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**JOIN THE FIGHT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AND END THE DIRT GOLD MAFIA IN TEHRAN!**

Did you know that a dangerous underground network called the **Dirty Gold Mafia** is exploiting vulnerable children and Afghan refugees in Tehran? It's time to take action and put an end to this injustice!

The **Dirty Gold Mafia** profits from the collection of recyclable waste before legal collectors have a chance. This not only harms the environment but also exploits those who are already marginalized. Children and Afghan refugees, are forced into hazardous conditions, and to this injustice, risking their health and well-being.

We cannot stand idly by while our planet suffers and innocent lives are exploited. It's time to raise our voices and demand change! Here's how you can make a difference:

- 1. Spread Awareness:** Share this message with your friends, family, and community. Let them know about the dark reality of the Dirty Gold Mafia and the urgent need for climate justice.
- 2. Support Ethical Recycling:** Choose to recycle responsibly by supporting legal recycling programs. Ensure your recyclables go to authorized collectors who prioritize the well-being of workers and protect the environment.
- 3. Advocate for Stronger Laws:** Write letters to local authorities, urging them to strengthen regulations against illegal waste collection and exploitation. Together, we can push for stricter penalties and better protection for those affected.
- 4. Volunteer and Donate:** Get involved with organizations that support climate justice and provide assistance to vulnerable communities. Your time, skills, or financial contributions can make a significant impact on their lives.
- 5. Raise Your Voice on Social Media:** Use your online platforms to amplify the call for climate justice and an end to the Dirty Gold Mafia. Share stories, statistics, and personal experiences to raise awareness and inspire others to take action.

Remember, climate justice is not just about protecting our planet; it's about ensuring fairness and equality for all. Let's stand together against the exploitation of children and refugees, demanding a safer, more sustainable future.

Join us in the fight for climate justice and together, we can dismantle the Dirty Gold Mafia and create a better world for everyone. Take action now!

**DIRT GOLD MAFIA**

Tehran is currently facing the rise of an underground operation referred to as the "dirty gold mafia", employing children and Afghan refugees for the collection of recyclable waste before legal collectors do.

The rise of an underground operation known as the "dirty gold mafia" in Tehran, Iran, this operation involves the employment of children and Afghan refugees to collect recyclable waste before legal collectors do. The Tehran Waste Management Organization estimates that the city produces around 7.2 million tons of waste annually, with a significant portion being organic material that can be converted into compost. The organization is unable to collect all of the recyclable waste on its own, leading to wastepickers collecting waste directly from trash bins.

The use of plastic, particularly polyethylene terephthalate (PET), in local soft drink manufacturing has contributed to the rise of the "dirty gold mafia." Recycled PET is valuable as it can be converted into fibers used for computer packaging. The mafia employs cheap labor to collect waste before legal collectors do so, controlling the prices of the materials they sell to.

I live in Gbonad kavos which is 377 kilometers from Tehran.

It seems to be no concrete project which is tackling/plans to tackle the dire circumstances Tehran wastepickers, and especially children, are currently facing. This may be due to the fact that there aren't any specific NGO's concerning the informal waste sector in Tehran. However, some very preliminary suggestions have been made.

There are a few possible ways forward to improve the situation in times of economic hardship:

- 1. Enforce educational rights:** One key step is to ensure that Afghan children have access to education. By implementing policies that allow these children to legally attend school in Tehran, city officials can help prevent them from being forced into hazardous working conditions. This can be achieved through advocacy efforts, raising awareness, and working with relevant authorities to change existing regulations.
- 2. Strengthen enforcement and regulation:** City officials need to actively enforce and regulate waste collection activities to prevent the exploitation of children. This can involve cracking down on illegal recycling centers and waste separation units that employ children, prosecuting property owners who facilitates such operations

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Let's Enhance

Join the Fight for Climate Justice! Let's put an end to the Dirty Gold Mafia in Tehran and protect vulnerable children and refugees from exploitation. Together, we can create a safer, more sustainable future for all.

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