REVEALED: INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION WAS POWERED BY CHILD SLAVES

The problem discussed in the article is the one of the exploitation of child’s labor during the industrial revolution. It presents the results of Professor Jane Humphries’ studies about the problem: Industrial Revolution was powered by child slaves.

She presents the dates about number and conditions of child workers during the 19th century in England.

They were more than a million (15% of the total labor force) and after the first period they were no paid, but only fed and given dormitory accommodation. The years in which child exploitation was greater were the period 1791-1850.

In the second part of the article the way the Industrial Revolution has changed society is present. It removed rigid control over young people, it favored they to get married much younger to favorite population growth (the capitalists needed many workers). There was a reduction in the percentage of women in the work force in factories.

The conclusion explain why many children worked: men died young for accidents or for the terrible living conditions and women difficultly found work; therefore child must live like slaves or die for hunger.

All this proves that child was large used for work in the Industrial Revolution. They favorite the develop of the factories because they no need to be paid and they also can made certain difficult works better than adults (they are perfect to work in mines because they are small, for example); last but not list they are easier to control than adults. For this reason you could say that child slaves powered the Industrial Revolution.