

SOCIO ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF STREET CHILDREN AT LAHORE

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ABSTRACT

The primary objective of the research is to know about the socio economic activities of street children. The field based, exploratory type of study uses both qualitative and quantitative methods of research and strengthened from data collected. Observation and a structured interview schedule were used as tools for data collection from the field. Descriptive and inferential statistical techniques and scientific hypotheses were used for the purpose of interpretation of the results. The results of the research shows that the majority of street children were involved in different types of work among vehicle cleaning, work at tea shop and massage work are most cited work. They had to do work for long working hours and receive their earning on daily basis in the form of money. The research also depicts majority of them were perceiving different types behavior from people around them and feels some extent importance of religion in their lives. The research also shows that majority of street children had future plans which indicate that they were not satisfied with their current life and wanted to back to their homes. The research reveals the dire need of initiating such programs with the cooperation and coordination of public and private organizations which directly address the root causes of the street children phenomenon.

Key Words: *Street children, Working status, Behavior, Earning, Need fulfillment*

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INTRODUCTION

Children are the real assets and the future architects of society. They are very precious, delicate and need proper care. They are the unprecedented segment of society because they are not independent rather than dependent on others. The United Nations Convention on the Right of the Children (UNCRC) provides ample rights to the children. The UNCRC covers a whole spectrum of rights for children including civil, economic, social and cultural. Pakistan is also a signatory of UNCRC

Childhood is the most significant, pompous as well as delightful phase of human life but not for those who are caught up by the cruel clutches of decree, not permitting them to heave up their mind and heart with many inner most wishes and inclinations. But those who strive for really endeavor to mean it, particularly true for street children preferring to shun their home to find out the horizon of their wishes and dreams.

Street Children are the unwanted gifts of economic growth, war, poverty, lost of traditional values, domestic violence, physical and mental abuse. Every street child has a reason for street life, while some children are deceived by the promise of excitement and liberty; the majority is pushed onto the street by the desperation and realization that they have nowhere else to go. If the problem of street children is explored at the inner level, it would not be futile to say that poverty and parental negligence lies in the background of the street children and their needs and problems are a result of wanting to fulfill basic needs for survival. The enigma of street children demands and requires an understanding that who they are, what they need, what they do and how they can be identified and can be solved by our sincere practical efforts.

It is estimated that there are 10 to 100 million street children in the world today ¹. These children live a transitory life style and are vulnerable to inadequate nutrition, physical injuries, substance use and health problems including sexual and reproductive health problems. Some street children are “on the street” which mean they still see their families regularly and may even return every night to sleep in their family homes. “Children of the street” on the other hand, have no home but the street. In present research, children of the street are focused.

Though over the last many years, the matters of street children are coming in to limelight but much more is needed to do especially with regard to Pakistan where CRC is not more than a sacred document to which nobody can touch.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Pakistan is also confronting the problem of street children like many other countries. No statistics are available related to street children in Pakistan. It is just estimated that 10,000 street children are present only in the city of Lahore ².

In Pakistan, street children are deprived of their basic needs and rights. They have limited access to social services. Being separated from their families they are deprived of parental care, guidance and love which are significant factors in the healthy development of a child. They are at the mercy of criminals, police drugs addicts and smugglers. Unhealthy living environment, lack of proper food, shelter and basic health services make them vulnerable to different types of

diseases including sexually Transmitted diseases (STDS) and HIV/AIDS, exploitation and abuse. They are heavily into substance abuse, glue being the cheapest and the most accessible of all the substances. They are socially rejected and look down upon by the society due to which they develop negative attitude towards society which has lifelong effect and some time force them to indulge in anti social activities³. (Spark2007).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of this study are following.

1. To know about the personal profile of street children.
2. To shed light the socio-economic activities of street children

LITERATURE REVIEW

Childhood is considered the best stage in the cycle of human life. Nobody can forget the memories of his/ her childhood from the page of his/ her mind. Childhood is the most enjoyable and delightful period of human life but not for those who are caught up by the cruel clutches of the decree, not permitting them to heave up their mind and heart with many inner most wishes and inclination. But those who strive for really endeavor to mean it, particularly true for street children, preferring to shun their home to find out the horizon of their wishes and dreams.

