

An Empirical Study on Root Causes of Child Labour in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract:

The Present study examines the root causes of child labour in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh. 300 sample respondents were taken on convenience random sampling technique for the study. Descriptive research design was adopted for present study and both primary and secondary data was used. Statistical tools like chi-square test were used to test the statistical significance of the proposed hypothesis. The study reveals that there exists a relation between the root causes of child labour and the Socio-economic conditions. Based on the analysis, the researcher draws the policy suggestions to cease the child labour in selected study area.

Key Words: Child labour, Poverty, Illiteracy, social evil, Primary Education.

I. INTRODUCTION

Child Labour is a social evil because children those who are supposed to play, read, amuse and enjoy the beautiful world are start to do some odd work which is not compatible with their age. However, there is compelled to work under certain circumstances. Their delicate organs no single determining cause for the prevalence of child Labour. It is a multi-dimensional one. Child Labour is the product of numerous factors, viz., poverty, unemployment, unequal distribution of assets, low health among poor, migration to the cities due to industrialization and urbanization, the tradition of family occupation, low literacy rate, lack of education facility to all, dropouts, reluctant parent to send their children to school, the dismal picture of school, social acceptance of Child Labour, superstitious believe and lack of awareness of child rights, lack of proper implementation of the legislation, Ineffective administrative set-up, lack of political will, inadequate legislation for unorganized sector and above all cheap and trouble free, less assertive working group etc. To have a better understanding let us club the above-mentioned factors into different sub-groups as detailed below.

Children are required to seek employment either to support the income of their families or to have gainful occupation in the absence of availability of school facilities at various places. Child Labour is no longer economic exploitation but it is necessitated by the economic needs of the parents and the children

themselves. There are many causes of Child Labour. Some of the principal causes are as follows:

1. Poverty
2. Low income of the bread earner of the family
3. Unemployment of parents
4. Illiteracy and ignorance of parents
5. Large family
6. Ignorance
7. Other reasons

II. SURVEY OF LITERATURE

Baharul Islam Laskar (2000) conducted a study on child labour in Aligarh lock industry. The study reveals that household economic pressures compel children to enter into the hazardous work environment that proves detrimental to their educational and health prospects for a low wage. It is also observed that most of the child labours are school dropouts who are forced into the labour market by their parents.

Mohapatra and Dash (2011) examined the socio-economic problem of child labour. The major variables used in poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, low wages, ignorance, social prejudice, regressive tradition, poor standard of living, backwardness, superstition, low status of women have combined to give birth to the terrible practice of child labour of women have combined to give birth to the terrible practice of child labour. Method used in growth rate sample data through investigation or interview, they found that the migrant's family from various district of Odisha their social economic condition is very poor which make them to go for labour.

Khan and Ali (2012) examined the perspective of constitution and legislative framework of child labour in India, the major variable used in socio – economic backwardness, poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, over population, lack of education facility, ignorance of parents about important of education, ignorance on impact on children of labour, government apathy etc. method used the UNICEF 2006 report children of the age group (5-14 yr.) children in India. They found that the situation is overcoming the challenges that have emerged due to the child labour.

III. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

In the Globalised era, rapid industrialization is taking place there by creating more employment in the countries like India and china. The concept of heavy employment involves the procurement of the cheap labour and easily accessible labour. Child labour being cheap and accessible in nature becomes the ultimate affected Platform in this concurrent scenario. In India the school dropout rate is very high and it is inference for the prevalence of the child labour in the society. There exists several socio economic disparities in the society paving the way for the extensive of poverty, illiteracy, and unemployment these factors acts as the prime causes for the prevalence of the child labour in India, over population in the country like India is adding additional fire to the current existence of child labour in India thus, the concept of child labour encompasses a significant outlook in the Indian society and measures are to be taken for the eradication of this social evil.

IV. SCOPE FOR THE STUDY

In the present circumstances, the analysis of root causes of child labour is the need of the hour. This study examines the concept of child labour on

various latitudes subjecting it to both qualitative and quantitative analysis. The study will bring out the clear and crisp view of the child labour on the aspects of socio economic profile of the child labour, their strengths and weaknesses, their existing job environment and their satisfaction level towards identified factors under the study.

V. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the Demographic profile and root causes of the child labour in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh
2. To offer the pragmatic suggestions to cease the child labour in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh based on findings of the study.

A. Hypothesis Of The Study

1) Null hypothesis Ho1:

There do not exist any relation between the root causes of child labour and the Socio-economic conditions of the sample respondents.

2) Alternative Hypotheses Ha1:

There exists a relation between the root causes of child labour and the Socio-economic conditions of the sample respondents.

