

PROBLEMS FACED AND SAFETY INSTRUMENTS USED BY FEMALE RAGPICKERS INVOLVE IN INFORMAL SECTOR IN URBAN AREA OF DISTRICT, SIRSA HARYANA

Meenu Rani*

Abstract

Trash picking is an inferior and exploitative economic activity in the urban informal section. Rag pickers collect the waste items like paper, iron, cutlery, metal objects pieces and plastics for their livelihood. Data is collected from the primary source. This research paper is design to examine the pro female ragpickers. In this study the exploratory research design is used. The random sampling technique is used; about 120 respondents (i.e. female trash pickers) in the age group of 17 to 55 years were selected. A well designed schedule (structured) questions was used to collect the response from the respondents.

Keywords: Problems faced, safety instrument and level of satisfaction.

* . Research Scholar, Chaudhary Devi Lal University Sirsa-(Haryana)

Introduction

Trash picking is probably one of the most dangerous and dehumanizing activity in India. Female regpickers are working in filthy environment surrounding by dogs, pigs and hen. The term **chiffonier** is also used for the regpickers. The regpickers belong to the **singikaat** and **siribandh** community. In the ancient time the regpickers used the traditional techniques in piles sprain related skin problem by using horns of deer and cows. But as time spans their techniques lag behind the modern techniques, as said by laymen. And they are compels to choose the job of waste picking for their livelihood. Female regpickers search waste times without using any safety instrument like hand gloves and shoes. On a global level approximately two thirds of a kilogram of waste per person per day generated. Yet the difference between high and low income countries was considerable, especially in terms of composition. Risk occurs at every step in the process from the point where regpickers handle waste in the home for collection to the point of ultimate disposal. Health risk from the wastes including the wastes is caused by many factors, including the nature of waste as it decomposes the handling of waste. Some regpickers live in semi-pakka house and others in shed house in dumyard. Their life begins and ends only in a atmosphere surrounding by garbage and stretch. The female regpickers also faced the problem like dog bites and skin infections. According to the mumtaz regpickers of sirsa, each one of them collect approximately 10-20 kg of waste per day. Every kilogram of polythene about 10 rupees kg and iron objects get them 10 rupees kg. Most of them are illiterate and desperate for employment; their choice is either die of hunger or collect waste items. Most of them, do not have ration card and adhaar card. Due to this they faced problem in medical treatment, in open an bank account and enrolled their children in govt schools. They do not have the facilities of electricity and good quality drinking water. There is no proper maintaince of roads, street light and drainage problems. In developing countries significant portion of waste pickers found at open dumps are children and pregnant women. Some times the childrens of the female regpickers helpless to eat the things drawn from garbage. Some female working during the pregnancy period. There is no maternal facility for female and new infant also lies in unhygienic conditions. During the anysis, I found that the house of the females is just like the dumpsite and unhygienic. Even they did not have personal hygiene also. Husband of the female regpickers involve in the activites like cobbler, mochi, rikshaw pullers, kabadi and doing leather work. Female regpickers not much

aware about family planning. Most of female not enrolled their chilrens in govt schools. Only few females provide education to their childerns only up to 8th level.

Objectives

1. To analyze the problems faced by female ragpickers.
2. To explain the safety instruments used by female ragpickers.

Methodology

- Exploratory research design has been used.
- The present study is related to urban area of Sirsa for year of 2016-2017.
- Primary source of data collection has been used.
- Sample of 120 female Rag pickers was taken purposive randomly.
- Interview schedule method has been used.
- Simple percentage and average method has been used for analysis.

Result and discussion

Use of Safety Instruments: The furnished result related to use of safety instrument by respondents is show in table 1. It is found that female Ragpickers are not using any safety instruments like hand gloves. Of the total female ragpickers, 75 per cent do not use any safety gear due to lack of knowledge of health and ignorance.

Table 1

Use of Safety instruments

Serial no.	Safety instrument	No. of Respondents	Per cent
1.	Hand gloves	Nil	Nil
2.	Stick	30	25
3.	No instrument	90	75
	Total	120	100

Violence at home: The furnished result related violence at home is depicted in table 2. It is surfaced by the furnished results that 20.83 per cent female beaten and 44.17 per cent female are

abused and 35 per cent female do not face violence. The main cause behind it the lack of awareness about the laws and social bondage imposed on females.

