International Journal of Biology, Pharmacy
and Allied Sciences (IJBPAS)
'A Bridge Between Laboratory and Reader'

www.ijbpas.com

EXPLORING THE EDUCATIONAL DIMENSIONS OF CHILD DOMESTIC LABOR IN PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

This study is focused on the socio-economic factors of domestic labor which are considered responsible for the vulnerability of children. The study explored the importance of education in this regard to control over domestic child labour in our country Pakistan. The study was conducted in district Peshawar hayatabad of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. This study was quantitative in nature; therefore, quantitative paradigm was utilized for conducting it. The data was collected from 341 child domestic labors. The contingency table as projected by Sekaran (2003) was utilized to sketch the necessary sample size. As per as the Sekaran (2003) proposal, a sample size of 341 was perfect for a population of 2812 of the sample areas. Thirty four parents (10 percent of the sample size) were also consulted for data collection because parents' socio-economic conditions are directly linked to CDL. The aim of the present study focuses the causal factors of domestic child labor. The study also investigates the factors which increase their vulnerabilities to sexual and physical abuses. Furthermore, the study investigates the effects of child domestic labor on the personality of children and also on their parents. The study will also suggest and recommend solid and practicable findings and solutions at the end.

Keywords; Child Labour; Domestic Labour; Violence; Lack of Education;

INTRODUCTION

The reasons of CDL in Pakistan are numerous. The deepest of all can be poverty , unfair means of education, low quality education, unfair means of earning, zero level awareness on rules, law and legislation, laws are only in theoretical form where application of any such law cannot be applied due to 'might is right slogan' of this conservative society. That's why a poor worker himself is oppressed, being misused, objected, humiliated, tortured, and rebuked by the society. How can he or she protect his/ her child from these fixed humiliated norms of society? While at political level, the reasons of CDL are low interest and zero commitment level of the federal government and provincial governments to ban CDL because CDWs machinery is providing facilities in one way or to another way to these governmental structure officers, bureaucrats, political administrations officials, civilian authorities, authorities related to laws and legislations, to ministries, to the division of members of cabinets, to the members of socio and political working class and so on. Only poor class cannot be beneficiary of these CDL as they are from that class (Ilon and Moock, 1991).

Pakistan is deeply concerned about the issue of Child Domestic Labor and had done legislation on external human trafficking, child domestic labor and slavery in all its forms. Theoretically all sounds well but in reality there is still a huge lack in implementation of these laws and policies. Its practical application is a myth. The available data in this regard can be found in daily reports on its servile documentation. Government seems helpless to implement its laws to stop brutal torture, reduction in child labor and their inhumane treatment (Rossi, Mangasaryan and Branca 2005).

Education is the solution to all the ills related to CDL. It is an established fact that female might not fit in traditional roles provided that they get educated in certain countries. Education might enable them to ask for freedom, authority and might make them in a position to break the shackles of slavery (Bequele and Boyden, 1988). Some notions have presupposed the idea that females who are educated may not get into marriage bond and avoid child bearing. It is therefore convenient for many families to adopt and raise daughters with the purpose to take charge of the household duties and relieve the mother of the worries of paid labor. The prevailing cultural practices impose restrictions on getting female education and this in turn leads to increase in child employment (Weiner, 1991). The magnitude of CDL is greater in underdeveloped countries as compared to developed countries. South Asia is the hub

of poverty; therefore, the ratio of child labor as a whole and CDL specifically is greater.

Literature Review

Child domestic labor is not confined to any particular culture, community or society. It is considered a universal observable fact (SPARC, 2012).An approximate 15 million children at the ages group of 4 to 17 are laboring as child household workers globally (ILO, 2012). At least an estimated 7.4 million belong to 5-14 age group (SPARC, 2012). International Labor Organization estimated around 264,000 underage children being employed as CDLs in Pakistan. ILO's report (2012) and SPARC (2010), earmarked 2812 households where children for domestic labor were found employed. However, the actual data is still unknown and most of the children are working in the rural areas. In this regard, ILO and SPARC claim that thousands of working children in the rural and urban areas are unknown. This physical discomfort and abuse of children is not properly reported.

