

ABSTRACT

Children are an asset of a country with more privileges than adults and must be protected by the government where they live. Unfortunately, not all children can grow and enjoy their rights because cases of child labor still occur today. Indonesia is a developing country with a high number of child laborers, as evidenced by data in 2018 released from the Central Statistics Agency (*Badan Pusat Statistik*) that in 2017 there were 1.2 million child laborers or 3.06% of the total children aged 5-17 years old. In contrast to Indonesia, France is a country that has succeeded in protecting children from child labor cases which have been proven by the data from the UNICEF Global Database in 2017 which shows the absence of child labor in France. This research made an attempt to compare laws and regulations on underage workers between Indonesia and France by analyzing both countries' similarities and differences in their attempts to protect children from child labor issues. Therefore, through normative legal research and comparative study approach, this study will analyze the legal protection of children in Indonesia and France from child labor practices. The research also proposes a recommendation for the government and related institutions for regulating a better law and regulation to solve the child labor cases in Indonesia. The result of this study shows that Indonesia has made every effort to protect underage workers as has been done by Indonesia, but in practice, France is doing something more comprehensive by categorizing what work can be done by child workers. In this case, Indonesia does not have this categorization.

Keywords : Indonesia, France, child labour, legal protection.