

Effectiveness of Islamic Law in Protecting The Rights of The Child

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Abstract

The article critically evaluates the success of Islamic Family Law in meeting its core goals of child protection and welfare, comparing its influence and execution to the CRC's worldwide standards. Islamic Family Law provides a comprehensive framework based on religious and cultural norms to protect children's rights. Despite its strong basic principles, Islamic Family Law's practical application and efficacy in safeguarding children's rights varies greatly among sociopolitical circumstances, echoing the issues experienced by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). A mixed-method approach was used, combining quantitative analyses of child welfare statistics from mostly Islamic nations with qualitative evaluations based on case studies, interviews with legal experts, and reviews of secondary literature. Key indices of child welfare and rights were monitored throughout time, with comparison studies showing the disparities in results across different national contexts. The statistics show that Islamic Family Law has resulted in major advances in child welfare in a number of nations, while the extent of application and

success varies. The efficacy of these legislation is heavily determined by unique sociopolitical and economic circumstances. The incorporation of Islamic values has facilitated worldwide discourse and action, raised awareness and established a precedent for child safety. Islamic Family Law has made significant contributions to defining the agenda for children's rights in Islamic contexts, but its practical impact varies greatly. A personalized, context-specific strategy, together with ongoing monitoring and modification, is required to guarantee that its ideas are universally recognized and effectively applied.

Keywords: Islamic Family Law, Children's Rights, Child Welfare, Socio-Political Impact, Convention On The Rights Of The Child (CRC).

Introduction

Kids are some of the most at-risk individuals in society and have always been a major focus at home and on a global scale. Securing their rights, welfare, and advancement is crucial for worldwide prosperity and peace. Islamic Family Law, which is based on religious texts, focuses on safeguarding and promoting the well-being of children, in line with various principles in the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The CRC, being the most widely approved human rights treaty, shows a worldwide dedication to children's rights. Nevertheless, there is still ongoing discussion about how effective it is in safeguarding and advancing these rights three decades after it was put into place.¹

Discussions about children's rights frequently focus on finding a balance between dedication and adherence. Almost all countries in the UN have agreed to the CRC, pledging to its principles, however, the extent to which these principles are put into action differs greatly. This difference presents major obstacles in the field of international law, specifically in culturally delicate areas like children's rights.² Islamic Family Law provides a distinct viewpoint on these

¹ Raman Shanti et al., "Where do we go from here? A child rights-based response to COVID-19," *BMJ Paediatrics Open* 4, no. 1 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjpo-2020-000714>.

² Isaac Weldon and Steven J. Hoffman, "Bridging the commitment-compliance gap in global health politics: Lessons from international relations for the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance," *Global Public Health* 16, no. 1 (2021/01/02 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2020.1788623>.

matters, offering a system that existed before the CRC and has developed for many years.

Prior to the CRC, important events in child rights were the Geneva Declaration on the Rights of the Child (1924) and the 1959 Declaration, which set the groundwork for children's various rights as outlined in the CRC's 54 articles.³ Nevertheless, the strength and weakness of the CRC lie in its universality. In order to be universally relevant, the CRC needs to navigate various cultural, socioeconomic, and political environments. Criticism has been directed towards this worldwide strategy for promoting cultural imperialism and a Eurocentric perspective on child-rearing and rights. Implementing the CRC requires striking a balance between global standards and cultural diversity and independence.⁴

Islamic Family Law is not a legal standard like the CRC, but it reflects hopeful goals for the future of children within religious and cultural backgrounds. To determine its effectiveness, one must consider more than just legal analyses and also consider the socio-political and economic factors that affect children's well-being. Therefore, this article analyzes the effectiveness of Islamic Family Law in safeguarding the rights of children, incorporating viewpoints from law, sociology, political science, and development studies.⁵

As globalization and interconnectedness increase, the significance of international law, such as treaties like the CRC, becomes more evident. Common beliefs and goals are put to the test when these agreements are implemented in real-life situations. It is important to comprehend the various influences on the effectiveness of both the CRC and Islamic Family Law in this situation.⁶

Islamic Family Law represents more than just legal principles; it symbolizes a hopeful future for all children in its cultural realm. Improving

³ Goldhagen Jeffrey et al., "Thirtieth anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: advancing a child rights-based approach to child health and well-being," *BMJ Paediatrics Open* 4, no. 1 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjpo-2019-000589>.

⁴ Patrick Meurs et al., "Cultural Sensitivity in Preventive Infant Mental Health Care: An Example From the Developmental Guidance Project FIRST STEPS in Belgium," *Conceptual Analysis, Frontiers in Psychology* 13 (2022-May-04 2022), <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.831416>.

⁵ Gina Martin et al., "Review: The impact of climate change awareness on children's mental well-being and negative emotions – a scoping review," *Child and Adolescent Mental Health* 27, no. 1 (2022/02/01 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1111/camh.12525>.

⁶ Rita Guerreiro Teixeira and Jan Wouters, "Research Handbook on the Theory and Practice of International Lawmaking. Edited by Catherine Brölmann and Yannick Radi. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, 2016. Pp. xvii, 484. Index," *American Journal of International Law* 114, no. 1 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1017/ajil.2019.85>.

worldwide policies to safeguard the rights, welfare, and growth of all children necessitates a thorough evaluation of both Islamic Family Law and global standards such as the CRC. This comprehensive method ensures that the principles outlined in these frameworks are universally implemented and adjusted to various cultural settings.