There are different kinds of risks accompanied with CDL like lengthy hours of work, fatigue due to over work and undesirable working conditions and low salary. Moreover they become exposed to various hazardous chemicals such as, smoke, fire, gases, petroleum, chemicals, liquids, etc.; and physical dangers like

lifting heavy burden such as bricks, stones, bales, logs, water, handling certain equipment and electric articles, cutting tools, and coming in contact with hot objects (Adams & Trost, 2004).

CDLs are also exposed to various diseases and infections. Unsatisfactory or not enough foodstuff and adjustment, substantial, mental and emotional aggression, sexually mistreatment, segregation, incarceration, unhealthy living, over-work and uncertainty are other well-known intimidation to such wretched labors. In a crux, youngster household hard work are weak to all types of intimidation, risks, mistreatment and violent behavior due to their affectionate age, detachment from their dwelling, and functioning at the back blocked doors (ILO, 2012).

In Pakistan, an estimated figure of children working in personal or in social services is about 2, 64,000 (ILO, 2012).Most of these children had rural background. They included families consisting of eight or ten umbers each. They were uneducated as well. The CDL parents were completely uneducated and ignorant. Among CDL parent's gender bias was strongly observed. Parents preferred sending boys in the families to school while girls worked as domestic servants. This injustice ruins the lives of those girls who are suppressed to live like animal. This discrimination further generates a gap among family members as

well. The male members of family have higher status and jobs due to education while female members of the family are deprived of it. These girls become permanent servants. About 20% of the children were found in sick health and they were totally neglected and showed lack of love as well. Thus, the employers not only abused them orally but physically they faced torture, slaps and brutal behaviour by employer's family and kids as well (ILO, 2012).

Objective of the study

The aimed of this study was focused towards the educational factors of domestic child labor. The study also investigated the factors which increase their vulnerabilities to sexual and physical abuses of domestic child labour. Furthermore, the study investigated the effects of child domestic labor on the personality of children and also on their parents. The study will also suggest and recommend solid and practicable findings and solutions at the end.

Research Methodology

A sampling can be defined as a part of population which is observed in order to make inferences about the whole population (Leabo & Dick, 1968). As per Census report of 1998 of Pakistan, The Township of Hayatabad consists of 11250 households. The aforesaid reports of ILO (1998) and SPARC (2010) have supposed 2812 households that have engaged children for the services of domestic, including 703 female children and 2109 male offspring. Moreover, the greater parts of these offspring were between the age group of 9 to 14 years. This study has numerous variables.

Therefore, contingency table as projected by Sekaran (2003) was utilized to sketch the necessary sample size. As per as the Sekaran (2003) proposal, a sample size of 341 was perfect for a population of 2812 of the sample areas. Besides this, the snowball was applied for a sample of the gender-based categories. However, the children were behind the walls and tracing out of them was difficult; therefore, the snow ball sampling method was applied from child to child contact. 341 child domestic labors in the age group 10-14 years were interviewed in the seven sectors of Hayatabad, district Peshawar. As per research design (256 Boys and 85 Girls) were interviewed at employer homes (Detail given in **Table 1**) to justify the gender wise distribution. Ten percent of the total sample sizes, 34 parents of the CDL were interviewed at their homes in order to reach the correct data on the topic. However, majority of the CDL were found absent from their homes and it was difficult to tracing their parents. The model offspring were first up to date of the reason of the study; therefore, they did not be indecisive in giving the information.

Table 1: Breakup of Sampled Respondents

Study Units	Households	Sample ($n_i = \frac{n}{N} \times N_i$),
Male	2109	256
Female	703	85
Total	2812	341

Sources: Pakistan Census Report, 1998

An interview schedule is a list of written questions, closed or open ended, equipped for utilize by an interviewer in a face to face interaction (this is either connect through telephone, face to face or by other electronic media) (Khan, 2011). The interview schedules were designed for data collection. Since sampled children and their parents were illiterate/ uneducated, so interview schedule was used as tool of data collection in the study. Face to face Questions were asked in local language (*Pashto*), because all of the respondents were *Pakhtuns*. Interview schedule leads to more responses and free of biasness. It was used for both educated and uneducated respondents. Keeping in mind all of the above points, interview schedule was used.

