

ABSTRACT

This study explores the legal provisions relating to birth registration process and protection of child rights in Sri Lanka. Birth registration means legal recognition of a child's existence. It can be generally defined as the official recording of the birth of the child by some administrative level. In Sri Lanka, the birth registration is administrated by Department of Registrar General. Preliminary it is conversed introduction of written legal provisions of Birth and Death Registration Act, Children Adoption Act, Consular Function Act and laws relating to the protection of child rights. In Sri Lanka, all births are not registered owing to the various reasons such as not implement developed digital database system for birth registration, out dated laws, unawareness parents, and necessity of lot of documents, no enough legal provisions. Therefore it is very difficult to register a new born child in Sri Lanka. Without a birth certificate, children may be excluded from education as well as health and social services. As results of this, child rights are violated in their day today life. The objectives of this research are study current birth registration laws in Sri Lanka, the issues of the present legal system, the birth registration process comparison with other jurisdictions of Philippine and Australia, nature of the legal implementation and changes should be made in present legal system. Empirical and doctrinal research methodology and comparative analysis are used to gather data for this research. Also the literature on this topic was critically examined statistics were analyzed and opinions of the selected group of people were considered. It was oblivious that the existing written law of birth registration is in Sri Lanka and it had signed and ratified most of the International Conventions which identified the protection of the child rights. But it was not enact an enabling statute in Sri Lanka comparison with other jurisdiction. Therefore written laws of birth registration in Sri Lanka are not enough to practically implementation of child rights.

Now it is high time to examine the birth registration procedure in Sri Lanka and suggests the recommendations intend to practically contribute to the creation of a protective environment to children. According to the findings, effective legal processes of birth registration should be reformed relating to the protection of child rights in Sri Lanka.

Key Words: Birth registration, Child rights, Digital Database system.