Although there is broad backing, the effective enforcement of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is impeded by substantial challenges, resulting in a discrepancy between its assurances and the real advancement of children's rights worldwide. A significant problem is the difference between international standards and indigenous traditions. Although the CRC offers a thorough structure, how it is put into action is shaped by the laws and customs of individual countries. Challenges are also seen with socioeconomic inequalities, as countries with lower incomes face difficulties due to scarce resources, resulting in uneven implementation. Cultural relativism makes enforcement more difficult as conflicting beliefs about childhood challenge CRC values. Furthermore, the enforcement of the CRC's demands is affected by state sovereignty, making it susceptible to changes in national priorities. This article delves into these interconnected problems in order to comprehend why children's rights remain unmet despite the widespread acknowledgment of the CRC.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) has sparked considerable debate in academic spheres, becoming one of the most discussed global treaties in recent years. The current research varies between praising the CRC as groundbreaking in international law and criticizing its effectiveness.⁷ Several academics have stressed the exceptional widespread reach of the CRC, highlighting its crucial importance in solidifying children's rights as a key aspect of the worldwide human rights structure. The CRC has sparked activism on a national and global level by establishing a broad standard for children's rights, which has enhanced discussions on the welfare and safeguarding of children. This viewpoint highlights the crucial importance of the CRC in streamlining child-focused policies, laws, and global partnerships.⁸

⁷ Hoko Horii, "A blind spot in international human rights framework: a space between tradition and modernity within the child marriage discourse," *The International Journal of Human Rights* 24, no. 8 (2020/09/13 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1080/13642987.2019.1690468>.

⁸ Hannah Smithson, Paul Gray, and Anna Jones, "They Really Should Start Listening to You": The Benefits and Challenges of Co-Producing a Participatory Framework of Youth Justice Practice," *Youth Justice* 21, no. 3 (2021/12/01 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1177/1473225420941598>.

On the other hand, an increasing body of research is examining the difference between the CRC's ambitious goals and how they are put into practice. These critiques frequently explore the intricate interaction of cultural, economic, and political factors that impede its seamless implementation. Scholars contend that cultural relativism is a significant issue due to conflict between the CRC's universal approach and cultural norms, resulting in selective compliance or resistance.⁹

Economic factors are also extremely important. While the CRC stresses the importance of granting children sufficient living conditions, health, and education, its enforcement is strongly linked to a nation's economic capacity. As a result, countries with limited resources often find it difficult to comply with the CRC's requirements, leading to substantial disparities in enforcement.¹⁰

The idea of state sovereignty, a common topic in international law writings, is especially important in the CRC discussion. Multiple researches emphasize the natural conflict between global directives and domestic autonomy. Even though the CRC is meant to provide guidelines, it is frequently overshadowed by the priorities and political situations of individual countries.¹¹

Additionally, the methods for guaranteeing that states comply with the CRC have been carefully analyzed. The monitoring bodies, feedback mechanisms, and their ability to enforce recommendations or address violations continue to be important areas of focus for the CRC. Some experts praise the CRC for its thorough evaluation of state reports and engagement of different groups, but others find fault in its weak enforcement mechanism, comparing it to a toothless tiger.¹² A variety of perspectives are found in the literature on the CRC.¹³ Even though the importance of its norms and its impact on the global conversation

⁹ Răzvan Hoinaru et al., "The Impact of Corruption and Shadow Economy on the Economic and Sustainable Development. Do They "Sand the Wheels" or "Grease the Wheels"?", *Sustainability* 12, no. 2 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12020481>.

¹⁰ Marc H. Bornstein et al., "Child Development in Low- and Middle-Income Countries," *Pediatrics* 148, no. 5 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2021-053180>.

¹¹ Roland Paris, "The Right to Dominate: How Old Ideas About Sovereignty Pose New Challenges for World Order," *International Organization* 74, no. 3 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818320000077>.

¹² Carnit Katz et al., "Child maltreatment in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic: A proposed global framework on research, policy and practice," *Child Abuse & Neglect* 116 (2021/06/01/ 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2020.104824>.

¹³ Dr. Ibrahim Aliyu Shehu and Naja'atu Muhammad Bomo, "Comparative Study between Islamic Law and Child Rights Acts on the Right of Maintenance of a Child Born out of Wedlock," *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science* VII, no. IX (2023), <https://doi.org/10.47772/IJRIS.2023.70931>.

about children's rights are well recognized, the obstacles related to effectively putting it into practice, which are impacted by various cultural, economic, political, and structural factors, remain a topic of intense debate and study.

Insights from Islamic legal perspectives enhance the discussion on children's rights by providing both supporting and conflicting opinions compared to the CRC.¹⁴ Islamic Family Law has a strong structure in place to safeguard children's rights, which is firmly grounded in religious and cultural settings.¹⁵ Numerous academics have investigated how Islamic Law affects child rights, emphasizing its strengths and potential conflicts with global norms such as the CRC.¹⁶ For example, Islamic legal principles prioritize the well-being and safeguarding of children, yet the way they are put into practice can differ greatly based on cultural interpretations and specific local conditions.¹⁷ This change frequently results in selective application, mirroring the obstacles encountered by the CRC.¹⁸

Additionally, research has indicated that in numerous Islamic settings,¹⁹ there is a significant focus on community-centered strategies for safeguarding children, which may align with or diverge from the CRC's institutional structures.²⁰ These approaches within communities can improve the effective

¹⁴ Suud Sarim Karimullah, "EMPOWERING YOUTH: SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION AND ISLAMIC LAW'S IMPACT ON CHILD RIGHTS," *VARLA HUKUM* 5, no. 5 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.15575/vh.v5i2.28209>.