VI. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design	Descriptive Research design
Data Type	Both primary and secondary
Data collection techniques	Schedule Method (Questionnaire + Interview)
Sampling method	Convenience sampling
Sample size	300
Geographical location of the sampling units	Krishna Dist of Andhra Pradesh
Statistical tools applied for analytical study	Chi-square test, Percentage.
Variables examined	Demographic profile and Causes of Childlabour.

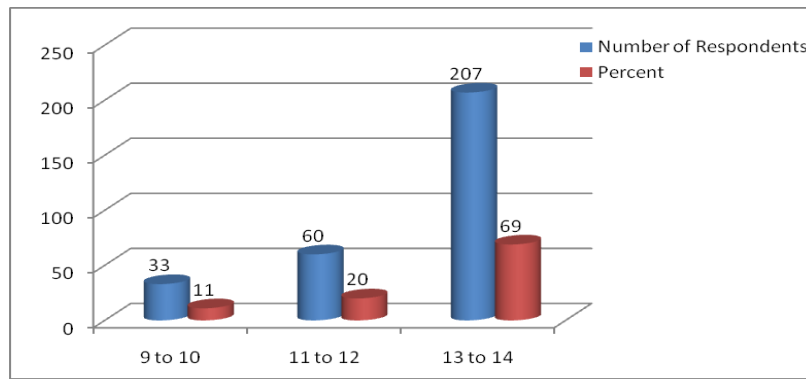
VII. DATA ANALYSIS

Table-1: Age of the Respondents

Age	Number of Respondents	Percent	Cumulative Percent
9 - 10	33	11.0	11.0
11- 12	60	20.0	31.0
13- 14	207	69.0	100.0
Total	300	100.0	

Source: Primary Data

Statistical analysis: Mean: 12.66yrs, Standard Deviation: 0.08yrs The mean age of the child labour considered in the sample is 12.7yrs with a standard deviation of 0.08yrs.



Graph-1: Age of the Respondents

Table 1 Explain Age is one of the important socio economic and demographic factor. It influence the efficiency of work. Earning capacity of the respondents. It is evident from the above data that 69 percent of sample respondents belonged to the age group of 13-14, followed by 20 percent of respondents are in the age group of 11-12 years, where as a meager i.e. 11 percent f sample respondents belonged to 9-10 years. It can be concluded from the analysis that respondents in the age group of 13-14 are as high as compared to other age groups.

Table-2: Community of the Respondents

Community	Number of Respondents	Percent	Cumulative Percent
OC	40	13.3	13.3
BC	114	38.0	51.3
SC	134	44.7	96.0
ST	12	4.0	100.0
Total	300	100.0	

Source: Primary Data

Graph-2: Community of the Respondents

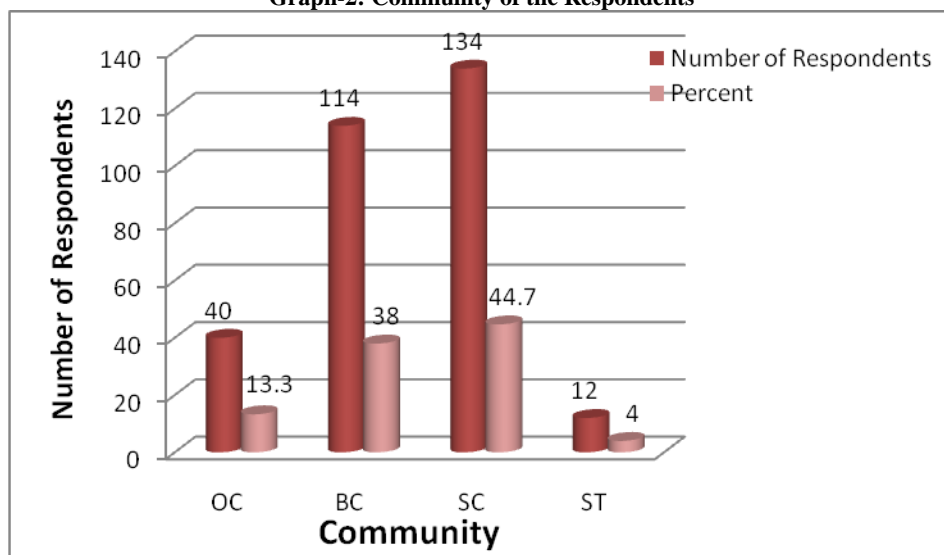


Table 2 demonstrates the community of the sample respondents. It is apparent from the above table that 44.7 percent of sample respondents are belongs to scheduled caste community, followed by 114 accounting for 38 percent of sample respondents belongs to backward community, further followed by 40 accounting for 13.3 percent of sample respondents belongs to other caste, compared the least of 4 percent being accounted by scheduled tribe. It can be concluded from the above analysis that scheduled caste community respondents are greater than other community respondents in sample study area.