It is quite true that the world is encountering with a lot of challenges i-e Poverty, misery, and instability. These issues have erupted the most critical issue that is of “Street Children”.

Chetty also confirms this research statement that life in the street is difficult and that children are essentially alone. He adds that it might be happen that child fails to obtain some food, shelter, clothes, medical services and other relevant basic needs for child care and well being⁴.

DEFINITION

Much ink has been spilt down about the definition and explanation of street children by the people present in various walks of life. The United Nations (1985) has its own definition of Street Children. According to UN, “Street Child is any girl or boy for whom the street in the widest sense of the word (including unoccupied dwellings, wasteland etc) has become his or her habitual abode and/or source of livelihood and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by Listed responsible adults⁵”.

Lewis defines a street child as someone younger than eighteen, who has decided to leave home to care for himself / herself on the street unassisted by an adult⁶.

Barnett defines street children as children who spend a considerable amount of their time in street of urban centers to fend for themselves and their families and are inadequately protected, supervised and cared for by a responsible adult person⁷.

Although the term, “Street Children” is widely debated but at the centre of each definition are children who are out of place.

CATEGORIES OF STREET CHILDREN

UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund) 1986 has defined the three most important categories of Street Children that has been widely used by the researchers all over the world. Following are defined categories of Street Children by UNICEF ⁸,

The first category in UNICEF (1986) definition is poor working children of street families, living at home but earning money on the street for their Families. They are referred to as, “Children at risk”.

Second category in the definition is, “Children on the Street”. These children spend a lot of their time on the street but have some family support and live at home on regular basis.

The last category is, “Children of the Street”. They live and work on the street. They have no or very little family contact or support.

Patel (1990) in her study of street children in Bombay had same but some different categorization of children in the street ⁹.

Hecht found out that although street children are sometimes presented as a unified category, there are in fact different types of street children with different backgrounds, who are characterized by different activities ¹⁰.

METHODOLOGY

Methodological techniques are very important for analyzing sociological problems empirically. Sound methodology is vitally important to establish chain for knowledge and empirical verification of hypothesis. The population for the study consisted of street children who were spending their life away from their home at least for one month ago and they have no or very little contact with their families. Present study is conducted at Lahore city. Different areas i.e., Data Darbar, Railway station, Minar-e-Pakistan, Laxmi Chock, Regal Chowk and Badami Bagh were the focal locals of the study. 370 street children were selected as a sample size through purposive sampling. According to Lawrence Neuman, “Purposive sampling is an acceptable kind of sampling for special situation. It uses the judgment of an expert in selecting cases with a specific purpose in mind”¹¹. Data was collected with the help of a well structured interview schedule. Collected information’s were analyzed through SPSS software. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

TABLE 1
BACKGROUND OF THE RESPONDENTS

Age (in years)	Frequency	Percentage
9-11	76	20.5
12-14	111	30.0
15-17	183	49.5
Total	370	100.0
	Mean age = 14.90	Std. Dev. = 3.18
Number of siblings	Frequency	Percentage
1-4	91	24.6
5-8	208	56.2
9 and above	71	19.2
Total	370	100.0

Mean = 6.24 Std. Dev. = 3.78		
Geographical Background	Frequency	Percentage
Urban	123	33.2
Rural	247	66.8
Total	370	100.0
Earners family members	Frequency	Percentage
One	166	44.9
Two	145	39.2
Three	59	15.9
Total	370	100.0
Dependent family members	Frequency	Percentage
1-4	88	23.8
5-8	165	44.6
9 and above	117	31.6
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicates that about one-fifth i.e., 20.5 percent of the respondents had 9-11 years of age, while 30.0 percent of the respondents had 12-14 years of age and about a half i.e., 49.5 percent of the respondents had 15-17 years of age. Mean age of children was about 15 years.

Table also presents the number of siblings of the respondent. As the siblings play an important role in the life of children so the numbers of the siblings of the respondents were asked. About one-fourth i.e., 24.6 percent of the respondents had the siblings 1-4 in number. A majority i.e., 56.2 percent of the children had the siblings 5-8 in numbers and little less than one-fifth i.e., 19.2 percent of them had the siblings 9 and above in number. Average number of siblings (as calculated by mean) was almost 6.

