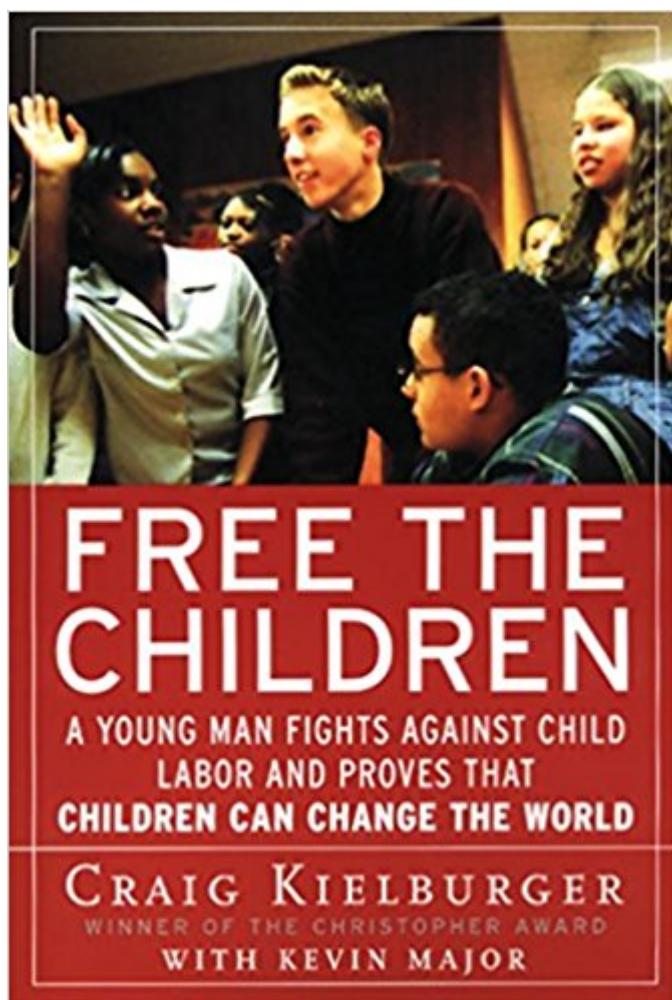


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# Free The Children: A Young Man Fights Against Child Labor And Proves That Children Can Change The World



## **Synopsis**

Here is the dramatic and moving story of one child's transformation from a normal, middle-class kid from the suburbs to an activist, fighting against child labor on the world stage of international human rights. Making headlines around the globe, Graig Keilburger and his organization, Free the Children, which he founded at the age of twelve, have brought unprecedented attention to the worldwide abuse of children's rights. Free the Children is a passionate and astounding story and a moving testament to the power that children and young adults have to change the world, as witnessed through the achievements of one remarkable young man.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 321 pages

Publisher: Harper Perennial; Reprint edition (November 17, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060930659

ISBN-13: 978-0060930653

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 46 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #202,645 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Canadian #102 in Books > Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Political #181 in Books > Business & Money > Economics > Labor & Industrial Relations

## **Customer Reviews**

Twelve-year-old Craig Kielburger, upset by a newspaper article about the forced slavery and subsequent murder of a child in Pakistan, began in 1995 to research worldwide injustice against children. Armed with the disturbing facts, he convinced friends at his Canadian grade school to form a group to advocate for children's rights. With world-changing zeal, Free the Children gathered information, wrote world leaders, and led conferences on the issue with other youth. Kielburger himself was given the opportunity to accompany a human rights worker through cities in South Asia. The young man witnessed shocking abuse from which most middle-class Western children have been carefully shielded: he met an 8-year-old girl whose job was to recycle bloody syringes without gloves or other protection, children in a factory working with extremely hazardous materials to provide fireworks for a Hindu religious celebration, and children sold for sex on urban streets. On