Table 2

Facing violence at home

Serial no.	Type	No. of Respondents	Per cent
1.	Beaten	25	20.83
2.	Abusive	53	44.17
3.	No violence	42	35
	Total	120	100

Reason for disliking rag picking: Reason for disliking rag picking are presented in table 3 and it is found that 79.17 per cent female ragpickers do not like that job due to unhealthy working conditions even though they are compel to doing that job due to poverty. Of the total ragpickers, 20.83 per cent female rag pickers dislike that activity due to tiring and tedious nature of the work negatively affect health.

Table 3

Reason for disliking rag picking

Reason	Respondent	Per cent
Unhealthy working condition	95	79.17
Tiring and tedious work affect health	25	20.83
Total	120	100

Level of Satisfaction: It is explored from the final figure presented in table 4 that 90 per cent of female ragpickers are not satisfied with the ragpicking because this activity causes many health hazards and full of risk. Only 10 per cent female ragpickers reported that they are satisfied from trash picking job.

Table 4

Level of Satisfaction

Satisfied	No. of respondents	Per cent
Yes	20	10

No	100	90
Total	120	100

References

Abd El-Wahab EW, Eassa SM, Lotfi SE, El Masry SA, Shatat HZ, Kotkat AM (2014), “Adverse Health Problems Among Municipality Workers in Alexandria (Egypt)” *Int J Prev Med.* **5** (5),pp.545-56.

Baud, Isa, Stelias Grafakos, Michaela Hordijk and John Pos (2010), “Quality of life and Alliance in Solid waste management: contribution to Urban citites”, **18** (1), pp.3-12.

Batool, Zahira, Madieha Akram, Faiza Anjum, Sadaf Faiz and Muhammad Ibrahi (2015), “Occupational Hazards and Health Status of Trash pickers Children in Faislabad city, Punjab, Pakistaan”, *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences.* **6** (5),pp.590-594.

Devi, Kuruva Syambala , Arza V.V.S Swamy and Ravuri Hema Krishna (2014), “ Studies on the Solid Waste Collection by Ragpickers at Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, India” *International Reasearch Journal of Enviornment Sciences*, **3** (10),pp.13-22.

Hunt, Caroline (1996), “Child Waste Pickers in India: The Occupationaland Health Risk”, *Enviornment and Urbanisation*, **8**,pp.111-118.

Kandasamy, Selvi Permandy, Avinash B. Aholkar, A. Manoharan and Saranya Paranji (2013), “Municiple Solid Waste Management at Chennai in Southern India-an Occupational Health Perspective” *international Journal of Health Promotion and Education*, **51** (1),pp.132-140.

Krishna, Vijay and Sadhana Chaurasia (2016), “Assessment of Socio-Economic Conditions and Role of Ragpicker in Municipal Solid Waste Management in Allahabad city (U.P.) India” *International Journal of Applied Reasearch and Technology*, **1**, pp.13-20.

Khaiwal, Ravindra, Kamalpreet Kaur,Khaiwal Ravindra, Kamalpreet Kaur, Suman Mor (2016)“Occupational exposure to the municipal solid waste workers in Chandigarh, India” *Sage Journals*, **34** (11) ,pp.327-332.

Malik, Sarmila, Biswajit Biswa, Shayama Prasad Mitra and Ramendra Narayana Chaudhary (2002), “Some Socio-Economic Determinants and Working Enviornemt Conditions of Child Labour in a Slum area of Kolkata”, *Indian Journal of Community Medicine*, **xxvii**, (4), pp.161-166.

Manas Ranjan Ray, Gopeshwar Mukherjee, Sanghita Roychowdhury, Twisha Lahiri and Manas Ranjan Ray (2004), “Respiratory and General Health Impairments of Ragpickers in India: a Study in Delhi” *International archives of occupational and environmental health*, **77** (8) ,pp 595–598.

