



BEING AN UNTOUCHABLE CHILD

“**At the government school** in this north Indian village, 8-year-old Dilip is being taught his place. His third-grade teacher makes him sweep the classroom floor and sit in the back row.”

“When it is time for lunch, Dilip—a member of a low social class referred to as ‘rat catchers’—is among the last few to be served. At recess, his classmates warn, ‘Don’t play with us,’ Dilip says.”

“Roughly **HALF of all Indian public-school students DROP OUT before eighth grade**, and **MOST of the dropouts are from LOWER CASTES.**”

“Students who drop out often end up working in the field, joining the **roughly 13 million Indian children**, most of whom are minorities, engaged in child labor.”

“In Dilip’s neighborhood, his is the first generation to be attending school. The adults work in brick kilns or are employed as servants in the homes of the upper-caste villagers.”

From the WALL STREET JOURNAL front-page article on DISCRIMINATION IN INDIA’S GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS, based on the new report from the HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH.

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