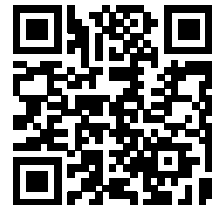


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# The Birth of Labor Laws



The Industrial Revolution began in Britain in the late 18th century. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ of great change, with new factories and machines transforming work. People moved from the \_\_\_\_\_ to cities to find jobs. Working conditions were often very poor. Many workers, including children, worked long hours for little \_\_\_\_\_. This led to the need for labor laws to protect workers.

In the early 19th century, the British government started to pass laws to improve \_\_\_\_\_. The Factory Act of 1833 was one of the first major laws. It limited the hours that children could work and set minimum age \_\_\_\_\_ for workers. Inspectors were appointed to enforce these rules. This was a significant step towards better working conditions.

The \_\_\_\_\_ of 1842 was another important law. It banned women and children under ten from working underground. This law was introduced after a \_\_\_\_\_ highlighted the harsh conditions in the mines. The report showed that many children were being exploited and faced serious \_\_\_\_\_.

Another key piece of legislation was the Ten Hours Act of 1847. This law restricted the working hours of \_\_\_\_\_ and young people to ten hours a day. It was a result of long campaigns by workers and reformers. They argued that long \_\_\_\_\_ were harmful to health and family life.

Trade unions also played a crucial role during this period. They fought for better \_\_\_\_\_ and working conditions. The Combination Acts of 1799 and 1800 had made it illegal for \_\_\_\_\_ to join together to demand better conditions. However, these acts were repealed in 1824, allowing \_\_\_\_\_ to form.

By the late 19th century, labor laws had significantly improved. The Health and \_\_\_\_\_ of Apprentices Act 1802 and the Employers and Workmen Act 1875 were examples of laws that aimed to balance the \_\_\_\_\_ between employers and employees. These laws laid the foundation for modern labor rights.

Labor laws during the Industrial \_\_\_\_\_ were crucial in protecting workers. They marked the beginning of a shift towards fairer and safer working conditions. These \_\_\_\_\_ have continued to evolve, ensuring that workers' rights are upheld today.

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workers   hours   countryside   requirements   conditions   laws   relationship   time