Table also indicates that about one-third i.e., 33.2 percent of the respondent's family belonged to urban areas, while a majority i.e., 66.8 percent of the respondent's family belonged to rural areas. In our rural areas has less entertainment, educational and economic opportunities as compare to urban areas, so due to more attraction majority of the children run towards cities.

Table further depicts that a major proportion i.e., 44.9 percent of the respondents had one earning member, while 39.2 percent of the respondents had two earner family members and remaining 15.9 percent of the respondents had three earner family members. It indicates low economic status of the respondents' family.

Table also reveals that 23.8 percent of the respondents reported that in their family 1-4 dependent members, while a major proportion i.e., 44.6 percent of the respondents said that 5-8 family members were dependent and 31.6 percent of them told that 9 and above family members were dependent.

TABLE # 02
CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF THE RESPONDENTS

Activity	Frequency	Percentage
Working	302	81.6
Not working	68	18.4
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 81.6 percent reported that they are working currently and 18.4 percent of the respondents were not working

TABLE # 03

STRATEGIES OF NEED FULFILLMENT BY RESPONDENT WHEN THEY NOT WORKING

Way to fulfill their needs	Frequency	Percentage
Borrow	32	8.6
Snatch	4	1.1
Steal	8	2.2
Beg	24	6.5
NA (Working)	302	81.6
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 8.6 percent borrowed to fulfill their needs while the second highest number of the respondents who were 6.5 percent begging to fulfill their needs. The least number of the respondents who were only 1.1 percent were snatched and 2.2 percent of them were stolen to fulfill their need

TABLE # 04

TYPE OF WORK WISE CLASSIFICATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

Type of work	Frequency	Percentage
Vehicle cleaning	64	17.3
Work at tea shop	84	22.7
Massage work	58	15.7
Shoes polish	52	14.1
Flower selling	44	11.9
Na (Not working)	68	18.4
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 22.7 percent doing work at tea shop and the second highest number of the respondents who were 17.3 percent were involved in vehicle cleaning work while the third highest number of the respondents who were 15.7 percent doing massage work. About 14.1 percent of the respondents were shoes polisher and the least number of respondents who constitute a percentage of 11.9 percent were flower seller.

TABLE # 05

WORKING HOURS WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS

Working hours	Frequency	Percentage
Up to 8	65	17.6
9-10	93	25.1
11-12	87	23.5
13 or above	57	15.4
NA (Not working)	68	18.4
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were about one-fourth i.e. 25.1 percent were doing work for 9-10 hours per day and the second highest number of the respondents who were less than one-fourth i.e. 23.5 percent had 11-12 working hours. While the

third highest number of the respondents who were 17.6 percent doing work up to 8 hours. While the least number of the respondents who were 15.4 percent working 13 and above hours per day

TABLE # 06

DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENT'S ACCORDING TO MODE OF PAYMENT & MODE OF EARNING RECEIVING

Mode of payment	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	294	79.5
Weekly	8	2.2
Monthly	-	-
Na (Not working)	68	18.4
Total	370	100.0
Mode of earning receiving	Frequency	Percentage
Money	302	81.6
Food	-	-
Shelter	-	-
Not working	68	18.4
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 79.5 percent received payment on daily basis and the least number of the respondents who were 2.2 percent received payment on weekly basis. Above table reveal that all of the working respondents were received their earning in the form of money.

TABLE # 7

FACILITIES AVAILABILITY IN HIRED ROOMS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Facilities	Yes		No		Total	
	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age
Electricity	250	100.0	000	000	250	100.0
Water supply	239	95.6	11	4.4	250	100.0
Bathrooms	210	84.0	40	16	250	100.0
Kitchen	7	2.8	243	97.2	250	100.0
Gas	73	29.2	177	70.08	250	100.0

Above table reflect that all respondent had electricity facility in their hired room while the highest number of the respondents who were 95.6 percent had water supply facility and the least number of the respondents who were 4.4 percent had not the water supply facility. On the other hand, the highest number of the respondents who were 84.0 percent had bathroom facility and the least number of the respondents who were 16 percent had not the bathroom facility. While the highest number of the respondents who were 97.2 had not kitchen facility in their hired room and the least number of the respondents who were only 2.8 percent had kitchen facility in their hired room. Whereas the highest number of the respondents who were 70.08 percent had not gas

facility in their hired room and the least number of the respondents who were 29.2 percent had gas facility in their hired room.