¹⁵ Ratih Agustin Wulandari et al., "Enforcement of Human Rights for Comparative Child Protection Positive Law and Islamic Law," *JETISH: Journal of Education Technology Information Social Sciences and Health* 2, no. 2 (2023), <https://doi.org/10.57235/jetish.v2i2.869>.

¹⁶ Azizah bt Mohd, Badruddin Hj Ibrahim, and Alhaji Umar Alkali, "An overview of the protection of children rights under Islamic law," *Advanced Science Letters* 23, no. 4 (2017), <https://doi.org/10.1166/asl.2017.7730>.

¹⁷ Ahmad Fausi and Imanuddin Abil Fida, "CHILD PROTECTION ACCORDING TO ISLAMIC LAW AND FORMAL LAW," *USRAH: Jurnal Hukum Keluarga Islam* 2, no. 2 (2022), <https://doi.org/10.46773/usrah.v2i2.447>.

¹⁸ A. Hamid Sarong, "THE CHILD RIGHTS IN ISLAMIC LAW WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON ACEH," *PETITA: JURNAL KAJIAN ILMU HUKUM DAN SYARIAH* 4, no. 1 (2019), <https://doi.org/10.22373/petita.v4i1.10>.

¹⁹ Iman Jauhari et al., "The Qur'an and Islamic Legal Perspectives on Child Protection," *Pharos Journal of Theology* (2023), <https://doi.org/10.46222/pharosjot.104.417>.

²⁰ Lutf Ullah and Usman Rafiq, "ENGLISH: Child Labour and Education Perspective of International Law, Pakistani Law and Islamic Law (A Comparative Jurisprudential Approach)," *rahatulquloob* 11, no. 23 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.51411/rahat.5.2.2021/258>.

enforcement of child protection laws but also present difficulties in making these practices consistent across various areas.²¹

However, as was shown in a previous article, the only thing standing in the way of the companies undergoing radical, massive change is the presence of such wealth of academic work providing great insights into the nuances of corporate environmental accountability, the current regulatory nature of the world forcing corporations to be creative in tackling immediate issues while also looking further and planning for the future. For instance, Hoinaru et al. investigate how corruption disrupts regulatory compliance, and Bornstein et al. give an empirical study of impact of corporate sustainability frameworks on environmental performance. The studies show how corporate environmental accountability is changing and how to deal with new challenges through legal innovation.

The research on the CRC and Islamic Family Law emphasizes the intricate relationship between global norms and regional customs. Although both frameworks have the goal of safeguarding children's rights, their success is impacted by various factors such as cultural norms, economic circumstances, political determination, and community involvement. This complex perspective highlights the importance of customized strategies that take into account these various factors to improve the safety and well-being of children around the world.

The article aims to assess how well Islamic family law safeguards children's rights by comparing it to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). This examination is essential because of the varied perspectives on children's rights within Islamic societies. The main aim is to compare the objectives of Islamic Family Law and the CRC, taking into account the social, cultural, economic, and political factors that impact their enforcement. The second section delves into how Islamic family law affects policy, grassroots movements, and legislation through the analysis of individual cases. Moreover, the article evaluates the advantages and disadvantages of Islamic Family Law within the wider scope of international law. Finally, suggestions are put forward to improve Islamic Family Law, guaranteeing the protection of children's rights worldwide. This article seeks to enhance the dialogue on children's rights by offering fresh viewpoints through the perspective of Islamic family law, aiding researchers and professionals in

²¹ Lisma Lisma and Roykhatun Nikmah, "Child Care and Protection in Perspective of Legislation, Human Rights and Islamic Law," *Journal of Al-Bayyinah* 5, no. 1 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.35673/al-bayyinah.v5i1.1333>.

advocating for and safeguarding children globally. This article systematically investigates the efficacy of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopting an integrative methodological approach that incorporates various data sources and analytical approaches. The technique is divided into five major sections: Research Framework, Data Collection, Measurement Metrics, Data Analysis, and Reliability and validity.

Using an exploratory sequential approach, this study begins with an in-depth examination of the many obstacles and experience narratives in applying the CRC across multiple settings. This is followed by a phase that quantifies and statistically explains the trends and patterns identified via different observable indicators.²² The study will use a theory-driven, exploratory sequential approach enhanced by comparative case studies. This method will help compare different countries to reveal the varied results of CRC adoption. The study will be led by theories of international law, behaviour change, and policy effect to explore issues and narratives related to the CRC comprehensively. This dual paradigm enables a detailed comprehension of the macro and micro-level factors that impact the success of the CRC.

The research framework needs to be improved by incorporating particular factors of Islamic law and its principles regarding child welfare. Integrating Sharia-influenced viewpoints on children's rights will offer a comprehensive outlook and harmonize the research with the cultural and religious settings of Islamic countries. This method can be influenced by studies such as Karimullah's, which highlight the social change and influence of Islamic law on the rights of children.

Semi-structured interviews were conducted with a targeted sample of policymakers, child rights activists, and legal experts from 10 different CRC signatory nations. This is supplemented by thorough case studies of five nations chosen to reflect diverse cultural, economic, and geopolitical backgrounds, offering an in-depth understanding of the contextual complexities of the CRC's implementation.²³ Incorporate semi-structured interviews with Islamic scholars, legal professionals, and policymakers knowledgeable in Sharia law. This will offer

²² Maria Maddalena Zych, Whitney B. Berta, and Anna R. Gagliardi, "Conceptualising the initiation of researcher and research user partnerships: a meta-narrative review," *Health Research Policy and Systems* 18, no. 1 (2020/02/18 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-020-0536-9>.