In order to generate the objective-based interview agenda for this study, the scaling procedure was followed. The details are as; When social researchers measure attitude, they use the Likert Scale in quantitative research. It is considered the most reliable technique used so far (Smith, 1981). In order to carry out the analysis and interpretation of data, the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) was used for the analysis of the primary data. Data was categorized and then uni-variate and bi-variate analysis were drawn. Quantitative results were presented in tabular form followed by interpretations and discussions.

Uni-variate Analyses

Table 2: Literacy of Parents Increase Child Domestic Labor's Ratio

Statement	Agree%	Disagree%	Don't Know%	Total
Children are getting primary education.	18 (52.9)	16(47.1)	00	34 (100)
Parents are responsible for children education	23(67.6)	11 (32.4)	00	34 (100)
Parents provide education to their children, irrespective of their sex	25 (73.5)	08 (23.5)	01 (2.9)	34 (100)
Children face corporal punishment at school	19(55.9)	07(20.6)	08(23.5)	34(100)
Children are drop out from school	28(82.4)	05(14.7)	01(2.9)	34(100)
Children are not getting education because they have no access to school	28(82.4)	05(14.7)	01(2.9)	34(100)
Children left school because of poverty	32(94.1)	00	02(5.9)	34(100)
Children not get education because parents are illiterate	07(20.6)	27(79.4)	00	34(100)
Children are getting education along with work as a CDLs	20(58.8)	13(38.2)	01(2.9)	34(100)

Source: Field Survey; 2018.

DISCUSSION

Table 2 highlights the multiple aspects of less education among CDLs. There were majority of parents, 52.9 percent, who agreed with the statement that children were getting education, and 47.1 percent of them disagreed. There were majority of respondents, 67.6 percent, who were of the view that parents were responsible to provide education to their children, whereas 32.4 percent disagreed to the statement. The table further reveals that majority of parents, 73.5 percent of the respondents, were in favour of the statement that parents provide education to their children, irrespective of their sex, while 32.5 percent of the respondents were not in favour of equal educational opportunity for male and female children and the remaining 2.9 percent said they did not know about this statement. There were majority of parents i.e. 55.9 percent who were of the view that children left schools due to corporal punishment by their teachers and 20.6percent of the respondent disagreed with the statement while the remaining 23.5 were uncertain about the statement. There were majority of parents,

82.4 percent of the respondents, who agreed that children dropped out from school, 14.7 percent said that children were not dropped out and 2.9 percent did not know. Low literacy level amongst parents was a major reason for poor acceptance and low level of education of CDL. There were majority of parents i.e. 94.1 percent of the respondents who cited that poverty was the main reason behind drop out of children from schools, while 5.9 percent were unsure about the reason of behind dropping out of children from the schools. There were majority of parents i.e. 79.4 percent of the respondents who disagreed that low education status of the parents also contributes to dropout of schools going children before completing primary education while 20.6 disagreed with this statement. There were majority of parents i.e. 58.8 percent of the respondents who agreed that children get education along with their work while 38.2 percent respondents disagreed and the remaining 2.9 percent respondents were unsure about this statement.

Bi-variate Analyses

Table 3: Child Domestic Labor and Lack of Education

Statement		Agree%	Disagree%	Don't know%	Total	Statistics
Children are getting primary education	Agree	13(38.2)	05(14.7)	00	18(52.9)	(p=0.037)
	Disagree	05(14.7)	09(26.5)	02(5.9)	16(47.1)	($\chi2$=6.604)
	Don't	00	00	00	00	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Parents are responsible for children education	Agree	12(35.3)	09(26.5)	02(5.9)	23(67.6)	(p=0.596)
	Disagree	06(17.6)	05(14.7)	00	11(32.4)	($\chi2$=1.037)