TABLE # 08

DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS ACCORDING TO THEIR FOOD GETTING WAY

Food getting way	Frequency	Percentage
Lunger Khana of Shrines *	250	67.6
Purchase readymade	20	5.4
Self cooked	16	4.3
Provided by owner	84	22.7
Total	370	100.0

* Free food point at Shrines

Above table presents the food getting way by the respondents. A large majority i.e., 67.6 percent of the respondents reported that they getting food from Lunger Khana of Shrines, 5.4 percent of the respondents were purchased readymade food, 4.3 percent were self cooked and 22.7 percent of the respondents told that the food provided them by the owner.

TABLE # 09

DISTRIBUTIONS OF THE RESPONDENTS ACCORDING TO PER DAY MEAL & EVER GO FOR HUNGRY

Per day meal	Frequency	Percentage
Once	99	26.8
Twice	221	59.7
Thrice	31	8.4
When available	19	5.1
Total	370	100.0
Ever go hungry	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	165	44.6
No	205	55.4
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 59.7 percent taking meal twice a day. The second highest number of the respondents who were little more than one-fourth i.e.26.8 percent taking meal only once a time in a day. While 8.4 percent of them were taking meal thrice a day and the least number of the respondents who were only 5.1 percent were talking their meal when it was available.

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 55.4 percent never ever go for hungry. While the least number of the respondents who were 44.6 percent reported that they were ever go for hungry.

TABLE # 10

DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF SUBSTANCE THEY USED.

Type of substance	Yes		No		Total	
	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age
Opium	5	1.4	354	98.6	359	100.0
Hashish (Chars)	27	7.5	332	92.5	359	100.0

Heroin	10	2.8	349	97.2	359	100.0
Alcohol	22	6.1	337	93.9	359	100.0
Glue sniffing	141	39.3	218	60.7	359	100.0
Cigarette	215	59.9	144	40.1	359	100.0
Pan	56	15.6	303	84.4	359	100.0
Gutka	77	21.4	282	78.6	359	100.0
Niswar	82	22.8	277	77.2	359*	100.0

* 11 respondents never used substance.

Table No. 8 presents the type of substances used by the respondents. Table reveals that 5 (1.4%) respondents used opium, 27 (7.5%) used Hashish (Chars), 10 (2.8%) respondents used heroin and 22 (6.1%) respondents were drinking Alcohol. Whereas 141 (39.3%) of the respondents used Glue sniffing, a majority i.e., 215 (59.9%) of the respondents were smoker, 56 (15.6%) of them used Pan, 21.4 percent used Gutka and 22.8 percent of them used Niswar.

TABLE # 11

DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF HEALTH PROBLEM THEY FACED.

Health problems	Frequency	Percentage
Stomach problem	107	28.9
Fever	86	23.2
Pain in body	60	16.2
Weakness	37	10.0
Any other (hepatitis, skin infection, teeth problem, allergy etc.)	10	2.7
No health problem	70	18.9
Total	370	100.0

Above table presents the health problems of the respondents. Most of the respondents had stomach problem (28.9%) and 23.2 percent of them were suffering from fever and 16.2 percent had pain in body. About one-tenth i.e., 10.0 percent of the respondents felt weakness and 2.7 percent of them were suffering any other problems i.e., hepatitis, skin infection, teeth problem, allergy etc. Whereas 18.9 percent of them had no health problem.