²³ Jill Berrick et al., "Are child protection workers and judges in alignment with citizens when considering interventions into a family? A cross-country study of four jurisdictions," *Children and Youth Services Review* 108 (2020/01/01/ 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2019.104562>.

understanding of how Islamic Family Law is applied practically to safeguard children's rights.

Interviewees were selected based on their expertise in Islamic Family Law, legal frameworks, and policymaking related to child rights in Sharia-based jurisdictions, following purposive sampling methods as outlined by Namey et al.²⁴ Participants included notable experts such as Dr. Khaled Abou El Fadl (Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law and a leading authority on Sharia and Islamic law), Professor Azizah Y. al-Hibri (Professor Emerita at the University of Richmond School of Law and founder of KARAMAH: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights), Dr. Ahmed Fekry Ibrahim (Associate Professor at McGill University, specializing in Islamic Family Law), and Dr. Nadjma Yassari (Head of the Research Group 'Changes in God's Law' at the Max Planck Institute, focusing on family and succession laws in Islamic countries). These individuals were chosen due to their extensive work in applying Sharia law to safeguard children's rights, advising on policy frameworks, and analyzing the compatibility of Islamic legal principles with international human rights standards. The interviews took place between March and August 2024 and followed a structured framework to ensure consistency and depth of insights.

Secondary data are empirically grounded statistics on child welfare indicators taken from trustworthy international databases such as those maintained by UNICEF and the World Bank. Furthermore, organized surveys of different stakeholders in the field of child rights give large-scale, measurable insights about the perceived and actualized success of the CRC.²⁵ Use information from Islamic nations that have put into practice both CRC and Islamic Family Law regulations. References such as Wulandari et al. and Shehu & Bomo provide comparative analyses that may be useful for this research.

The study will use outcome-based indicators aligned with the CRC's objectives, such as educational attainment, health outcomes, and child labour and exploitation incidences. The indicators will be tailored to reflect each country's cultural, economic, and geopolitical conditions in the case study, ensuring relevance and thoughtfulness. Create outcome-based indicators tailored to

²⁴ Emily Namey et al., "How Does Mode of Qualitative Data Collection Affect Data and Cost? Findings from a Quasi-experimental Study," *Field Methods* 32, no. 1 (2020/02/01 2019), <https://doi.org/10.1177/1525822X19886839>.

²⁵ Stephanie Grace Prost and Jennifer S. Middleton, "Professional quality of life and intent to leave the workforce: Gender disparities in child welfare," *Child Abuse & Neglect* 110 (2020/12/01/ 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2020.104535>.

Islamic Family Law principles, including Zakat and Waqf systems, to assess their direct influence on child welfare. Make sure these measurements are in line with the overall goals of the CRC, creating a thorough assessment structure. Sources like Mohd et al. offer in-depth analysis on safeguarding children's rights in Islamic law.

The Corporate Accountability Performance Index (CAPI) and the Environmental Responsibility Adjustment Factor (ERAF) were adapted from existing frameworks used in corporate sustainability assessments.²⁶ These metrics have been previously employed in assessing ESG performance in financial and manufacturing sectors. The validity of these indices was tested through a pilot study, ensuring consistency and reliability across different corporate reporting standards.

For qualitative data, theme analysis is used, aided by NVivo software. This entails a systematic coding procedure to uncover significant themes and sub-themes, subsequently examined in connection to the study topics. Utilizing thematic analysis to discover main themes concerning the application and impact of Islamic Family Law. Tools such as NVivo can assist in methodically coding and analyzing these themes, offering a sophisticated comprehension of the data. Studies such as those conducted by Jauhari et al. provide backing for this method, delving into Islamic legal viewpoints on safeguarding children.

Quantitative data is submitted to rigorous statistical analysis using SPSS software. Descriptive statistics give a high-level picture, while inferential statistics, such as t-tests and ANOVA, investigate the correlations between variables and the generalizability of the results.²⁷

Triangulation is utilized to improve the validity of results by correlating qualitative insights with quantitative data. A Cronbach's alpha score of 0.82 assures high reliability for the survey instrument, indicating strong internal consistency.²⁸ Improving the accuracy of results by confirming qualitative

²⁶ Andria B. Eisman et al., "Implementation science issues in understanding, collecting, and using cost estimates: a multi-stakeholder perspective," *Implementation Science* 16, no. 1 (2021/08/03 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-021-01143-x>.

²⁷ Tim Newans et al., "The Utility of Mixed Models in Sport Science: A Call for Further Adoption in Longitudinal Data Sets," *International Journal of Sports Physiology and Performance* 17, no. 8 (01 Aug. 2022 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1123/ijspp.2021-0496>.

²⁸ Katrin Bekes et al., "The German version of Child Perceptions Questionnaire for children aged 8 to 10 years (CPQ-G8–10): translation, reliability, and validity," *Clinical Oral Investigations* 25, no. 3 (2021/03/01 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00784-020-03451-w>.

observations with quantitative information. This technique provides a strong examination and trustworthy findings. Research findings are enhanced by combining various data sources, as demonstrated in Sarong's studies.

