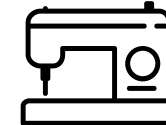
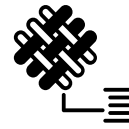


THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON UNETHICAL PRACTICES IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS WITHIN THE FASHION INDUSTRY

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every stage of global supply chains for fashion.



Cotton growing

Yarn spinning

Weaving

Dyeing

Garment making

Retailers

Consumers

COVID-19 has affected entire supply chains across all industries.



Clothing and footwear industry is one of the worst affected economically



Largest drops in production rates ever recorded



Strong online sales growth not enough to support in-store sales drop

This has resulted in some organisations within the fashion industry:



Cancelling orders and reducing new orders



Demanding price cuts or payment extensions



Not offering flexibility on receiving orders from suppliers

It has caused short and long-term disruption to both supply and demand.



Short-term disruption to supply caused by social distancing measures and lockdowns



Disruption to demand causes longer recovery times



Supply chain resilience needs: flexibility, visibility and collaboration

The pandemic has caused an increased risk of non-ethical worker practices.



Reduction in audits completed



Concerns around workers' safety and ethical recruitment practices



Risk of bonded labour

Visit bit.ly/modernslaveryinsupplychains to read the full report. This project - "Impact of Covid-19 on management to eradicate modern slavery from global supply chains" - was commissioned by the Policy & Evidence Centre and funded by the AHRC. It is led by a team from the University of Leeds, with collaborators from HEC, Montreal and the Goa Institute of Management. Contact: Dr Mark Sumner, m.p.sumner@leeds.ac.uk.

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