

Division : Undergraduate

Theodosia Adu-Awuah: Neuroscience and Behavior (MHC 2020)

Toni-Ann Rankine: Economics and Sociology (MHC 2020)

Lerato Mashale : Politics (MHC 2020)

We are a consulting company hired by L'oreal to think about issues with the ethics of their supply chain and come up with recommendations to ensure that their supply chain is free of child labor and that they adhere to the UNICEF guidelines and to the health and safety regulations of mica mining in India. L'Oréal sources its mica from intermediaries based in India. One-eighth of India's mica mines are legal hence the majority of mica exported from India are sourced from illegal mines that utilize child labor under the pretense of artisanal mining. The issue at hand is the fact that there is a lack of transparency in the L'oreal mica supply chain which means that L'oreal cannot be sure that its mica is ethically sourced. Our proposed solution is for L'Oréal to have random internal and external audits in the mines that supply them with mica to ensure that children are not present in these unsafe conditions. Additionally, we propose that L'Oréal organizes a school feeding program to incentivize the parents to bring their children to school instead of taking them to the mines to die or develop health conditions from mining mica artisanally.