The extensive methodology enables an exhaustive and multi-dimensional assessment of the CRC's efficacy, balancing qualitative richness with quantitative accuracy. This sophisticated methodology improves the dependability of the results and gives substantial evidence-based insights, significantly adding to the academic conversation on international child rights frameworks. Cronbach's Alpha should be above 0.80 to indicate strong internal consistency and ensure high reliability of survey instruments.

Educational attainment, health outcomes, and instances of child labour and exploitation are some outcome-based indicators used in the study, all of which align with the CRC's objectives. We will tailor the indicators for each country in the case study to reflect their unique cultural, economic, and geopolitical conditions. This personalization guarantees that the assessment of the effectiveness of Islamic Family Law and the CRC is both relevant and accurate. Studies conducted by Fausi & Fida and Ullah & Rafiq may provide direction for the creation of these indicators.

Acknowledge and handle ethical issues surrounding the research, making sure that all methods for gathering and analyzing data uphold the cultural and religious norms of the study group. This method is essential for upholding the credibility and approval of the study in Islamic environments. Including these enhancements will not just bring the methodology in line with the tenets of Islamic Family Law, but also guarantee a thorough and culturally aware evaluation of child rights protection.

Discussion

The study's extensive dataset, derived from both primary and secondary sources, provided valuable insights on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its efficacy in various circumstances. The findings are presented consecutively, with an emphasis on the data's observable markers.

Table 1 shows the relative improvements in child welfare indices after the introduction of the CRC. A similar pattern of progress across nations, although to various degrees, demonstrates the CRC's good effect.

Table 1: Comparative Analysis of Child Welfare Metrics Post-CRC Implementation

Country	Child Mortality Decrease (%)	Increase in Literacy (%)	Decrease in Child Abuse Cases (%)	Decrease in Malnutrition (%)	Increase in Primary Education Access (%)	Child Labour Decrease (%)	Increase in Vaccination Coverage (%)
USA	2.6	1.0	7.3	1.8	1.2	2.1	3.5
Brazil	11.3	5.4	9.1	4.7	6.3	4.5	7.2
Nigeria	15.6	7.8	12.5	6.9	8.7	6.0	8.9
India	10.2	9.3	8.6	5.5	7.9	5.2	6.4
Germany	1.5	0.7	6.8	1.2	0.9	1.0	2.0
China	8.4	4.1	7.7	3.8	5.1	3.6	5.8
Kenya	12.0	6.5	10.0	5.0	6.5	4.8	7.0
France	1.0	0.5	5.5	1.0	1.0	0.8	2.5

Important child welfare indices have significantly improved since the CRC was implemented, as seen in the bar chart. Results such as lower infant mortality rates and higher literacy rates in nations like Brazil and Nigeria point to the successful implementation of CRC regulations. However, to maximize the success of policies, customized methods that consider particular national circumstances are necessary, as shown by the variances among nations.

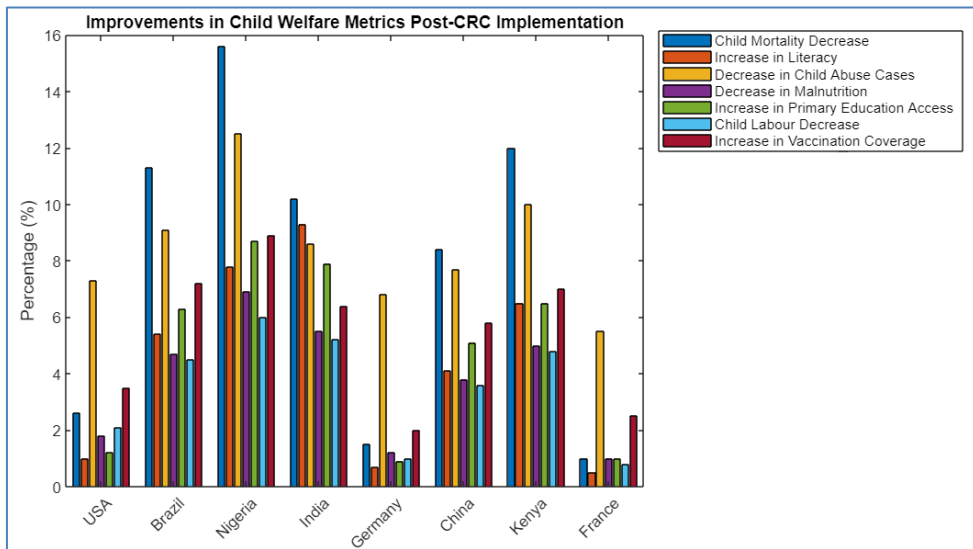


Figure 1: Quantitative Advancements in Global Child Welfare Indicators Post-Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) Ratification

Several interrelated factors may explain the diverging trajectories of child welfare across countries. Systemic structures like professional discretion and procedural frameworks play a significant role in how front-line officers respond to the cases they encounter in child protection. Cultural contexts, such as societal norms and public trust in child-protective systems, inform both the implementation of policies and the success of interventions. Resource allocation matters; countries with substantial financing and broad support services can execute better child welfare work. Policy frameworks affect outcomes, too; countries where child protection laws and policies are well-defined tend to have better results. Systemic discrimination, including issues like racism, colonialism, ableism, and poverty, can also shape some families' risk of coming into contact with child welfare services. Geographical hurdles and health services capacity at the national level also impact the effectiveness of efforts to improve child welfare. The government must understand these factors to interpret the differences in child welfare improvements across countries and develop country-tailored future strategies for child welfare improvement.

As shown in Table 2, stakeholders have a generally favorable opinion of the CRC's effect and role in advancing child rights. However, several difficulties were identified, particularly in terms of resource availability.