Table-3: Religion of the Respondents

Religion	Number of the Respondents	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Hindu	153	52.3	52.3
Muslim	77	25.7	78
Christian	70	22.0	100.0
Total	300	100.0	

Source: Primary Data

Graph-3: Religion of the Respondents

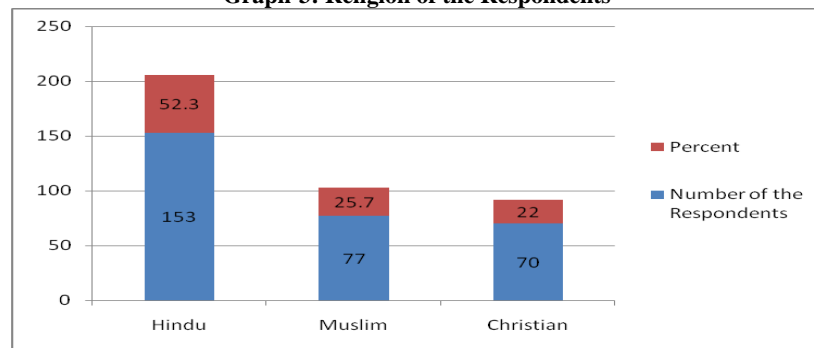


Table 3 Presents the Religion of the sample respondents. It is evident from the above data that majority of the sample respondents i.e. 52.3 percent of respondents belongs to Hindu religion, followed by 77 accounting for 25.7 percent of sample respondents belongs to Muslim religion, whereas 70 accounting for 22 percent of sample respondents were belongs to Christian religion. It can be concluded from the above analysis that Hindu religion community respondents are high as compared to other religion respondents.

Table-4: Gender of the Respondents

Gender	Number of the Respondents	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	230	76.6	76.6
Female	70	23.4	100.0
Total	300	100.0	

Source: Primary Data

Graph -4: Gender of the Respondents

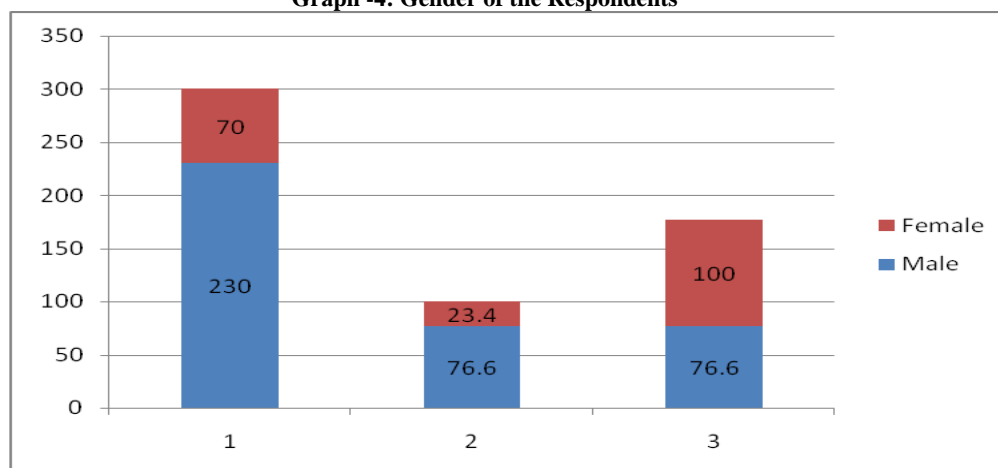


Table 4 shows that Gender is the one of the important socio economic variable, The above table demonstrates Gender of the sample respondents, as it is evident from the data that out of 300 sample respondents as many as 230 accounting for 76.6 percent are male respondents as compared to 70 accounting for 23.4 percent who are female respondents. The analysis concludes that male respondents are greater than female respondents.

Table - 5: Causes of Child Labour

Category	Cause of Child Labour							Total
	Poverty	Low Income	Un-Employment	Illiteracy	Ignorance	Large Family	Other Reasons	
OC	7(17.5) (11.1)	6(15) (10.4)	5(12.5) (10.6)	7(17.5) (15.2)	4(10) (16.7)	6(15) (13.6)	5(12.5) (27.8)	40(100) (13.3)
BC	22(19.4) (34.9)	27(23.8) (46.5)	12(10.6) (25.5)	21(18) (45.7)	9(7.9) (37.5)	15(13.3) (34.2)	8(7.0) (44.4)	114(100) (38)
SC	31(23) (49.2)	23(17.2) (39.7)	27(20.2) (57.4)	16(11.9) (34.8)	11(8.3) (45.8)	21(15.7) (47.7)	5(3.7) (27.8)	134(100) (44.7)
ST	3(25) (4.8)	2(16.7) (3.4)	3(25) (6.5)	2(16.7) (4.3)	0(0.0) (0.0)	2(16.6) (4.5)	0(0.0) (0.0)	12(100) (4)
Total	63(21) (100)	58(19.3) (100)	47(15.7) (100)	46(15.3) (100)	24(8) (100)	44(14.7) (100)	18(6) (100)	300(100) (100)

