

Study Exploring Different Causes Of Children Working As Balloon Sellers.

Dr.Nilima Jyotsna Toppo^{#1} and Preet Prakash^{*2}

^{#1} Assistant Professor, Department of Education, St. Xavier's College's, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand, India

^{*2} Student, Department of Education, St. Xavier's College's, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand, India

Abstract

Child labor in India is one of the grave problems the nation is fighting. Children are deprived of education and their healths are compromised. Present study was conducted on 100 balloon selling children in Ranchi, Jharkhand. Self made questionnaire was used for data collection. The interview based survey method was used for surveying the issue. The percentage of number of children involved was taken out with the help of table and the data collected, and graphs were made for easy study. Major finding of the study were that there is significant co-relation between the economic status and the occupation of the children, literacy and occupation of the children and socio-cultural status and occupation of the children.

I. INTRODUCTION

India and other developing countries in the world are often afflicted with numerous social concerns. India beyond its beauty and rich mineral wealth has a dark secret being home to the largest number of child laborers in the world. According to Grace Abbott "Child labor and poverty are inevitably bound together and if you continue to use the labor of children as the treatment for social disease of poverty, you will have both poverty and child labor to the end of time".

Today's children are the citizens of tomorrow. The whole legacy of the country lies in the youth of today, as they will lead the country tomorrow.

To our surprise, we often see small children employed for jobs that are unfit for their age, in order to get some kind of monetary support to lead life. People from the downtrodden section of society often let their children go to work to bring in some extra money in the family so that they can make their ends meet.

Be it the street or an amusing park, a bus stand or a traffic signal there are countless "chotu's" and "munni's" working with chapped hands and cracked heels and feeble eyes. At an age where they need to be nurtured they fall prey to a social stigma known as "Child Labor".

These children are deprived of education and their dignity and health are compromised. They are combating days were they have to often sleep empty stomach.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1) To find out the effect of poverty on balloon selling children.
- 2) To find the impact of illiteracy on the balloon selling children.
- 3) To find out the demography(hometown) of these balloon selling children.

III. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

- 1) There is no significant co-relation between the economic status and occupation of the children selling balloons.
- 2) There is no significant co-relation between literacy and occupation of the children selling balloons.
- 3) There is no significant co-relation between the socio-cultural and occupation of the children selling balloons.

IV. DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The study will be delimited to only Ranchi district, Jharkhand. The study will also be delimited to only the children selling balloons under the age limit of 15 years.

V. SUGGESTION FOR FUTHER RESEARCH

No doubt that the underlying poverty shadowing a major part of the country is one of the important factors triggering child labor. There are few other factors too such as lack of education, exploitation of the girl child etc. Not only the kids are found selling the balloons on the street but also witnessed begging on road, selling toys or working on hard labor. Survey could be made on these victimized children to know the actual cause and the solution to grant them relief.

VI. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Initially a self made questionnaire comprising of 18 questions were fabricated. This questionnaire encircled the basic questions to be asked from the children selling balloons with a motive to analyze and comprehend the actual reason and circumstances compelling them to come on street and sell balloons. In order to standardize the questionnaire, it was authenticated by ten experts. Their opinion to either add a specific question or cut-off a question was highly taken into consideration and finally, a draft was prepared with 20 questions.

The interview based survey method was used for data collection. The 100 children selling balloons were approached at different locations such as shopping mall, traffic signals, railway station etc. The children were humbly inquired and all the answers to the questions were drawn out voluntarily from them. The data was analyzed by taking out the percentage of the number of balloon selling children and the graph was plotted based on the collected data.

VII. RESULT AND DISCUSSION OF THE STUDY

Monthly income	Number of children (5-15 years) as balloon sellers.	Percentage
Rs 2000-5000	85	85%
Rs 5000-10,000	15	15%
Rs 10,000-15,000	0	0%

Table no. 1(a)