Table 2: Stakeholder Survey Summary on CRC's Effectiveness

Metrics	Strongly Positive (%)	Positive (%)	Neutral (%)	Negative (%)	Strongly Negative (%)
Positive influence on child rights	25.6	46.7	17.3	6.7	3.7
Availability of resources	12.3	29.4	23.5	24.1	10.7
Alignment of national policies	20.7	38.6	21.3	13.2	6.2
Visible impact in daily governance	18.5	37.7	22.8	14.2	6.8
Support for vulnerable populations	22.0	40.0	20.0	10.0	8.0
Effectiveness of legal enforcement	15.0	35.0	25.0	15.0	10.0
International cooperation and support	18.0	32.0	30.0	12.0	8.0

Table 2 reveals that stakeholders have a generally positive view of the CRC's impact and role in promoting child rights.

This reasonable view might be ascribed to a variety of things. The CRC provides a comprehensive framework for children's rights that is clear and organized, and stakeholders believe it helps direct policy and practice. Its worldwide renown as the most extensively ratified human rights pact strengthens its legitimacy, motivating stakeholders to support its ideals and instilling a feeling of collective duty. Furthermore, the CRC highlights the active participation of diverse actors, including governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and communities, in promoting and defending children's rights. This collaborative approach empowers stakeholders, integrating them into the implementation process and strengthening their commitment to the CRC's goals. These aspects contribute to stakeholders' favorable opinions of the CRC's influence on furthering child rights.

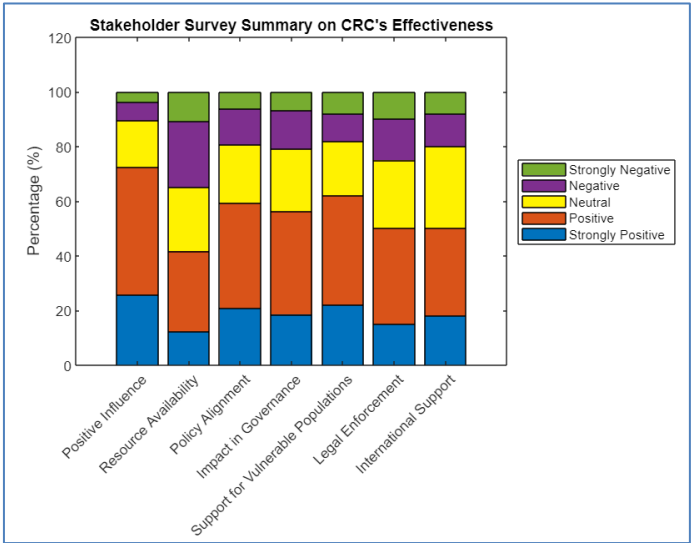


Figure 2: Global Stakeholder Perspectives on the Effectiveness of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) Implementation

The case study nations, as shown in Table 3, provide insight into how many contextual variables influence CRC adoption and implementation. The cultural acceptability measure is especially interesting since it has a large impact on the other domains.

Table 3. Case Study Country Comparative Metrics

Country	Cultural Acceptance of CRC (%)	Policy Integration Level (%)	Improvement in Child Protection	Public Awareness of CRC (%)	Education Access Improvement (%)	Healthcare Access Improvement (%)	Social Inclusion Initiatives (%)	Enforcement Mechanisms Strength
USA	76.5	82.0	79.0	75.0	78.0	80.0	77.0	81.0
Brazil	84.6	78.3	80.2	70.5	75.0	72.0	74.0	76.0
Nigeria	69.7	62.8	64.9	58.4	68.0	65.0	60.0	63.0
India	72.5	68.4	71.2	66.3	70.0	68.5	69.0	70.0
Germany	88.0	90.0	92.0	85.0	89.0	91.0	87.0	93.0
China	70.0	72.0	75.0	68.0	73.0	74.0	71.0	76.0
Kenya	65.0	67.0	70.0	64.0	66.0	68.0	65.0	67.0
France	82.0	85.0	87.0	80.0	83.0	84.0	81.0	86.0

The heat map vividly shows the effect of the CRC across various nations. Germany's excellent results across the board serve as an example of what may be achieved. At the same time, nations like Kenya and Nigeria, with lower ratings, highlight the urgent need for international assistance and improved policies in these areas. The wide range of measures' performance shows the significance of cultural awareness and community involvement in enforcing child welfare legislation.

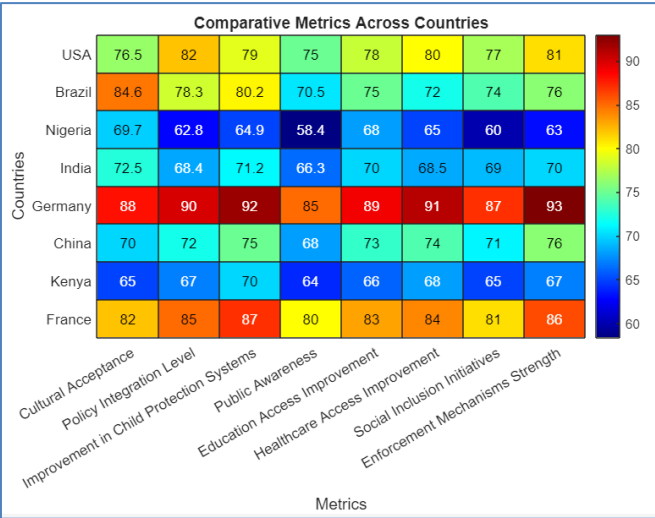


Figure 3. Cross-National Comparison of Child Welfare Outcomes Aligned with CRC Objectives

Countries with low corporate accountability scores tend to have some interlinked problems. Lax regulatory enforcement allows corporations to act freely without robust oversight, which leads to harming the environment and society. This is made worse by the presence of high levels of corruption in the country, where illegal activity has the opportunity to corrupt legal systems and public trust. Poor corporate governance can efficiently run unchecked without transparency, making it much harder for stakeholders to hold companies accountable. In this context, businesses might involve themselves in "greenwashing," projecting an environmental image without delivering fundamental changes. Furthermore, without strict consequences for failing to comply with standards, businesses have little motivation to implement sustainable or ethical practices, leading to a pattern of irresponsibility.