Source: Primary Data

Note: * = significance at 5%

Pearson Chi-Square = 3.178, DF = 8, P-Value = 0.923

From the above table 5 represents the Causes of Child Labour. The respondents category OC of poverty line are 7(17.5percent), Low Income are 6(15)(10.4percent), Unemployment are 5(12.5)(10.6), Illiteracy are 7(17.5)(15.2), Ignorance are 4(10)(16.7percent), Large Family are 6(15)(13.6), Other reasons are 5(12.5)(27.8), total are 40(100)(13.3). The respondents category BC of poverty line are 22(19.4)(34.9), Low Income are 27(23.8)(46.5percent), Unemployment are 12(10.6)(25.5), Illiteracy are 21(18)(45.7), Ignorance are 9(7.9)(37.5percent), Large Family are 15(13.3)(34.2), Other reasons are 8(7)(44.4), total are 114(100)(38). The respondents category SC of poverty line are 31(23percent), Low Income are 23(17.2)(39.7percent), Unemployment are 27(20.2)(57.4), Illiteracy are 16(11.9)(34.8), Ignorance are 11(8.3)(45.8percent), Large Family are 21(15.7)(47.7), Other reasons are 5(3.7)(27.8), total are 134(100)(44.7). The respondents category ST of poverty line are 3(25percent), Low Income are 2 (16.7)(3.4percent), Unemployment are 3(25)(6.5), Illiteracy are 2(16.7)(4.3), Ignorance are NIL, Large Family are 2 (16.6)(4.5), Other reasons are NIL total are 12(100)(4).

A. Verification Of Hypothesis

Test Applied : Chi-Square

Pearson Chi-Square = 3.178, DF = 8, P-Value = 0.923

From the table 1 results of the chi-square test conducted on root causes of child labour and identified socio-economic variables and it was found that the observed value is less than the table value. Hence null hypothesis is (Ho1) is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted.

Hypotheses	Statement	Test Applied	Result
Null Hypotheses (Ho1)	There do not exist any relation between the root causes of child labour and the Socio-economic conditions of the sample respondents.	Chi-Square Test	Rejected
Alternative Hypotheses (Ha1)	There exists a relation between the root causes of child labour and the Socio-economic conditions of the sample respondents.	Chi-Square Test	Accepted

VIII. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The preceding analysis of the study has led to offer the following Findings.

1. Regarding the statement Age of the sample respondents, it is found that majority of sample respondents are in the age group of 13-14. Majority of sample respondents are belongs to Scheduled caste; Majority of sample respondents are belongs to Hindu religion; Majority of respondents are male.
2. With regard to the aspect of the Poverty, 21percent of respondents stated that a strong reason for child labour in A.P is below Poverty line.
3. With regard to the aspect of low income group,19.3 percent of the respondents are felt that their families are under low income level group.
4. With regard to the aspect of the Un-employment of the parent, 15.7 percent of the child labour parents are in the Un-employment.
5. Regarding aspect of illiteracy, 15.3 percent of respondents opined thattheir family members are Illiterates.
6. Regarding aspect of large family, 14.7 percent of the respondents are living with the large family.
7. With regard to the aspect of ignorance, 8 percent of the respondents felt that one of the reasons for child labour in the Andhra Pradesh is ignorance.

IX. SUGGESTIONS

The following suggestions are made based on the findings of the study.

1. Compulsory primary education should be imparted to all the children below 14 years. This activity reduces the incidents of the child labour.
2. The government should promote the employment opportunities to the adult members of the child labour families. This in turn increases the child labour families and there by prevent children from entering into dangerous social practice of child labour.
3. The Government and other law enforcing authorities should strive for better governance and supervision of the regulations those helps in eradicating the social practice of child labour and the authorities under the act should be given autonomous powers to act accordingly on the on-going circumstances and existing challenges.
4. The law making bodies should amended the prevailing diluted provisions under the child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986. With strong and deterrent punishment for the law breaking persons there by safeguarding the fundamental notions of the Act.
5. There should be a strong campaign from the government side and also NGOs side with regard to the creation of awareness among adults and

children's on the evil of the child labour and the negative factors associated with the prevalence of child labour.

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