TABLE # 12

PRACTICES OF DIFFERENT NEEDS BY THE RESPONDENTS

Needs	Regularly		Rarely		Never		Total	
	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age
Bathing	35	9.5	335	90.5	0	0.0	370	100.0
Clothing	26	7.0	344	93.0	0	0.0	370	100.0
Tooth brushing	49	13.2	137	37.0	184	49.7	370	100.0
Hair cut	57	15.4	249	67.3	64	17.3	370	100.0
Nail cut	71	19.2	232	62.7	67	18.1	370	100.0
Shaving	9	2.4	87	23.5	274	74.1	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 90.5 percent taking bath rarely and the least number of the respondents who were only 9.5 percent were taking bath regularly. The highest number of the respondents who were 93.0 percent clothing rarely and the

least number of the respondents who were only 7.0 percent clothing regularly. The highest number of the respondents who were 49.7 percent never tooth brushing and the second highest number of the respondents who were 37.0 percent rarely while the least number of the respondents who were only 13.2 percent tooth brushing regularly. On the other hand, the highest number of the respondents who were 67.3 percent rarely hair cutting and the second highest number of the respondents who were 17.3 percent never hair cut while the least number of the respondents who were 15.4 hair cutting regularly. Whereas the highest number of the respondents who were 62.7 percent rarely nail cutting and the second highest number of the respondents who were 19 percent nail cutting regularly and the least number of the respondents who were 17.3 percent never cut their nail. Whereas the highest number of the respondents who were 23.5 percent rarely shave and The second highest number of the respondents who were 2.4 percent were doing shaving regularly and the least number of the respondents who were 74.1 percent never shaving.

TABLE # 13

BEHAVIORS OF DIFFERENT PERSONS TOWARDS THE RESPONDENTS

Mode	Employer		Co-worker		Police		General people	
	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age
Facilitating	2	2.4	167	45.1	33	8.9	112	30.3
Patronizing	2	2.4	51	13.8	56	15.1	107	28.9
Harassing	4	4.8	41	11.1	150	40.5	53	14.3
Teasing	10	11.9	34	9.2	46	12.4	35	9.5
Physical torture	21	25.0	24	6.5	28	7.6	27	7.3
Sexual abuse	17	20.2	46	12.4	19	5.1	26	7.0
Humiliating	28	33.3	7	1.9	38	10.3	10	2.7
Total	84*	100.0	370	100.0	370	100.0	370	100.0

* 84 respondents do work at tea shop

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 33.3 percent received humiliating behavior by employer and the second highest number of the respondents who were 25.0 had physically tortured while 20.2 percent of them were sexually abused by employer. While 11.9 percent of them were teased and 4.8 percent were harassed by employer and the least number of respondents who were 2.4 percent had facilitating and 2.4 percent also received patronizing behavior by employer.

Table also indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 45.1 percent received facilitating behavior by co-worker and the second highest number of the respondents who were 13.8 had patronizing while 12.4 percent of them were sexually abused by coworker. While 11.1 percent of them were harassed and 9.2 percent were teased by coworker while 6.5 percent of them were physically tortured by co worker and the least number of respondents who were 2.4 percent received humiliating behavior by co-worker.

Table also reveals that the highest number of the respondents who were 40.5 percent harassed by police and the second highest number of the respondents who were 15.1 had patronizing while 12.4 percent of them were teased by police. While 10.3 percent of them were humiliated and 8.9 percent were facilitated by police. And the 7.6 percent of them were physically tortured by police while the least number of respondents who were 5.1 percent sexually abused by police.

Table also depicts that the highest number of the respondents who were 30.3 percent were facilitated by general people and the second highest number of the respondents who were 28.9

percent patronized while 14.3 percent of them were harassed by general people. While 9.5 percent of them were teased and 7.3 percent were physically tortured by general people. And the 7.0 percent of them were sexually abused while the least number of respondents who were 2.7 percent humiliated by general people.

The table shows that it was found that employer had facilitating behavior 2.4 percent, patronizing 2.4 percent, harassing 4.8 percent, teasing 4.8 percent, physical torture 25.0 percent, sexual abuse 20.2 percent and humiliating (33.3%). A major proportion i.e. 45.1 percent of the co-worker had facilitating behavior and patronizing 13.8 percent, harassing 11.1 percent, teasing 9.2 percent, physical torture 6.5 percent, sexual abuse 12.4 percent and humiliating 1.9 percent towards respondents. So, most of co-workers had facilitating behavior towards the respondents.