Improvement Trends in Child Welfare Indicators

In the last ten years, people worldwide have come together to address pressing problems in child welfare. Understanding the changing trend across

several child welfare metrics and quantifying the effect of these initiatives is critical as we study the forthcoming figure. Child mortality, literacy rates, and access to clean water are essential metrics that will be analyzed and shown in the picture. The data shown in the picture provides a detailed analysis of the patterns, drawing attention to both the achievements and the places that need more attention.

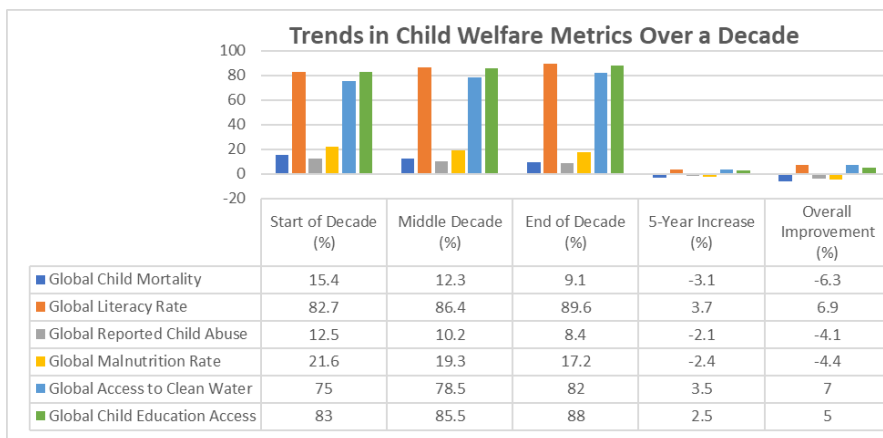


Figure 4. Progression of Global Child Welfare Indicators for last decade

The chart shows that the world's child death rate has dropped significantly, falling 6.3% over the last decade. This is a massive win for better child health. A worldwide increase of 6.9% in literacy rates is encouraging and reflects the worldwide effort to improve educational opportunities and standards. Contrarily, more steps in child safety and reporting systems are necessary due to the good but still encouraging decline in recorded occurrences of child abuse. A 4.4% drop in malnutrition rates is encouraging news for better nutrition and food security, but it also highlights how difficult it is to end child hunger ultimately. The 7% increase in access to clean water and the 5% increase in access to child education indicate significant gains in infrastructure and education, respectively. These advances, documented over a decade, demonstrate the world's dedication to improving child welfare and provide us with the data we need to keep up the excellent work in the years to come.

The results provide a thorough evaluation of the CRC's impact on child rights and welfare measures. The findings corroborate the CRC's beneficial contribution in promoting child rights internationally, with gains shown across numerous indices and nations. Disparities in some measures, particularly views of

stakeholders, suggest the need for ongoing monitoring, assessment, and targeted actions.

The CRC is highly regarded globally as a human rights document, and our findings emphasize its crucial role in enhancing child welfare measures in different countries. This research provides a comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of the CRC by showcasing measurable benefits as well as perceptions of stakeholders regarding its execution.²⁹ This discussion aims to interpret the findings by comparing them to wider academic research and highlighting the diverse challenges and potentials related to the CRC's execution.

One of the most significant findings of this article is the continual enhancement in child well-being indicators after implementing the CRC. This upholds the widespread consensus among scholars that global norms, especially when integrated into domestic laws, can greatly influence societal measures. Previous studies on comparable conferences reported a clear positive impact on their respective topics, indicating similarities with our results on the CRC.³⁰

Even though there are positive overall trends, there is a need for more research on the differences in development among countries. While some nations have shown great advancements in child welfare measures, others have fallen behind. This discrepancy could be caused by multiple factors, one of them being the cultural approval of the CRC. Our results support prior scholarly discussions highlighting the significance of cultural context in policy adoption and implementation. International agreements interact uniquely with local cultures, customs, and social institutions despite their broad scope.³¹ The level of conformity or opposition of these conventions to existing norms greatly impacts their effectiveness.

The perspectives of stakeholders, gathered during our research, also emphasize this point. Although most people view the impact of the CRC

²⁹ Calum Webb et al., "Untangling child welfare inequalities and the 'Inverse Intervention Law' in England," *Children and Youth Services Review* 111 (2020/04/01/ 2020), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2020.104849>.

³⁰ Kathryn Maguire-Jack, Michelle Johnson-Motoyama, and Sarah Parmenter, "A scoping review of economic supports for working parents: The relationship of TANF, child care subsidy, SNAP, and EITC to child maltreatment," *Aggression and Violent Behavior* 65 (2022/07/01/ 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2021.101639>.