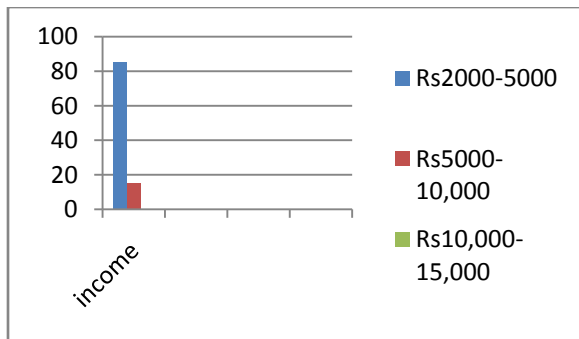


Fig:-(i)

The table 1(a) as well as the graph in fig (i) illustrates that 80% of the balloons sellers are from the lowest income group i.e. Rs 2000-5000 monthly. Thus the hypothesis that there is no significant co-relation between the economic status and occupation is

rejected. And therefore it is proved that the economics status significantly affect the child.

Poverty and child labor are complementary to each other. Different factors such as large family size, decrease in agricultural output, economic inflation and low income etc. are responsible for a number of hardships faced by the children and their families.

Literacy	Percentage of children
Absolute illiterates	92%
Partially educated (those who could read and write their names)	2%
Educated up to class 2	6%

Table no .1(b)

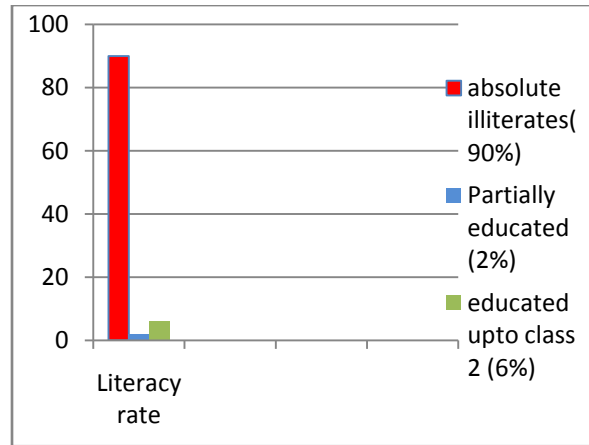


Fig:-(ii)

The table 1(b) and the graph in fig (ii) illustrate that 92% of the balloon selling children are from an absolute illiteracy group. Thus, the hypothesis that there is no significant co-relation between literacy and occupation of the children is rejected. And henceforth, it is proved that literacy significantly affect the child labor.

Illiterate parents discourage their children to attend schools because they lack the awareness of the merit of education as well as have no means of bearing the expense of studies.

Category	Hometown	% of children
Migrants	-Rajasthan	94%
	-U.P	2%
	-Bihar	2%
Inhabitants of Ranchi	-Ranchi	1%

Table:-1(c)

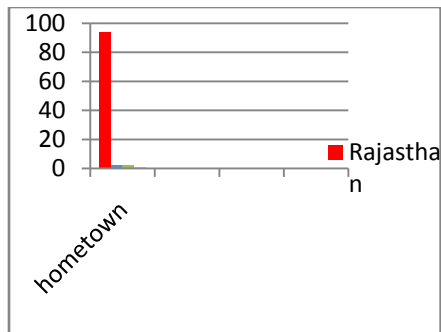


Fig:- (iii)

The table 1(c) and the graph in the fig (iii) illustrate that 94% of the balloon selling children belong to the migrant group i.e. states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Thus the hypothesis that there is no significant co-relation between the socio-cultural status and occupation of the children is rejected. Henceforth, it is proved that socio-cultural status significantly affects the child labor.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Though the government of India has laid various schemes and policies to impart a better life and opportunity to people, still there are few who are deprived due to various reasons such as lack of proper knowledge, poverty, socio-cultural factor etc. The government shall try to strictly implement the idea of opening a mobile school especially for the “*Banjaras*” (nomadic people) who keep on migrating.

Apart from this, laws can be brought in that ensures that when teenagers do begin to work, they are not allowed to work beyond a certain number of hours and they are paid a minimum wage.

REFERENCES

- [1] www.freepatentsonline.com
- [2] www.thelancet.com/journal/langloarticle/PS11S2
- [3] www.ijtrd.com
- [4] www.timesofindia.com
- [5] www.journals.sagepub.com
- [6] www.journalofdemocracy.org
- [7] www.tandfonline.com
- [8] www.researchgate.net
- [9] www.sciencedirect.com
- [10] www.literacystudies.osu.edu