Police had facilitating behavior 8.9% percent, patronizing 15.1 percent, harassing 40.5 percent, teasing 12.4 percent, physical torture 7.6 percent, sexual abuse 5.1 percent and humiliating 10.3 percent towards the respondents. So, most of the police personal had harassing behavior towards the respondents. General people's behavior, facilitating 30.3 percent, patronizing 28.9 percent, harassing 14.3 percent, teasing 9.5 percent, physical torture 7.3 percent, sexual abuse 7.0 percent and humiliating 2.7 percent towards the respondents. So, most of the general people had facilitating and patronizing behavior towards the respondents.

TABLE # 14
IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION IN THE LIFE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Religion importance	Frequency	Percentage
To great extent	123	33.2
To some extent	143	38.6
Not at all	104	28.1
Total	370	100.0

Above table indicate that the highest number of the respondents who were 38.6 percent told that the religion had some extent importance in their life and the second highest number of the respondents who were about one-third i.e. 33.2 percent reported that the religion had great extent importance in their life. While the least number of the respondents who were 28.1 percent never feel importance of religion in their life.

TABLE # 15
DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS ACCORDING TO THE MISSING THEIR FAMILY AND WANTED TO GO BACK TO HOME, KNOWLEDGE ABOUT STDs, AIDS & CHILD RIGHTS

	Yes		No		Total	
	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age	Freq.	%age
Missing their family	305	82.4	65	17.6	370	100.0
Intention to go back home	193	52.2	177	47.8	370	100.0
Knowledge about STDs	59	15.9	311	84.1	370	100.0
Knowledge about AIDs	207	55.9	163	44.1	370	100.0
Knowledge about child rights	91	24.6	279	75.4	370	100.0

Above table presents the views of the respondents about miss their family. Table indicates that a huge majority i.e., 82.4 percent of the respondents reported that they were missing their family; while 17.6 percent of them were never miss their family.

Table also depicts that little more than a half i.e., 52.2 percent of the respondents had intension to go back to home and remaining less than a half i.e., 47.8 percent were never like to go back to home.

Table further shows that 15.9 percent of the respondents had knowledge about STDS and a huge majority i.e., 84.1 percent of them was replied negatively.

Table also presents the respondents' knowledge about AIDS. A majority i.e., 55.9 percent of the respondents had knowledge about AIDs and 44.1 percent of them were replied negatively.

Table further presents the respondents' knowledge about child rights. About one-fourth i.e., 24.6 percent of the respondents had knowledge about child rights and a large majority i.e., 75.4 percent of them were replied negatively.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING

Hypothesis # 1

Due to living on public places, street children physical tortured during their street life

Null Hypothesis: There is no relationship between residential pattern and facing physical torture problem during their street life.

Association residential pattern and facing physical torture problem during their street life

Residential pattern	Respondents facing physical torture problem		Total
	Yes	No	
Room hired	41 16.4%	209 83.6%	250 100.0%
Public places (Shrine, park, graveyard, Bus stop waiting room etc.)	59 49.2%	61 50.8%	120 100.0%
Total	100 27.0%	270 73.0%	370 100.0%

Chi-square = 44.13 Std. Dev. = 1 Significance = .000**

** = Highly significant

Chi-square value (44.13) shows a highly significant (P = .000) association between residential pattern of the respondents and facing physical torture problem during their street life. Above table clearly indicates that only 16.4 percent of the respondents who had hired rooms and facing physical torture problem, while about a half (49.2%) respondents who were living on public places (shrine, park, graveyard, bus stop waiting room etc.) were facing physical torture problem during their street life. So the hypothesis "Due to living on public places, street children physical tortured during their street life" is accepted and null hypothesis is rejected.

CONCLUSION

The results of the research shows that the majority of street children are involved in different types of work among vehicle cleaning, work at tea shop and massage work are most cited work. They had to do work for long working hours and receive their earning on daily basis in the form of money. The research also depicts majority of them were perceived different types behavior from people around them and feels some extent importance of religion in their lives. The research also depicts that majority of street children had future plans which indicate that they were not satisfied with their current life and wanted to back to their homes. The research reveals the dire need of initiating such programs with the cooperation and coordination of public and private organizations which directly address the root causes of the street children phenomenon.

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