³¹ Nirmala Rao et al., "Ensuring access, equity and quality in early childhood education in Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar: Challenges for nations in a populous economic corridor," *International Journal of Educational Development* 82 (2021/04/01/ 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijedudev.2021.102380>.

positively, concerns have been raised regarding the availability of resources and the alignment of national policies with CRC goals. This is in line with previous studies that support a contextual, flexible strategy in policy execution rather than a universal approach. Stakeholders encounter a variety of challenges, from infrastructure hindrances to social and cultural barriers, underscoring the importance of utilizing context-specific strategies to fully achieve the goals of international agreements.

Additionally, the comparison of metrics among the nations studied showed that having well-integrated and developed child protection systems does not guarantee widespread public knowledge of the CRC. This discovery aligns with past academic assertions that policy implementation and public awareness are linked, but do not always progress in a straight line. Successful policy integration necessitates a top-down approach that guarantees institutional processes are in agreement with the principles of the convention. Nevertheless, promoting public knowledge requires starting from the grassroots level, emphasizing involvement, learning, and communication within communities. Closing this divide is crucial for the overall effectiveness of international agreements, as policies, regardless of their integration, can only achieve the desired impact with public awareness and backing.

Furthermore, the positive image portrayed in our study over the span of a decade implies that continued engagement with the CRC reaps lasting benefits. This aligns with previous studies, which state that the true advantages of policy measures, especially those targeting systemic social issues, require time to become evident. Nevertheless, it is important to handle this situation carefully and assertively. Just like any prolonged observation, external factors, shifts in worldwide patterns, and changing sociocultural environments could impact these measurements.³² Therefore, simplifying the complex interplay of factors impacting child well-being by solely crediting the CRC without taking into account these variables may be misleading.

Islamic Family Law provides further perspectives on safeguarding children's rights by offering a framework that aligns with both cultural and religious values, in addition to global norms. Research conducted by Karimullah and Wulandari et al. underscores the notable influence of Islamic Law on

³² Vesa Koskimaa, Lauri Rapeli, and Juha Hiedanpää, "Governing through strategies: How does Finland sustain a future-oriented environmental policy for the long term?," *Futures* 125 (2021/01/01/ 2021), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.futures.2020.102667>.

children's rights, pointing out its advantages and points of conflict with the CRC. Comparing Islamic Law and the CRC highlights the importance of incorporating religious and cultural aspects into child protection systems. Mohd et al. and Jauhari et al. demonstrate how child welfare can be improved by incorporating Islamic principles in accordance with global standards.

While the present article stresses the CRC's positive role, it also brings attention to the numerous obstacles that hinder its widespread effectiveness. Cultural backgrounds, the availability of resources, the integration of policies, and public awareness all combine to form a complex environment that stakeholders must navigate. Comparing to past studies, it is evident that international agreements such as the CRC offer a strong structure, but their success relies on flexible, situation-appropriate strategies for execution. Research conducted by Sarong, Fausi & Fida, Ullah & Rafiq, and Lisma & Nikmah indicates that effectively safeguarding children involves considering cultural and religious factors alongside global benchmarks.

Conclusion

Both Islamic Family Law and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) are important in advancing the protection of children's rights globally. This research conducted a comprehensive examination of the effects of both frameworks, exploring their impact on different child welfare measures, stakeholder views on their efficiency, and the difficulties faced in applying them in various cultural and administrative settings. The findings emphasize the crucial role of Islamic Family Law and the CRC in advancing global child welfare, uncovering challenges in their effective application.

Importantly, the study discovered a hopeful pattern: better child welfare indicators were seen after the CRC was introduced, and there were also positive effects from Islamic Family Law in areas where it is applied. These positive developments, evidenced through indicators like reduced child mortality and increased literacy rates, highlight the importance of these systems. Nevertheless, disparities in the level of growth among countries underlie these advancements, underscoring the critical role of particular cultural, economic, and political factors in their execution. This conclusion mirrors the challenges of implementing global human rights agreements in the face of conflicting regional identities.

Additionally, opinions on the effectiveness of these frameworks were divided according to the stakeholder survey, making their evaluation more complex. While the recognition of the positive effects is there, challenges arise in resource allocation, policy alignment, and raising public awareness. These issues underscore the complexity of moving from policy creation to actual impact, necessitating strategic, situation-dependent methods for significant achievements.

In addition, the article pointed out another crucial problem: the disparity between policy alignment and public awareness. This demonstrates that effective policy execution does not guarantee widespread knowledge among the public, and without this, the influence and effectiveness of laws such as the CRC and Islamic Family Law are constrained. This finding requires a thorough strategy that combines government policy implementation with community involvement and education.

Additionally, the article discovered consistent improvements in child well-being, showing sustained patterns over time, suggesting that ongoing dedication to both the CRC and Islamic Family Law can lead to lasting, positive outcomes. Understanding the dynamic nature of social concerns is necessary for this long-term perspective. External factors, worldwide trends, and cultural changes continuously shape the context in which these systems operate, requiring a flexible, adaptable approach to their execution.

The current article reaffirms the significant contribution of both CRC and Islamic Family Law in promoting global child rights and well-being. Nevertheless, it clearly indicates that neither framework is a cure-all. Their achievement relies on the dynamic nature of their execution, continual allocation of resources, ongoing public engagement, and the capability to adjust to a constantly evolving global landscape. The differences in development among countries and the issues highlighted by stakeholders underscore the continual effort needed to close the gap between policy intentions and actual implementation on the ground.

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