Marcelo Cuzzensa da Silva, Anaclaudia Gastal Fassa and David Kriebel (2006), “Minor Psychiatric Disorder Among Brazilian Ragpickers: a Cross-Sectional Study” *Environmental Health: A Global Access Science Source*, **5** (17), pp.1-10.

Phiman, Thirarattanasunthon, Wattasit Siri Wong, Mark Robson and Marija Borjan (2012), “Health Risk Reduction Behaviors Model for Scavengers Exposed to Solid Waste in Municipal Dump Sites in Nakhon Ratchasima Province, Thailand” *Risk Management Health Policy*, **5**, pp. 97–104.

Ray, Manas Ranjan, Sanghita Roychowdhury, Sayali Mukherjee, Shabana Siddique, Madhuchanda Banerjee, A.B. Akolkar, B. Sengupta, Twisha Lahiri (2009), “ Airway Inflammation and Upregulation of β_2 Mac-1 Integrin Expression on Circulating Leukocytes of Female Ragpickers in India”, *Journal of Occupational Health*, **51** (3),pp. 232-238.

Ralte. Laltanpui and A. muthulakshmi (2014), “ Socio-Economic Conditions of Ragpickers in Aizawl city- A Case Study” *Golden Research Thought*, **3** (10),pp.1-4.

Shinde, Ratendra R, Swati Iyer, Yashovardhan Kabra (2010), “Occupational Risk with Social Implications-A Case Study of Women Ragpickers in an Indian Metropolitan City”, India: *BMJ-PG Sponsored*, **73** (1) ,pp.220-232.

Sekar, Helen, “Child Labour Informal Sector: a Study of Ragpicker in Noida” (2010) V.V. Giri National Labour Institute- An Autonomous Body of the ministry of labour and employment, pp.1-135.

Result and Discussion

Use of Safety Instruments: The furnished result related to use of safety instrument by respondents is shown in table 3.3.1. It is found that female Ragpickers are not using any safety instruments like hand gloves. Of the total female ragpickers, 75 per cent do not use any safety gear due to lack of knowledge of health and ignorance.

Table 3.3.1**Use of Safety instruments**

Serial no.	Safety instrument	No. of Respondents	Per cent
1.	Hand gloves	Nil	Nil
2.	Stick	30	25
3.	No instrument	90	75
	Total	120	100

Violence at home: The furnished result related violence at home is depicted in table 3.3.2. It is surfaced by the furnished results that 20.83 per cent female beaten and 44.17 per cent female are abused and 35 per cent female do not face violence. The main cause behind it the lack of awareness about the laws and social bondage imposed on females.

Table 3.3.2**Facing violence at home**

Serial no.	Type	No. of Respondents	Per cent
1.	Beaten	25	20.83
2.	Abusive	53	44.17
3.	No violence	42	35
	Total	120	100

Market rate and Sale rate of the trash items: It reveals that the rate at which rag pickers sale their items at low rate in comparison to the market rate of garbage items. The difference between the market rate and sale rate of items is depict in the table 3.3.3

Table 3.3.3**Market rate and Sale rate of the trash items**

Name of the trash items	Market rate in Rs.	Rate on which ragpickers sale in Rs.	Difference
Plastic	14	10	4
Iron	15	10	5
Paper	15	3	2
Polythene	15	3	2

Reason for disliking rag picking: Reason for disliking rag picking are presented in table 3.3.4 and it is found that 79.17 per cent female ragpickers do not like that job due to unhealthy working conditions even though they are compelled to do that job due to poverty. Of the total ragpickers, 20.83 per cent female rag pickers dislike that activity due to tiring and tedious nature of the work negatively affect health.

Table 3.3.4**Reason for disliking rag picking**

Reason	Respondent	Per cent
Unhealthy working condition	95	79.17
Tiring and tedious work affect health	25	20.83
Total	120	100

Level of Satisfaction: It is explored from the final figure presented in table 3.3.5 that 90 per cent of female ragpickers are not satisfied with the ragpicking because this activity causes many health hazards and full of risk. Only 10 per cent female ragpickers reported that they are satisfied from trash picking job.

Table 3.3.5**Level of Satisfaction**

Satisfied	No. of respondents	Per cent
Yes	20	10
No	100	90
Total	120	100