

Life III: Danger Children at Work

Directed by: Emily Marlow

Length: 27 minutes

Guatemala is one of the poorest countries in Central America; most Guatemalans exist on subsistence farming. But in the San Juan Sacatepequez region, where the land is poor, many have turned to producing fireworks at home. The practice has become the major source of income for 80% of the local people. It is a labor intensive process, and children often start working at the task by the age of six. There are no guarantees on how much families are paid for their labor, and no safety controls. Accidents are frequent. Many are fatal.

This LIFE installment looks at campaigns to persuade local people to consider safer ways of earning a living - ways that can also allow their children to go to school and gain the education necessary for sustainable development.

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