

# Craig Kielburger: *Kids to the Rescue!*

Did you know that children are sometimes sold as slaves, forced to work all day, every day, without enough to eat?



Craig Kielburger speaks at a world conference on children's rights.

Craig Kielburger was 12 years old when he learned about child slavery. He read an article about a Pakistani boy named Iqbal Masih who was forced to begin work when he was just 4. After six long years, Iqbal escaped. Though he was just 10, he started fighting to help free other working children. Tragically, Iqbal was murdered by people who supported child slavery.

Craig couldn't get Iqbal's story out of his mind. He wanted to continue Iqbal's work, to change the world without waiting for adults to do it. In 1995, with some friends, Craig created an organization called Kids Can Free the Children.

Today, Free the Children is the world's largest network of children helping children. Free the Children is helping to pass laws to prevent kids from having to spend their childhoods working rather than going to school. Craig has traveled to more than 40 countries. He has spoken with politicians and others, helping pass laws to protect children. Free the Children has helped build schools and medical centers and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Adapted from an article by T. V. Padma



Find out more at  
[www.freethechildren.org](http://www.freethechildren.org)