	Don't	00	00	00	00	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Parents provide education to their children, irrespective of their sex	Agree	15(44.1)	10(29.4)	00	25(73.5)	**(p=0.001)** **(χ2=18.821)**
	Disagree	03(8.8)	04(11.8)	01(2.9)	08(23.5)	
	Don't	00	00	01(2.9)	01(2.9)	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Children face corporal punishment at school	Agree	06(17.6)	11(32.4)	02(5.9)	19(55.9)	**(p=0.025)** **(χ2=11.175)**
	Disagree	04(11.8)	03(8.8)	00	07(20.6)	
	Don't	08(23.5)	00	00	08(23.5)	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Children are drop out from school	Agree	15(44.1)	12(35.3)	01(2.9)	28(82.4)	**(p=0.002)** **(χ2=16.618)**
	Disagree	03(8.8)	02(5.9)	00	05(14.7)	
	Don't	00	00	01(2.9)	01(2.9)	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Children are not getting education because they have no access to school	Agree	14(41.2)	13(38.2)	01(2.9)	28(82.4)	**(p=0.001)** **(χ2=18.018)**
	Disagree	04(11.8)	01(2.9)	00	05(14.7)	
	Don't	00	00	01(2.9)	01(2.9)	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Children left school because of poverty	Agree	18(52.9)	13(38.2)	01(2.9)	32(94.1)	**(p=0.017)** **(χ2=8.196)**
	Disagree	00	00	00	00	
	Don't	00	01(2.9)	01(2.9)	02(5.9)	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Children not get education because parents are illiterate	Agree	05(14.1)	02(5.9)	00	07(20.6)	**(p=0.000)** **(χ2=25.033)**
	Disagree	13(38.2)	12(35.9)	02(5.9)	27(79.4)	
	Don't	00	00	00	00	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	
Children are getting education along with work as a CDLs	Agree	15(44.1)	05(14.1)	00	20(58.8)	**(p=0.496)** **(χ2=1.428)**
	Disagree	03(8.8)	09(26.5)	01(2.9)	13(38.2)	
	Don't	00	00	01(2.9)	01(2.9)	
	Total	18(52.9)	14(41.2)	02(5.9)	34(100)	

Source: Field Survey; 2018.

Table 3 represents the association of socio-economic dimensions of education with the child domestic labour. CDLs' Parents were asked about the educational development of their children. There was a significant association (p=0.037) found with the primary education attainment. A non-significant association (p=0.496) was found with the parent's responsibility for children education. Furthermore, providing education to children by CDL parents irrespective of their sex was found significantly associated (p=0.001).The study findings supported by the results of Ilon and Moock (1991), according to their empirical data that it is very important for the family members to provide same opportunity of getting education for both sexes.There was significant association (p=0.025) found with the facing of corporal punishment by children at school. It was also observed that children were dropped out of schools which was also found significantly associated (p=0.002). The finding of both of the statements was in line with the findings of Estes and Weiner (2005) according, to their study results that in most of the schools there is corporal punishment. The teachers punished the children and due to this most of the children drop from schools, it is clear from the findings of the previous literature and from the results of the current study that teachers are responsible for dropout of

children from schools.Children were not getting education because they had no access to school where it was also found significantly associated (p=0.001). There was a significant association (p=0.017) found with leaving of schools because of poverty. A strongly significant association (p=0.000) was observed with the children remained uneducated because of their parents' illiteracy. The finding of the present study is in consistent with the study findings of Rossi, Mangasaryan and Branca (2005). There was non-significant association (p=0.496) found with the children who were getting education along with their working as CDLs. Findings of the present study were found supporting the findings of Bagley and Mallick (2000).

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that majority of domestic child belongs to large family size. Large family is dominantly found in Pakhtun society. The large family size makes them compelled to send their child for work. Furthermore, early marriages are considered a tradition in Pashtun society. It was found that early marriage is also considered one of the dominant factors of domestic child labor. Moreover, illiteracy has also increased the ratio of domestic child labor. Majority of the child domestic labors come from the illiterate families. On the basis of findings it is recommended that government should take serious initiatives

in this regard and to provide free education to each and every citizens of Pakistan.

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