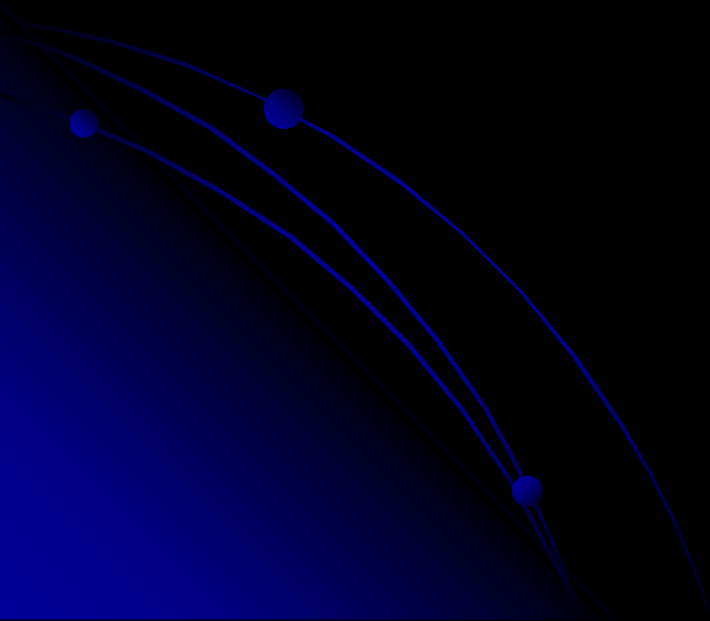
- The church spoke out on this issue because the rights of minors in our nations are overlooked. Children are being exploited, mistreated, underpaid and overworked.



Who are the people and how are they affected?

- Families need children to work and create that extra helping hand. This can stop development of children.
- Let children be children.
- Employers benefit more from having employed minors because of the lack of protection. In some countries there is no minimum wage and this is a major reason for exploitation.

Church Documents



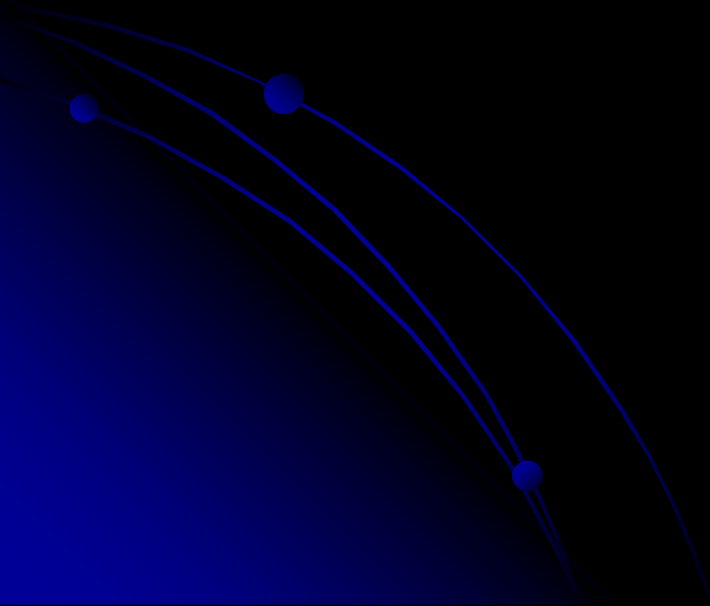
Centensimus Annus (1991)

- Pope John Paul in 1991 stated:
- “Even today one finds instances of contrast between employers and employees which lack reference to the most elementary justice regarding the employment of children or women, working hours, the condition of work and fair pay.