returning to his home in Canada, Kielburger bore witness to what he had seen and asked a simple, devastating question: "If child labour is not acceptable for white, middle-class North American kids, then why is it acceptable for a girl in Thailand or a boy in Brazil?" Free the Children is now a powerful organization in support of the world's youth, and this book is sure to be a call to further action--certainly for all young people, and perhaps for many adults who have previously felt hopeless about the possibility of ending abusive child labor and poverty. "We simply do not believe that world leaders can create a nuclear bomb and send a man to the moon but cannot feed and protect the world's children," says the author. "We simply do not believe it." --Maria Dolan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Three years ago, when he was a 12-year-old Toronto schoolboy who had never taken the subway alone, Kielburger saw a newspaper story about a 12-year-old Pakistani boy who had been shot dead, presumably for his outspoken criticism of the Pakistani carpet industry's use of child labor. The story changed Kielburger's life. More importantly, it made him committed to change the lives of other people. He founded a human rights organization called Free the Children, which is run by children to combat child labor around the world. Shortly after starting the organization, Kielburger realized that, in order to make his points stick and his efforts effective, he needed to know much more than he did. So he set out, in the company of a chaperone, on a seven-week trip to South Asia, visiting Bangkok, Calcutta, Karachi and other cities. This book, written with Major (an author of YA books, including *Hold Fast*), is an absorbing account, in the form of a travelogue, of a young man's awakening not only to injustice and bone-crushing poverty but also to the beauty and diversity of the world and its cultures. Kielburger's story of moral outrage followed by extraordinary dedication and action is inspirational. It will make great reading for both parents and their children, who, on the cusp of adulthood, will see in Kielburger proof that they can make a difference.

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Craig Kielburger has proven that a twelve-year-old with enough passion, commitment and peer support can change viewpoints, government policy and lives of countless children in the developed and developing world. In *Free The Children* you get to travel with Craig from his initial outrage at the murder of a child slave fighting for freedom, through the many challenges to youth gaining respect for their leadership and visiting numerous countries where child slavery is common. *Free The Children* is roller coaster of emotions, the excitement of a travel journey, the triumph of a movement

that becomes children empowering children. The birth of a movement that has only begun.

he or she wants to help less fortunate children, or volunteer or work to alleviate a problem, help him or her achieve that goal. Craig Kielburger was 12 years old when he found out about children enslaved across the world in Asia and India. He went abroad and spoke to hundreds of children working for free in the most despicable conditions and met people working to bring children out of slavery. He founded his organization, Free the Children, with friends and neighborhood children. Now, 18 years later, they work in eight countries bringing fresh water to villages (and so much more) and the United States in schools bringing the tools to young people so they are empowered to be changemakers. Do not underestimate the power of children, indeed sometimes a child is the only one who can bring about change. Read this book and find out how.

Great book received in fine condition

This book was amazing. It reads like an adventure novel, but at the same time the reader is being educated about a subject that involves the entire world. Craig is the most amazing young man. To do what you did at such a young age, I can't imagine what you have planned for the future. Anyone who enjoys world travel will surely enjoy this book. It inspires me to do more for others less fortunate. I hope all readers of Craig's book can live up to the challenges he offers to do whatever we can to help others. An excellent book written by an "incredible human being". Please read it, it just might change your entire outlook on life.

This book will change the way you think about the world and the treatment of children and also give you faith that not all teenagers are a pain to deal with. This one changed the world and did something adults had been talking about for years and he was 12 at the time. Read it this book it will make you feel good again and confirm that there is a truly great human spirit if we only listen for the voice inside. When you have read the story you should also read this one— *Me to We: Finding Meaning in a Material World*

I don't have any books that I am aware of that were written by such a young person to compare it to. I believe it really is what lessons youth need to know about to accept other people from different countries so that they can be grateful for what they have. It shows that Craig really does believe in himself and found a challenging path to make a difference.

I could not believe it was written by this young person. He simply barrelled through his teen years doing what he believed the world needed him to do. He has a marvelous sense of humor and is very humble. I gave the book to a 12 year old immigrant boy but I would recommend to anyone who cares about leaving the world better then they find it. Unforgetable example of humanity at its best.

This was an excellent story of a young boys drive to take on the world for something most people take for granted. Everytime i purchase something now, I can hear him in the back of my mind wondering how this product was made.

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