

**Question 24** (6 marks)

With reference to ONE contemporary human rights issue, explain the role of state sovereignty in enforcing human rights.

6

~~Abuse of South Asian children is a human rights~~  
~~issue.~~ Child soldiers in Africa is a  
human rights issue. Children as young  
as 9 years of age are put in the  
middle of a war zone or conflict.  
This leads to casualties, injuries and  
mental trauma on the child. They  
find themselves hard to mix in with  
society after they are faced with war at  
a young age. In Australia, the youth  
can only apply for the Australian  
Defence Force (ADF) once they reach the  
age of 18. State sovereignty plays a  
major role as each state/country has  
a right to enforce human rights for  
children.