NZ Catholic Bishops Statement 2002

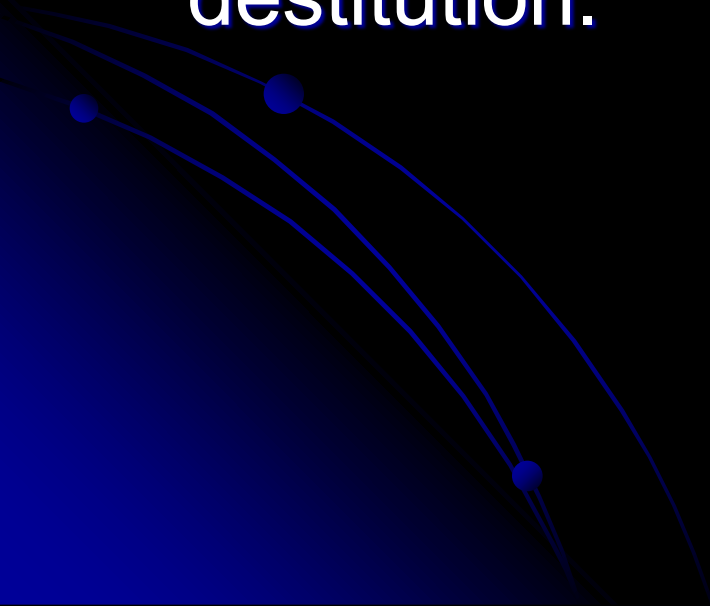
The Protection of Children

- “that children are a gift from God they have been entrusted to us and they are not a commodity that should be exploited.”



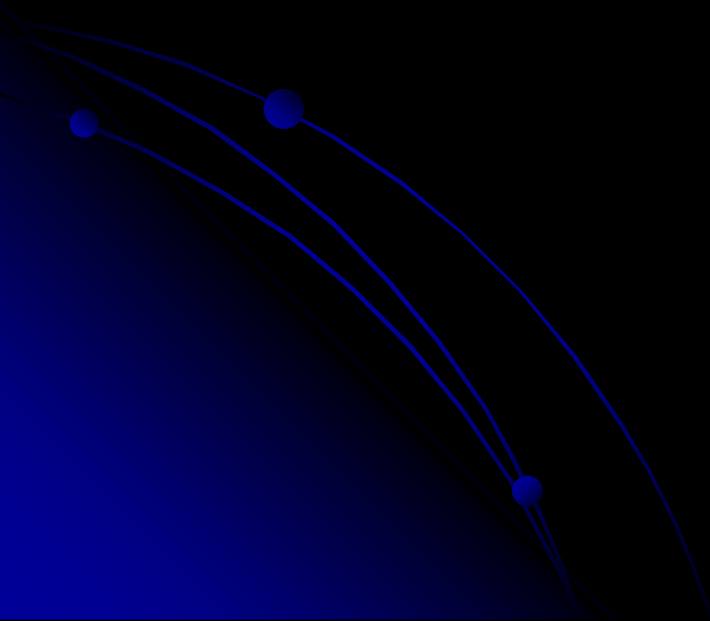
Redemptoris Nostri Cruciatus

- Pope Pius XII 1949.
- “We need to encourage all generous and noble souls to put forth their best effort to aid people in their sorrow and in their destitution.”



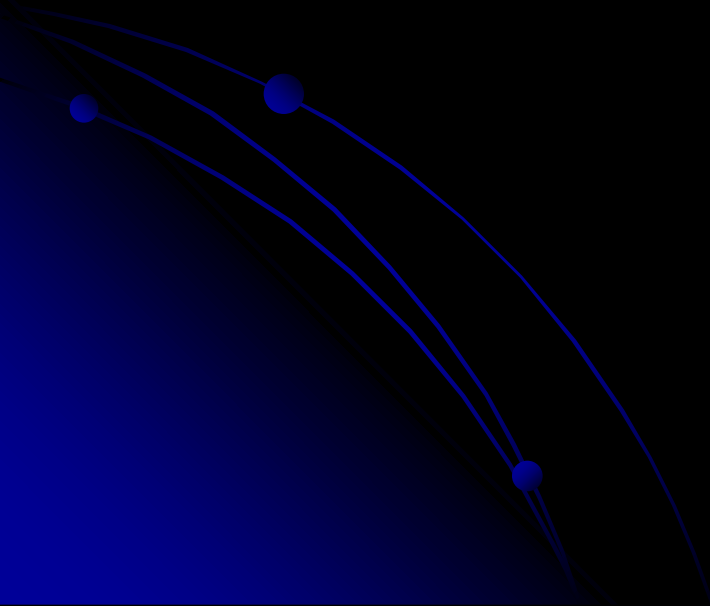
Church Teaching

- The Church teaches us (the community) to protect children in the workplace.
- We are called to apply the gospels.



Response for a Just society

- Better protection would mean better contributions to society. Promoting support for changing of laws such as a minimum wage to those under 16.



Basic Plan for Justice

- Raise awareness on the issue
 - Better working conditions for minors and introduce laws that support children.
 - Help children understand their rights
 - Government involvement in law changes
- 